



POLK COUNTY DECATEGORIZATION

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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
POLK COUNTY – RIVER PLACE OFFICE
2309 EUCLID AVENUE
DES MOINES, IOWA 50310-5703

DEPT: POLK COUNTY DECATEGORIZATION

PH: 515.725.2729 FX: 515.725.2899

Providers Advisory Minutes

Wednesday, May 16th, 2018

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Polk County-River Place Office- Conference Room 2

Attending: Teresa Burke, Randy Jansen, Katrina Hart, Katie Kamienski, Jackson Meister, Andrea Wilson, Kelly Looney, Dalaney Bice, Tom Aldrich, Chris Villalobos, Justin Bogers, Madisen Garman, Julie Cackler, Joyce Bruce, Charles Hill, Emma Parker, Jordan Kauffman, Diamond Denney

Teresa Burke called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

The meeting started with introductions.

Upcoming Decat & CPPC Activities:

- Polk CPPC Community Building 101 Workshop, Monday May 21st, 12-2p
- Highland Park Community Church Summer Adventure Camp:
 - Affordable option for K-5 youth, bilingual English/Spanish
- Familias Fuertes Training: Hosted by ISU Extension, June 4-6:
 - Contact Cathy Hockaday (hockaday@iastate.edu) for more info
- Level 1 Foundation of Trauma: Hosted by the Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa & Child Welfare Provider Training Academy, June 4th:
 - Contact Martha@iachild.org for more info
- Currently accepting applications for African-American Case Review Team (AACRT) – both for DHS and JCS. Please contact Diamond Denney (ddenney@dhs.state.ia.us) for more info or for an application!

Announcements from the Group

- Iowa Legal Aid – small business assistance available (includes non-profits!)
- Trauma-Informed Care Conference (Orchard Place) – June 5 & 6 – Holiday Inn Airport, DSM
- Links of Life 2nd Annual Youth Conference – August 7th – Resource/Vendor Fair for System-Involved Youth.
Keynote speaker: Vanessa McNeal

Presentation: Justin Bogers, Goodwill of Central Iowa

Goodwill of Central Iowa provides services for any community member facing barriers to employment. Barriers can come in all shapes & sizes, and cover a broad range. Goodwill has experiences working with people who have been previously incarcerated and are reintegrating back into the community, people who are new to Iowa as immigrants & refugees, youth transitioning into the work world from high school, foster care, college, or other semi-independent living arrangements, people with disabilities – both apparent & invisible, and people seeking to change careers, those who have been laid off, or perhaps need help with streamlining a resume or working on interview skills.

Goodwill of Central Iowa covers 22 counties, and each store has considerable latitude to meet the unique needs of the communities they serve. A few things remain consistent, however: GCI excels in delivering strengths-based assistance in helping individuals recognize useful skills they already have, working with people to develop marketable skills needed by today's labor markets, and investing in the relationship-building process in order to most effectively meet the needs of job seekers and employers alike.

Earn-while-you-learn training programs offer job seekers the opportunity to develop industry-specific employability skills & job readiness certifications in one of four areas: janitorial, retail, industrial, and food service. The Johnston Career Center offers a huge multifunctional space where participants experience hands-on and classroom training over the course of 30 paid shifts, which are scheduled at the trainee's pace. Typical hours are between 8a-3p, M-F. Attendees of this meeting are warmly welcomed to come to the Johnston training center for a visit and tour!

Goodwill of Central Iowa offers numerous other programs & services, such as career days, hiring events, Interview 101 & 201, Customer Service classes, and a Strengths and Passion Finder assessment. One awesome pilot program – Creating Excellence in Re-entry (CEIR) – leverages relationships with the Evelyn K Davis Center for Working Families, St. Vincent DePaul, and Men on the Move. The 8-week program meets Monday-Friday, and engages men recently released from incarceration to the Ft. Des Moines Work Release Center to prepare them for life outside of incarceration. Because re-entry after incarceration is a unique situation, this program is designed to give attention to each participant in order to meet individual needs as necessary. There was a lot of excitement from the group about this program, and we all hope the pilot is successful. Another cool program offered by the Southside Career Connection Center is the Healthy Relationships course – a 4 week class meeting on Tuesday evenings designed to acknowledge that aspects of our personal lives can create barriers in the work world, and to provide some tips for managing relationships to minimize conflict.

During the Q&A, there was some discussion of the importance of having interpretation services available as often as possible, as there is a growing need to meet the needs of Iowans not fluent in English as they seek employment opportunities. Goodwill currently uses the phone-in Language Line for interpretation. This discussion went even further as it was pointed out that Interpretation Services is not only a viable, but a lucrative career path. RACI and City Voices were mentioned, as well as the Levels 1 and 2 Interpreter trainings that have been in the works through RACI.

Upcoming speakers and topics:

- a. June 20, 2018 – Tess Hughes, Woodward Community Based Services, What you should know about juvenile Sex Offender treatment
- b. July 18, 2018 – Dr. Earl Kilgore & Tira Mays, Broadlawns, What providers should know about Broadlawns' array of services and Medicaid Managed Care
- c. August 15, 2018 – No meeting, Summer Break before school starts
- d. September 19, 2019 – Molly McPartland, KidsFirst, What providers should know about legal representation and workshops for children whose parents are divorcing
- e. Future meetings: Special session – Mike McInroy & Darin Thompson on current happenings with DHS; Refugee mental health
- f. Who else would you like to see?

Adjourn – Teresa Burke 9:47 am