



**April 20, 2005 in Chaska/Carver County  
Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** John Klavins, Julie Jordan, Russ Stricker, Joanne Brown, Anna Huette, Chris Bray, Michael Guevarra, Len Anderson, Katie O’Sullivan, Sue Stacey, Sue Eckmaahs, Eve DeBaere, Swantje Willers, Hal Palmer, Eric Johnson, Therese McCory, Keri Lorenz, Kelly Higgins, Jack Pierce, John Kuukari

**Thank you to Carver County for hosting the meeting!**

**Juvenile Girls and ART (Aggression Replacement Training) – Chris Bray, Minnesota Department of Corrections**

Chris Bray presented information she compiled while conducting a qualitative study regarding cog curricula with girls/female offenders. What she found from research is:

- Participation in cog does reduce recidivism in girls.
- Participants gain some positive skills.
- Outcomes for females are not significantly different from males.
- Although ART was developed primarily for boys, the outcomes with girls are fairly consistent with outcomes in boys.
- Participants and their parents expressed a high level of satisfaction with the program.
- Participants report they “got something out of this.”
- Girls can benefit from 1<sup>st</sup> generation cog curricula as much as boys.
- Ed Latessa has said cog in the community is more successful than cog delivered in an institutional setting because the participants have the opportunity to practice skills learned in class in their daily lives.

The Wilder Foundation is looking at research on ART cross-culturally. Preliminary reports suggest ART works across cultures as well, but more study is needed.

Thank you Chris!

**Subcommittee Reports:**

- **EBP Team update: John Klavins**

John reported the Evidence Based Policy Team has been meeting for one year. Membership includes three representatives from each the DOC field services, County Probation, and Community Corrections, as well as two wardens, and Chris Bray and Sue Stacey from the DOC.

The Policy Team is committed to supporting best practice in the State and is looking to the various networks to provide information regarding what needs the networks have to move best practices forward and to implement training state-wide. Information regarding the EBP will be available on the DOC web-site by the end of June.

- **Cog 101:**

Cog 101 is complete! Thanks to John Klavins, Corey Mabis, Michael Guevarra, Eric Johnson, and Sue Eckmaahs for all of their hard work in pulling together a fabulous training. This group met for the past six months and in power-point format provide a basic overview of Cog. The presentation was sent to Harvey Milkman for review and he reportedly provided positive feedback. The training is designed so activities can be added or deleted based on the audience and time (1.5 to 8 hours).

Julie presented the committee members a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Performance and Lasting Contribution. Thank you!

Next steps for Cog 101: a curriculum/lesson plan needs to be developed for each slide of the presentation. This would lend itself to a full training and in those cases, we would want to develop a lesson plan. A suggestion was made to bring this to the EBP and request support/assistance to develop the lesson plan.

A discussion was held regarding providing this information to those who ask for it. Do we share or not? We do want to share, but Information Officers need to keep a log of all requests and to whom each presentation has been sent. We need to include a disclaimer on the first slide and so the presentation/slides are not altered, consider putting the presentation in adobe. We would also like to develop a follow-up survey. The Cog 101 subcommittee has agreed to meet one additional time to pull this together, make training notes, and clean-up some of the slides.

The following individuals expressed an interest in presenting this training: Sue Eckmaahs, Michael Guevarra, Russ Stricker, Julie Jordan, Eric Johnson, Corey Mabis (he was volunteered), Keri Lorenz, John Klavins, and Kate O'Sullivan.

- **Measuring Effectiveness of Cog Interventions Subcommittee:**

No report. The subcommittee continues to meet.

- **Compile Documentation of Research Subcommittee:**

Sue Eckmaahs reported the subcommittee has met and established five categories of information for the CogNet to consider when reporting out this information. Due to the potentially large volume of information this could generate, it was decided to focus on the following types of information:

1. Cog programming in general.
2. Cog programming in corrections with offenders and by offense type.
3. Commonly used cognitive-based curricula and research attached with curricula.

The subcommittee is interested in feedback CogNet members have. Additionally, to compile that kind of information and keep the information up to date will require a significant amount of work. In order to accomplish this, other volunteers are needed on this subcommittee. If you are interested in helping with this worthwhile endeavor, **please** contact Rick Rudd at 952-224-0331 or Sue Eckmaahs at 952-489-1122.

### **Training Requests:**

Training requests are made to the Cog Net and on at least two occasions recently, requests were made for members to provide some training and there was not a way to determine if someone had volunteered or was scheduled to conduct the training. We dropped the ball on one such request (Jail Resource Center) and because Hal was attending the conference, he gave the presentation. Thank you Hal! To avoid this happening again, our co-chairs, Russ and Julie, have agreed to take on the role of training coordinators until their term is up in November 2005.

We have no training requests at this time.

### **Updating the CogNet web-page:**

Corey contacted Julie and suggested we update the CogNet web-page to include a list of cog programs running in the state along with contact information. We need volunteers to help with this endeavor.

### **Other Business:**

None

### **Upcoming Meetings Dates and Locations:**

- **July 29<sup>th</sup> in Duluth/St Louis County (11a.m. to 2 p.m.)**  
Contact is John Kuukari 218-733-2818
- **October 19, 2005 in Ramsey County (11a.m. to 2 p.m.)**  
Contact is Julie Jordan 651-266-2678
- **January 18, 2006 at Hennepin County (11 a.m. to 2 p.m.)**  
Contact is Russ Stricker – [russ.stricker@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:russ.stricker@co.hennepin.mn.us)