

**MINNESOTA COGNITIVE NETWORK**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**January 15, 2008**  
***Washington County***

**I. Welcome! Introductions and updates:**

**Present:** Scott Nygaard, Corey Mabis, Karen Determan, Brook Eekhoff, Ashley Johnson, Evonn Westcott, Amy Wess, Mark Mills, Diane Levandosky, TJ Nelson, Mark Gangl, Reginald Prince, Hal Palmer, Cindy Cox, & John Klavins.

**II. Training Announcements:**

- Scott Nygard reported a T4C training will be offered in beautiful Bemidji in late winter or early spring.
- Karen Determan announced a T4C training will also be offered in Wright County starting 2/19/08. Sue Stacey with DOC will be handling the registration.
- A 3<sup>rd</sup> T4C training will also be held by Dakota Co. TJ Nelson indicated this training will be in late April, '08 and anticipates a fair amount of open seats.
- TJ and Roxanne Humenik (Ramsey County) continue to work on building a funding coalition for statewide Moving On training. Currently a very expensive training. Dakota and Olmsted Co. are presently involved in this program. Anyone else working with this program are asked to contact [Tammy.Nelson@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:Tammy.Nelson@co.dakota.mn.us)
- The T4C curriculum is currently going through a "rewrite". TJ reports NIC is not ready to release but possibly available early summer. The changes will not affect the curriculum. Discussion about having a short video/satellite training in the fall, '08.

**III. Training Component:**

TJ Nelson (Dakota County) provided a power point presentation on a variety of tools and distributed quality assurance materials for members to review. The 2001 Subcommittee Report titled "Cognitive Behavioral Interventions Subcommittee Report to the DOC Community Services Advisory Council, March 21, 2001" was distributed. John Klavins provided a report history. Members were asked to review the report and discussion followed about adding an addendum to the report as a goal for this committee.

Discussion followed on the EBP's 8 Principles for Reducing Offender Recidivism – power point. Focus on assessment tools, pre/post tests, & U.S. Probation's

calculated spreadsheet – TCU. Dakota Co. tried the subjective scoring – Urica Tool. The Interpersonal Problem Solving Measurement (IPSM) validated assessment and inventory - appears prison focus. TJ is in the process of trying to obtain a more community focused version. NIC has a lengthy pre/post tool.

Discussion on program evaluations such as the J-SAT - Group Process Inventory – Revised (GPI-R) measuring MI skills and Federal probation's tool to measure the facilitator and program. Oklahoma – quality assurance ck list – Tippecanoe County Peer Review was briefly reviewed.

NIC – has a T4C 3 hr. DVD on Program Integrity. Members can set up an account with NICIC and check out this resource.

#### **IV. Think Tank:**

Corey indicated we need to focus on where we are currently. Discussion followed on referrals to cog skills based on LSI-R scores for male and female offenders and interviewing screens/assessments on all cog referrals.

TJ reported on Dakota County's quality assurance by using a control group. The group discussed the concept that our programs were developed prior to any policy and the need to develop general policy and guidelines.

**Marketing & Training:** We need to continue discussing the goal to provide agents not trained in cog skills to have some sort of training to continue with cog follow up during the office visits.

Future Ideas:

- Develop general policy recommendations/guidelines.
- Members visiting other cog programs in the communities for QA. Starting at a cooperative level. Reggie is willing to volunteer his expertise.

Next meeting: Members are requested to review the 2001 Subcommittee report. Research how it applies to our respective communities and the possibility of continuing the project.

**E-Letter** – Volume 1, Issue 1 was published in September 2007. All are encouraged to check it out! Thanks to our marketing committee! We need new volunteers for this committee for another E-Letter in August/September '08!!

Thank you to Corey for hosting the meeting!

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

**DATE: April 15, 2008 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**LOCATION:** Wright County Government Center  
4<sup>th</sup> floor conference room  
10 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Buffalo, MN

**HOST:** Karen Determan, Cell: 612-799-4026