Autism Community of Practice – Parent Supports Group

August 13, 2009

Attendance
Peggy Helm-Quest
Emily Levine
Leann Smith
Kelly Wegner
Deb Berrang
Karl Pierick
Barbara Katz

Agenda
1) Review work from May 20, 2009 Community of Practice and July 29, 2009 Conference Call

Minutes were reviewed.

2) Action Steps
   • Develop questions for families to use when interviewing family counselors.
   • Consider compiling guide of resources to five to families upon diagnosis – similar to Baby Steps.

3) Plan New Action Steps
   Supporting Families
   • Review brainstormed questions from the July 29 call. (all)
   • Think about additional questions. Investigate existing resources for Medical Home professionals when working with families who have children with Autism. (all)
   • Research the web regarding relationships – curriculum of Family therapist – investigate existing training materials for MH professional for kids on autism.
   • Bring information on Colorado’s “Give Me a Break” program, especially the section on how to select respite. Begin thinking about developing booklet or notebook for the child to share information to the provider. (Deb and Emily)

4) How is this Practice Group Unique?
This group focus is on - Promote healthy, thriving families by reducing family stress by addressing the mental health and respite needs of families. (How will Medical Home become the conduit to make this happen?) Challenge is when pediatricians look at parenting – with an understanding that atypical parenting occurs because families are dealing with atypical children’s development.

5) Ways this work may overlap with other groups
   • Receive reports from Regional Community of Practice Workgroups. (Regional Workgroups)
   • Connect with UW - Whitewater Special Ed. program to share information with psychology department. (professional Development Workgroup)
   • Mental Health wellness of families. (Medical Home)
• Sharing resources with medical practices – Family Fact Sheets/MCHAT shared with medical practices. (Medical Home)