



1) Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, by Carey Benson (Calmar), as Chair with committee members Ray Scobie (Leduc County), Cory Gilbert (Thorsby), Rick Hart (Warburg), Ledise Mason (West) and Jolene Doig (East) present.

Committee member Kelly-Lynn Lewis (Leduc County) was absent from the meeting.

Other attendees

- Dean Ohnysty, Director of Community Services
- Carol Tabone, Manager of Family Support Services
- Sara Russell, Manager of Community Support Services
- Corrie Richer, Administrative Assistant FCSS

2) Introductions

Round table introductions occurred.

3) Agenda adoption

Motion Representative Hart – that the agenda for the May 15, 2024, regular FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

4) Adoption of previous minutes

Motion Representative Scobie – that the minutes from the February 21, 2024, FCSS Advisory Committee organizational meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

5) General business

a) Victim Services update

Sara advised:

- Dean and Sara met with the chair and vice-chair of the new organization, Central Alberta Regional Victim Serving Society (CARVSS).
- A CEO has been hired and they are in the process of hiring additional operational and administrative staff.
- Office space is being sought out in Leduc and will be the head quarter for the region.
- The new service model will cover five regions and serve 20 RCMP detachments.

- They expect to be operational on October 1.
- A presentation will be offered to all Councils.
- The old Victim Services will end on October 1.

Discussion ensued.

b) Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) information

Carol provided background information regarding FASD, the Bridges program and funding.

Carol gave an update about new research to support community members in understanding FASD and the prevalence of the disorder. Carol stated that the prevalence of FASD is greater than Autism, Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome combined, and that prevention is key.

Carol reviewed "Did you know?" stats:

- There are approximately 174,000 Albertans living with FASD.
- An estimated 60% of pregnancies are unplanned.
- Given that approximately 77% of women in childbearing years report that they drink alcohol, the risk for unborn babies is at a high risk for prenatal alcohol exposure. Carol commented that this is the most common message.
- Forty-nine percent of pregnant women report drinking alcohol during their pregnancy, including prior to being aware of pregnancy. It is suggested that this is a low estimate, as women may be reluctant to disclose information. Carol commented that women will say that they quit as soon they found out.
- Out of 90% of Albertans who reported being aware of FASD, 48% reported knowing someone with FASD. Carol commented that the Bridges program supports people from every corner of the County.

Carol reviewed "What can we do?" information:

- Provide information and awareness for prevention.
- Support expecting women to have a healthy pregnancy. Spouses, friends, and family can take a dry 9 (especially spouses).

Carol advised that if committee members had any questions or suggestions regarding community awareness and prevention conversations, to please contact her.

Discussion ensued.

c) Community Helpers Program (CHP)/Alberta Health Services (AHS) outcomes

Carol reviewed the CHP/AHS outcomes and provided the following information:

- Leduc County FRN in partnership with AHS provided the CHP throughout the region to help increase awareness and support related to mental wellness for youth as well as adults supporting youth.
- Although the data is Edmonton based, over time it is anticipated that the CHP would see similar results within our area.
- Carol provided a link to information summarized from the findings.

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- Identifying the impact of CHP on mental illness-related acute care use among adolescents aged 12 – 18 years in Edmonton and determining cost avoidance.
- In the Edmonton area, there were about 90 and 80 fewer anxiety-and-depression-related visits (per 1,000 visits) among individuals aged 12-15 and 16-18 years, respectively.

Discussion ensued.

d) Healthy Relationships campaign

Carol provided the following:

- The need for Healthy Relationships was one of the trends noticed in all programs and intakes for families and individuals, from all socioeconomic and diverse populations looking for support.
- Community display banners and signs in locations where people gather such as parks, recreation centers, libraries, and other appropriate locations. Feelings wheel was developed and will be moved throughout the County to use a conversation tool for communities to talk about feelings and increase self-awareness.
- 2500 Healthy Relationship coasters printed and ready for distribution by June 1st. The coasters will be distributed throughout the area in establishments that serve food and beverages. We are looking forward to sharing these and other Healthy Relationship Initiatives in the County.

Sara reviewed the Healthy Relationship workshop topics for 2024 with the committee members.

Discussion ensued.

Motion Representative Hart – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda items 5. a) through 5. d) as information.

Carried unanimously

6) Reports

a) FCSS Advisory Report - February to May 2024

Sara reviewed the FCSS Advisory Report with committee members.

Discussion ensued.

Motion Representative Scobie— that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda item 6. a) FCSS Advisory Report as information.

Carried unanimously

b) FRN Advisory Report - February to May 2024

Carol reviewed the FRN Advisory Report with committee members.

Discussion ensued.

Motion Representative Gilbert – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda item 6. b) FRN Advisory Report as information.

Carried unanimously

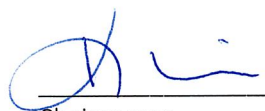
7) Information items

N/A

8) Adjournment

Motion Representative Hart – that the FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Carried unanimously



Chairperson



Director of Community Services