RMCCT Meeting 08Apr2020

Zoom

Host: Jenny Earley

Agency Check-ins;

**Helen (Healthy Babies – WFC):** Doing what I can to stay connected with families, texting and calling. Delivering gift cards and bags to clients. Our Family Navigator got funds to make busy bags for any families that had siblings at home. It’s a different way of doing things. Next week hoping to get some zoom visual groups started.

**Susan/RMCDC:** Shawn was unable to join us today. Working at home since the 16th of March. All Clinicians still connecting with clients over phone, or however they can. Trying to lend as much support as we can with the tools we have. In process of getting virtual platform up and running to continue to connect and add visual piece. We have a building calendar schedule to allow no more than 2 people in building at a time. Everyday we’re getting better at it.

**Jo-Anne/CCRR:** We’re currently working 7 days a week, connecting by email and phone. Linking workers with care providers, connecting with care providers regularly. Working on resource package for parents next week, activities to do at home. Working on online workshop for care providers, will drop off materials they need and then meetings by zoom for instructions. Everyone who has called in we’ve been able to link them to someone with space, success so far. All centres have different hours, times, workers, etc.

**Melanie/SD#42:** it’s been a whirlwind, trying not to work 10-12 hour days, finding balance. Helping teachers come up with templates to keep things simple for parents. Sent out what we’d like to see going home, not to overwhelm families. Kindergarten; Giving lots of choices, online and offline. Everyone is tech’d out, not always available to use. Strongstart; they’re missing their kids, sent out email, made them each make facebook page for their centre (1400 families). Great responses, huge connection piece and very important.

* Comment about 2 schools opened up for essential services? AR and Hammond right now, still in the works. Only health care workers initially so far, could change. Following full social distancing procedures, so many per room. Tier one only children. All day long. Working on CYSN students. We’re making sure everyone is safe. Looking for volunteers, EA, teachers, principal.
* Childcare; not considering it daycare, there is a before and afterschool goal. All in the works right now. Instruction during the day, multi ages in room, teachers are not designing something new, just working through what they’ve been given to teach by their own teachers. This is moving constantly and changing, not for sure.
* Any news from SD on how long expecting to last? Nothing….
* No assumptions right now, no one knows.
* We also don’t know what integration back into the norm will look like

**Jackie/City of PM;** We’ll continue with our summer plans, spring plans are cancelled or on hold. Rec Staff, some have working with by-law team to help with social distancing in trails, parks, etc. Council set up task forces, they’re on the website. To help work through this situation, right resources, communication and tools. Events have all been cancelled as well. PM day, no firm decision, we’ll see.

**Susan/Early Years MCFD:** We’ve been working as a team, weekly meetings in all communities. Trying to make sure there are communication systems set up. Considered essential service, tier one. Most working from home now. Departments still working, using virtual when possible, connecting with families, avoiding face to face. Home visits if necessary, taking precautions. Our weekly call had a doctor on to inform, answer questions, etc. about the Covid-19.

* Any staff that are going into homes as needed? Do you have a criteria of what has to happen before staff is deployed? Not fully certain for all departments but has to be an urgent situation, staff can’t be ill, no one in the home is ill or has symptoms, physical distancing, washing hands before and after, having sanitation items in vehicle, etc. quite a few protocols in place to keep staff and clients safe.

**Annette/CYMH MCFD:** Only seeing urgent, high risk situations. Would partner with Fraser Health as well. Families connecting with zoom. Getting used to this, seeing clients, touching base, issues and concerns. This week is really about adjustment, etc. parents are happy for structure with their kids now at home, normalizing things a bit. Most families quite happy to connect. Working on getting group programs running this week to start next week.

**Brenna/Public Health:** many nurses, dieticians have all been pulled to help with case management, etc. Immunization services are essential service. Preventing any more outbreaks of anything, keeping people healthy, etc. within hospitals preparing well in advance for potential surges. Things are being managed well.

**Nikki/Family Ed:** just finished second zoom workshop, youth services. Getting used to zoom, tweaking things putting a task force together for procedures, etc. Anger management for men and other programs, workshops through zoom. Doing boxes full of educational fun stuff for families as well as a card that they can tick off of things they need, etc. Doing case management with families, seeing if they need anything. Working with schools to see if we can help in anyway with zoom workshops, or in the curriculum, training teachers, staff, etc. whatever needed.

**Wendy/RMACL:** School aged children who we provide before and after school support need all day daycare, we’ve not been told yet we can provide it. Waiting to hear what we will be able to do.

* For people wanting to make referrals, is the process the same as before? Only had 3 so far but process is the same. Phone call or fax. Consultants are not working in office but we’re practicing the same thing. Everything is virtual for us in the office as well. Next week starting to do video check-ins with families, right now just phoning in. New referrals we will do the same.
* RMCDC - we’re doing the same thing as well. Hoping another week of building it and then training staff.

**Natalie/Navigator:** As checking in with families, issue coming up is access to certain supplies such as toilet paper. Programs and I are reaching out to families to find out what their needs are right now. Working on putting together care packages. Family leave will do Zoom on M/W/F as well as circle time and chat.

Emerging Issues;

**Susan C;** having to find other ways to communicate. Some families don’t have access to internet or as much or proper technology, etc. How can we support these families? What can we do.

* School district will be giving devices to families that need them. That’s been worked on right now. Rumour: I heard Telus is also helping out for families that don’t have wifi, not sure what’s happening though. People are working hard to try and have every family accessible.

**Jenny:** Food bank has received a boost and increased availability to clients and reduced qualifications.

**Brenna:** pulled together community partners (food security) on Friday for discussion. School meals was a huge concern. Trying to keep an updated list of services, changing daily. Send me an email if you’re looking for the list, meal programs, service schedule. School district pulling together school meal program, looking at hubs where people can pick up food or delivery of hampers. No final details yet. Indigenous families; Backpacks with food, funds to purchase meals, storing food in salvation army fridges and freezers. Doing care packages delivered to residents or people in need. Friends in need foodbank; prior had to qualify, now accepting anyone in need. Call in and register or online, website has link. They just need ID when picking up, will be assigned time, drive through process for pick up. Katzie doing a lot of work, large Costco runs and developing food hampers. Sorting and packaging centre in gym then delivering to residents in PM, MR and Katzie. Places are offering funds to organizations, families, etc. Check our list. I can forward links to anyone who needs them. Other potential grants available too.

Back to School;

Families finding it a challenge to share technology in the home. Sounds like SD is working on that.

* Melanie: don’t think it’s for families who already have access and equipment.

Families feeling huge pressure to educate their children. Encourage to be kind to themselves and try their best.

* Once teachers get set up and get in the groove it should be easier for parents somewhat.
* Even getting away from terminology of “homeschooling”, it’s distance learning. Will help make them feel better. In the long run this isn’t going to matter (young kids)
* We’re saying the same thing, it’s not distance learning even, it’s pandemic learning. This is all new, to everyone. Teachers are used to being front on, this is emergency learning. Say to parents, play, play, play and keep them busy. Interaction with each other, keep it positive.

Successes & Challenges;

* More time with our families/kids
* Healthy Babies Facebook group – grass roots
* Keeping engaged with families
* 16 families on MG Zoom
* No Challenges voiced at this time

HELP Ideas

HELP at UBC looking for ideas to support communities (Susan F will take ideas back):

* Evaluation?
* What worked and what didn’t…
* Resource development – collecting info? Pandemic tool

Drop Boxes

Have started – Christina taking the lead through the CN– Susan will send out the links

Jenny checked in about meeting frequency. All agreed that weekly – Wednesday at 1 p.m. will be the plan for the next while.

Next meeting via Zoom – April 15th at 1:00 p.m.