

**Navigator Network Workgroup of the
CJCC Early Intervention & Prevention Committee
November 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Kalene Engel, Andy Kranz, Kelly Wooden, Jen Quarberg, Kay Peterson, Katie Schild, Elizabeth Wells, Betsy XXXX, Patrick Michener, Emily Jonson, Angela Holloway, Kaitlynn Aufderhar, Shannon Sullivan, Bill Moe, Loice Odoul, Amanda Rodriguez

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Presentation on Parent Support Outreach Program: Kelly Wooden provided an overview of the Parent Support Outreach Program.

For a powerpoint, brochure, recording and referral form on PSOP, see the Navigator Network Google Drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sgL5G1BnSmz01jnrpjTGAf9dpFxuSZxT?usp=sharing>.

Key takeaways from the presentation are as follows:

- Kelly (457-6409; kwooden@co.winona.mn.us) and Jen Quarberg (457-6554; jquarberg@co.winona.mn.us) run the program.
- PSOP started off as a pilot program and, since 2013, has received funding from the legislature.
- The funding allocated to Winona is used to fund staff.
- Criteria for participation in the program is a parent or caregiver with a child under 10 or a pregnant individual who has one or more risk factors.
- The risk factors include such things as domestic violence, homelessness, child behavioral issues, educational concerns, trauma, prior child protection cases, low income, parenting challenges.
- The program is designed as a prevention program, to support families further upstream. It is not appropriate for cases where there is an open CPS case or immediately after a CPS case, as it is meant to prevent child protection, not respond to it.
- Average PSOP caseloads are 20 families, but have been as high as 45. The whole household is assessed for services.
- The program is meant to be relatively short term. Some cases are open less than a month and some are open more than a year. The average is around 3-4 months.
- PSOP only requires a monthly meeting but meetings are scheduled according to need.
- Referrals can come from almost anywhere—the community, CPS screen outs, the school, etc.
- PSOP can help connect caregivers with basic needs, health, parenting assistance, transportation, child care and financial needs.
- The case managers work on the families strengths and needs to develop a case plan.
- PSOP is part of the county so they help with applying for benefits and making referrals to other agencies, such as SEMCIL, WIC, ECFE, PIE, Help Be Grow, Waivered Services, Farr, Ready Set School, Volunteer Services, etc.

- PSOP can also help with school supplies, clothing and furniture and sometimes with rent or security deposits.
- The end of the year tends to be a busy time for referrals. They currently have as many referrals for Q4 of this year as they had for all of Q3.
- PSOP also works with Community Services and WAPS to support a teen parent program geared at improving school attendance and grad rates, creating self sufficiency, improving child health outcomes and interrupting the generational cycle of poverty.
 - To be eligible for the teen parent program, a person must be age 21 or under and enrolled in school, college or a GED Program.
 - The participant works with the social worker, maternal child health nurse and parent educator.
 - Individuals who complete the program get credits and are eligible for incentive cards.
 - There are currently 22 open cases, with 10 new referrals this year.
 - Four people graduated in 2021-22, which is high.
- Kelly and Jen are also National Child Passenger Safety Technicians and have access to free car seats through Medicaid plus some grant-funded car seats.
- Kelly also provides some short-term parenting support.

Organizational Announcements:

- Open enrollment is going on for private MNSURE plans. Clients eligible for MA or MN Care are not subject to open enrollment time limits.
- A question was raised as to whether SEMCAC was accepting applications for energy assistance. No one knew the answer.
- The Winona Warming Center has had a high of 10 people per night. They learned that Rochester might be sending some people to Winona because they are filling up there. Check in for the center is at 9pm and the doors are locked at 10pm, with only law enforcement or the hospital being able to refer after that.

Meeting adjourned: 2:38 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 13th at 2pm; Advocacy Center of Winona