

# WRAP NEWS



## FAMILY VOICE

### The Power of Being Persistently Strengths Based

Persistence and a strengths based approach are two critical principles in the Wraparound process. These principles have created powerful changes for Peanut\*. Peanut and her brothers and sister were taken into DHS custody when she was 2 years old. In 2009, a judge determined that they couldn't grow up with their parents and parental rights were terminated. Peanut did not get a goodbye visit. She experienced two failed adoptions and multiple foster families, eventually becoming separated from her sister who she was very close to. In November, 2010 Peanut began receiving Wraparound services as one of the first youth enrolled in Multnomah Wraparound.

Peanut's initial goals included maintaining a relationship with her sister and establishing connections with family members. When Peanut was asked what she wanted most in life, she responded "to live with my sister". Her sister now lives in Salem, but they are able to visit twice a



month because of the Wraparound team's persistence in keeping them connected.

Establishing connections with family members required a lot of effort. Peanut's CASA provided over 42 family names. A Catholic Community Services family search specialist worked with the CASA and DHS to identify family members who could be a resource. The team kept a strengths based focus in this work, identifying and building on the interests that Peanut's family had in connecting with her.

Peanut's father began working with her Wraparound family partner to determine how he might become involved in Peanut's life in a healthy way. An uncle and cousin joined her Wraparound team in January, 2013, and are now having regular visits with her. Since Peanut's needs are signifi-

cant, her aunt, uncle and cousin have begun working together and recently hosted Peanut for an overnight visit. Having a strengths based focus helped the team explore how Peanut's extended family could combine and build on their individual resources to support Peanut.

Peanut's mother began working with the team this spring, and Peanut was able to meet her again for the first time since she was two years old. Milele Hobbs, Peanut's Wraparound Family Partner reflects, "when all the players put in a lot of effort and commitment using the principles, and they utilize the family strengths, you get results."

Peanut celebrated her 9th birthday this week. Her mother, father and sister were all part of the celebration. She said "this is the most scrumptious super duperlicious party on earth!" Peanut is starting a new year of life with renewed connection to family, and hope for continued healing and wellness.

*\*not her real name*

## TRI COUNTY WRAPAROUND PROGRAMS ALIGN

Wraparound teams from Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington Counties continue to meet quarterly to share in staff trainings with Dan Embree, M.Ed., NCC from PSU's Systems of Care Institute. Dan provides training to Washington County as part of their Statewide Children's Wraparound Initiative (SCWI) workforce development. Washington County generously includes teams from Clackamas and Multnomah in these trainings, thereby leveraging the state's investment to create high quality and consistent Wraparound services for the Tri County region.

In addition to the quarterly trainings, the Tri County teams are evaluating

both their administrative and care coordination practices to determine what can be standardized across the three counties. Counties are working to align their practice models to mirror each other as much as possible so that families have consistent Wraparound experiences across the Tri County region.

A work group from each county meets monthly. They have established common Wraparound terminology and are now working on a set of common guidelines for facilitating and documenting Wraparound team meetings. The work group hopes to eventually create some standardization in the reporting of outcomes across the three counties as well.

### Wraparound Quarterly Report

at CMHSAC:

July 16, 2013

5:30—7 p.m.

Multnomah Building  
501 SE Hawthorne

### Inside This Issue:

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- ⇒ **Tri County Wraparound Programs Align**
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### Wraparound Governance Meeting Changes

As Multnomah Wraparound approaches its third anniversary, we are looking at ways to increase efficiencies in our meetings while preserving the involvement of Wraparound families and our community partners in Wraparound policy development. We are pleased to announce meeting changes for both the Wraparound Family Youth Advisory Committee and the Wraparound Collaborative Partnership Committee.

The Wraparound Family Youth Advisory Committee (FYAC) started shortly after Multnomah County began providing Wraparound services in November, 2010. As Cathe Dunwoody, Children’s Mental Health Systems Advisory Council (CMHSAC) Co-Chair notes, “what we found is that while some Wraparound families came to the FYAC meetings, mostly it has been families who sit on CMHSAC who regularly attend the FYAC meetings”. In April, 2013 CMHSAC was asked to consider allowing the FYAC to merge with it, thereby preserving a forum for Wraparound families to share their experiences while also decreasing meeting burden for families who were attending both meetings regularly. CMHSAC voted to accept the merger of the two groups at their April 16, 2013 meeting.

Cathe Dunwoody states, “Wraparound families are always welcome at CMHSAC. Parents can also send input through their family partners so that their voices can be heard even if they cannot attend the public meeting”.



The Wraparound Collaborative Partnership Council (CPC) serves as the governance council for Multnomah Wraparound. The CPC supports policy development in compliance with the requirements of the agencies that contribute directly to Wraparound. The CPC has been meeting quarterly since 2010. Many of the system partners on CPC also attend the monthly CMHSAC meetings. In an effort to streamline meetings while preserving transparency and the opportunity for input, the quarterly Wraparound reports will move to CMHSAC. The full CPC will continue to meet annually in January of each year. Wraparound data will be presented at the July and October, 2013 meetings of CMHSAC. This presentation will also be available upon request. If you would like to receive the quarterly Wraparound

reports, please send an email to Nicole Cleary, Program Specialist at [nicole.cleary@multco.us](mailto:nicole.cleary@multco.us)

### Community Care Coordination Committee Update

On May 17th the Community Care Coordination Committee (C-4) met and discussed changes to the format of the committee's meetings. C-4’s mission is to provide a regular meeting in which system and operational issues can be reviewed, and barriers addressed in the implementation of the Children’s System Change Initiative.

C-4 will now be meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. These meetings are held from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Lincoln Building. The first Thursday meeting will focus on case reviews. The Wraparound team and community partners are invited to present cases, with a focus on cases representing system barriers when possible. The purpose of these case reviews will be to engage all system partners in brainstorming creative solutions to system

barriers and establishing new opportunities for collaboration.

The third Thursday meeting will focus on systems challenges and solutions. We will be using case reviews to identify the larger system barriers. These discussions will also include a consideration of how C-4 relates to other systems case staffing opportunities such as the Alternative Placement Committee (APC), facilitated by DCJ, or the Multisystem Staffing Team (MSST), a team of DCHS employees who meet to staff clients with challenging problems that cross DCHS departmental service systems. It is anticipated that in addition to identifying system barriers, action plans and steps to implement solutions will be developed at this meeting.

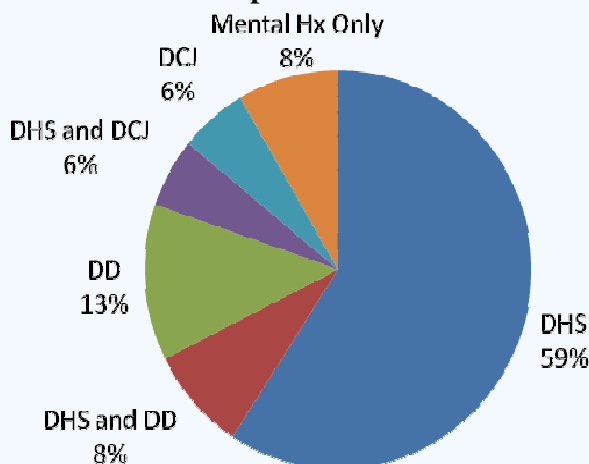
We would like to thank our community partners for their engagement as we continue our efforts to make C-4 more relevant and streamlined. The next meeting of C-4 will take place on Thursday, June 20, 2013.

### WRAPAROUND AT A GLANCE JUNE 11, 2013

<b>Ages Served</b>	<b>3—18 yrs</b>
<b>Average Age</b>	<b>13 years</b>
<b>Average Length of Stay</b>	<b>9 months</b>



### Systems Involvement of Wraparound Youth:



### Newsletter

#### Submissions

Please submit articles to  
Nicole Cleary  
[nicole.cleary@multco.us](mailto:nicole.cleary@multco.us)

#### Mailing List

To be added or removed please email  
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