Integrated Service System (ISS) Meeting 6/3/16

Attendees: Brian Smith, Dawn Zabek, Deb Kelleher, Debra Borzellino, Eileen Bronko, Gary Steck, Irvin Jennings, Kathi Crowe, Patricia Gaylord, Rafaela Moraes, Sergio Alvarez, Vannessa Dorantes, Lillian Anselmi, Elijah Caldwell, Julie Calabro (per sign in sheet)

(Meeting started late due to heavy traffic on the I-84 corridor)

General Introductions

Brief presentation of the CT Children’s Behavioral Health Plan

Review of the 7 thematic areas outlined in the plan

A. System Organization, Financing and Accountability

B. Health Promotion, Prevention and Early Identification

C. Access to a Comprehensive Array of Services and Supports

D. Pediatric Primary Care and Behavioral Health Care Integration

E. Disparities in Access to Culturally Appropriate Care

F. Family and Youth Engagement

G. Workforce Development

Participants were asked to break-up into 3 groups and given 2 tasks

Task 1: In honor of the meeting being held in the Playmaker room at FCA- Danbury, people were asked to talk about their favorite toy growing up with members of the group.

Task 2: Groups were asked to brainstorm (quantity not quality of ideas) about actions that could be taken at a community/local level that could impact their assigned goal area.

Group Reports

Group 1: Asked to brainstorm local/community-level solutions to Family and Youth Engagement

* Bridges to Success in Waterbury had providers give mock interviews to work on interviewing skills.
* Connecting with Youth Services
* Informational sessions at parks- hand out information and balloons
* Regular participation at family events such as the DCF father initiative- set up booths
* Resource mapping (May 19th) Waterbury example
* What makes people, youth and families come?
* Activities like Zumba
* Exploring the ?
* Schools
* Food
* Complaint-fest @ schools should be brainstorming by schools and parents about solutions
* Baby yoga and day care centers
* Trainings at school (minute parent trainings)
* Street fairs
* Town-wide community resourcing @ pre-k and K
* Parents are so guarded and fear but need and do want help

Group 2: Asked to brainstorm local/community-level solutions to the disparities in in access to culturally appropriate care.

* Involvement in CLAS
* Begin training on mental health in high school following everyone through college to change the culture in general
* Tuition incentives in schools to recruit
* Nonprofit staff should make enough money as state employees (recruit)
* Start by analyzing within each agency our own data to address specific gaps looking at each of the factors without generalizing
* Perhaps ensuring signage are appropriate across the board
* Allow access to all programs regardless of DCF involvement
* Society’s language and outlook need shifting
* Providers will no longer provide treatment to children without family involvement (in order to culturally address the system)
* Open access or “Just in Time” because regular appointments don’t work or looking at hours of operation in general.
* Childcare in clinics
* Placing the environment of the agencies into a multicultural context

Group 3: Asked to brainstorm local/community-level solutions to increasing access to an array of services.

* Outside getting exercise
* Waterbury has great parks but transients in parks limit access for kids
* Organized sports vs free-range kids
* Natural resources in communities need to be harnessed on behalf of kids
* Intentional connection of those with resources and those without. Instill a “giving back of power to the people” who live in the community.
* Instill pride in community thru learning about the history of the community.
* Graffiti is an expression of voices not being heard…graffiti wall to allow kids to express their voice
* Community
* Relationships
* Repurposing resources already available in communities
* Income and achievement gaps- Bridging cultural /income/ racial
* Isolation within communities- need to increase the local voice
* Every voice is important. We may not see the end. We need to build a system that can understand the changes yet to come. “Sometimes you need to put a Band-Aid on while you plan the surgery”

Wrap-up announcements by group members

Notes provided by: Julie Calabro

Next meeting: there will be no June meeting. Next meeting July 22, 2016, 9:30 – 11:30. Place to be confirmed- Torrington area is on the rotation schedule.