

The following are minutes from the last WPN Meeting held via teleconference on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February.

WISCONSIN PREVENTION NETWORK  
FEBRUARY 10, 2003  
MEETING MINUTES

Able to participate: Shel Gross, Karen Knudson, Sue Opheim, Bette Wahl, Ron Biendseil, Ken Ramminger, Chris Wardlow.

I. UPDATES

A. WPN Concept Paper Work Group - Chris

1. Roger Williams continues work on the concept papers highlighting 'Best Practices in Prevention'.
2. Progress:
  - a.) Shel Gross and Eloiza Altoro-Acevedo have forwarded to Roger feedback on his mental health draft.
  - b.) Sue Opheim is drafting a paper on prevention of suicide.
  - c.) Chris has submitted drafts for dropout prevention and pregnancy prevention.
3. Chris suggested to Roger that underage drinking be addressed separately from substance abuse because of the nature of this issue in Wisconsin.

B. WPN Education, Training & Networking Work Group

1. Upcoming:
  - a.) Chris will be representing WPN with a booth at the Adolescents & Families Conference in Cable Wisconsin from April 23, 24, & 25.
  - b.) Chris is also on the list of substitute presenters if one has to cancel. This will be an opportunity to speak on the need for networking statewide to insure the financial and human resources for wellness and prevention in the future. Chris will also use this opportunity to network on behalf of WPN and to gain feedback on how the organization can best meet the needs of prevention practitioners across the state.
  - c.) WPN, as approved by its board, will also sponsor two registration scholarships of \$125 each to demonstrate WPN's commitment to its mission.

C. RFTS/WI Cares "Building Brighter Futures" update - Ken and Chris

1. Family Policy Board legislation update:
  - a.) Chris will try to forward the most recent draft of the bill to WPN members.
  - b.) As of the most recent draft which is being sponsored by Rep. Kestell, the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board would be revamped and become the Family Policy Board chaired by either the Governor or Lt. Governor. There are still questions as to whether the administration and management of the board will be carried out by the Children's Trust Fund as is currently the case with the Child Abuse Board.. There is however a provision included that calls for each department to allocate a certain number FTE hours to help staff the board.
  - c.) Shel asked whether this bill will be part of the Governor's budget bill. It was Chris and Ken's understanding that it would not be.
  - d.) The exact timeframe for when the bill will be introduced is not clear. Chris suspected that it would be in a couple of months. Shel suggested that a press conference be held when that time approaches.

## II. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Statewide Prevention

1. Ken reported that Wisconsin County Human Service Association & Wisconsin SIG Advisory Committee are each currently engaged in drafting proposals that will impact the future of prevention in our state.

2. Ken indicated that WCHSA is proposing a complete overhaul of how the state and counties work together to provide human services. WCHSA sees the current system as being extremely cumbersome with different mandates, types of funding, and regulations coming from several state agencies.

a.) prevention is mixed into the current quagmire and is part of WCHSA's overall focus.

b.) WCHSA's main proposal is moving away from the current block grant funding model to a per person allocation for those in each county eligible for services.

c.) The main question relevant to prevention is how will the per-person funding plan impact the percentage of funds that are currently designated by block grants for prevention services?

d.) The 2003 - 2004 WCHSA Legislative Agenda can be viewed at -

<http://www.wicounties.org/LegInfo/wlegis.html>.

3. SCAODA as part of its plan for SIG will be establishing goals and developing a plan for statewide prevention. The following is quoted from the SIG Executive Summary:

1. *Develop short-term (1 to 3 years) and the long-term (4 to 10 years) goals for improving and institutionalizing an effective statewide prevention service delivery system; and*

2. *Develop and support a comprehensive state prevention plan that recommends how prevention funds can be systematically disseminated to support the most effective, science-based prevention programs within the state.*

a.) The SIG Executive Summary can be viewed at -

<http://www.uhs.wisc.edu/wch/02-Programs/02-SIG.html>.

4. Ken's purpose for raising this issue was to ask whether or not WPN should look for ways to become involved in these discussions, and what our stake is in this? This will be discussed further at the April 14<sup>th</sup> WPN meeting.

### B. State Budget Issues

1. The question was raised as to whether or not WPN should be making its members and partners aware of items in Governor Doyle's proposed budget that will directly impact prevention.

2. Shel Gross offered to look over the proposed budget and highlight possible issues that WPN might want to act on. Here is the text of his e-mail to the WPN Listserv on March :

"In general it appears that the Governor funded a large number of initiatives that the last DHFS budget under McCallum would have eliminated due to reductions in TANF funding. These include Child Welfare Prevention Services (\$1,489,600), Child Abuse and Neglect Board ((340,000), Child Welfare Safety Services (7,094,100), local pass through grants for child care (4,395,500) and Head Start (3,500,000).

\$1,367,100 in TANF was replaced with GPR to support Brighter Futures and Tribal Adolescent Services. I am not sure whether this holds these programs harmless or whether they will incur some reduction. I have a call in to Lou Oppor about Brighter Futures.

Domestic violence grants were reduced from \$1,000,000 to \$750,000, although the previous budget eliminated these entirely.

The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention and Pregnancy Services Board and the Tobacco Control Boards were eliminated to achieve efficiencies. Again, I don't know how to evaluate these proposals except that I did see that the Tobacco Control Board was supportive of its own elimination."

3. Discussion of the State Budget will continue at the April 14<sup>th</sup> WPN meeting.

#### IV. MEMBER UPDATES

##### A. MHA Milwaukee County - Shel Gross

1. Shel reported that MHA of Milw. Co. awarded 5 mini-grants with a sixth pending if more funds become available. Shel will let us know the specifics as soon as the recipients are notified.

2. Upcoming MHA events:

a.) "People Can't Wait" Rally - Join the Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations as we rally for the future of all people with disabilities. Wednesday, April 23, 2003, Noon - 1 p.m. at the Wisconsin State Capitol rotunda (Please arrive at the rally between 9 - 11 a.m.)

b.) MHA Comedy Fundraiser

"Sometimes You've Just Gotta Laugh" May 31, 2003 Astor Hotel, Milwaukee Dinner, silent and voice auctions, and performance by nationally-known comic Maria Bamford. \$100 per person; \$175 per couple. Corporate tables are available. Casual dress. For information, contact Steve Gardner at 414-276-3122 or [steve@mhamilw.org](mailto:steve@mhamilw.org)

##### B. HOPES - Sue Opheim

1. 5th Annual HOPES (Helping Others Prevent & Educate About Suicide) Walk for Awareness: Bringing Depression & Suicide to Light Saturday, May 17, 2003 in Madison

2. HOPES also has statewide awareness campaign underway. Look for Billboards.

C. Adolescents and Families Conference in Cable Wisconsin April 23, 24, and 25. Is held at Lakewoods Resort. Excellent conference! Contact La Vone Sneen

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