

Minutes from Homeless Advisory Board Meeting Thursday March 2, 2017

1. Update on Foster Care and Transportation agreement.
 - a. We have met with the county several times to discuss the change in reimbursement from the state regarding transportation to the school of origin for students in the "Awaiting" Foster placement and those involved in the foster care system.
 - b. We have only had three students so far that have required additional transportation funding due to being placed out of the home and requiring special transportation to remain in their home school. The cost in one case was quite significant, so we worked with social services and they were able to recognize the significance of the child's placement and relocated the child to a home closer to the school. The other two were not very costly.
 - c. The notification process is not real smooth yet, however, we are in weekly contact with Beltrami County Social Services to try and improve this process. What has been suggested is, once the county becomes a custodial guardian for students, they would notify Jolene Enerson so she is able to assure proper information in skyward as well as flag students in MARRS.
 - d. Greg contacted Hubbard County, they have not heard anything about the change in Transportation for students in Foster Care.
 - e. Sonia has contacted White Earth, Red Lake and Leech Lake. No response yet from
2. Kids Count data: Statistics are out and most people on our committee have seen these results.
 - a. Special Note: Beltrami County is significantly higher than the state average for Children Living in Poverty (24.8 % vs. 15%), Students receiving Free/Reduced lunch (59% vs. 38%), Children receiving Supplemental Nutritional Assistance (30.5% vs. 13%).
 - b. Beltrami County was also significantly higher in their Children in out-of-home placement. (59.1 out of 1,000 children vs. 9.5 as the state average).
3. McKinney Vento Numbers compared to last year are about the same. As of right now, we have approximately 220 students identified McKinney Vento.
 - a. There was a panel discussion in the Metro area Angie Lauderbaugh was initially asked to be a part of on March 3, 2017; however, they decided the next meeting would be more appropriate for her to be a part of.
4. Things to Celebrate:
 - a. Boys and Girls club recently named a student that had been a part of the McKinney Vento program for several years "Outstanding Youth of the Year". She now has the possibility to advance to Regional and National Youth of the year. She could be eligible for some scholarships.
 - b. Donations continue to come in steadily and we serve, on average, one family per day over in the donation room. Paulette is back to "work", recovering well from surgery and has been keeping everything in good order. Greg talked about the space possibly moving once the new school is built and some space frees up.
 - c. There is a group of ladies in the Fergus Falls area that have been donating new hand-made quilts for about 3 years now. They donated approximately 45 quilts just this year.

5. We had the Evergreen Educational program on the agenda but due to lack of time for what I perceive will be a lengthy discussion, we will cover that agenda item at the next meeting.
6. Trainings:
 - a. Ashley Jones and I provided training for paras on 15th. The topic was, "Working with At-Risk Youth" and so far, the feedback has been good. We talked about possibly providing future training for the paras, they were very engaged and seemed to appreciate the training.
 - b. Greg and I will be presenting at the Evergreen conference on March 23rd & 24th.