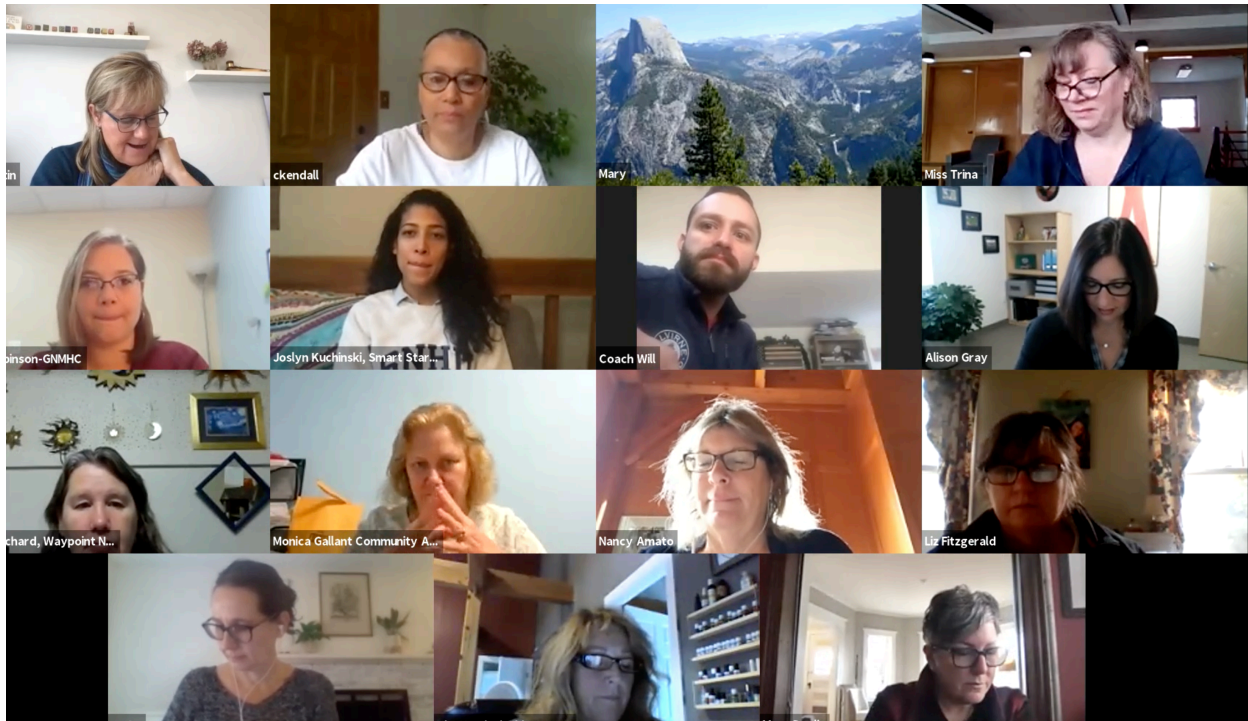


NOVEMBER 2020 METC Collaborative Meeting



One of the Collaborative's key objectives is to build our understanding of the EC resources available to our families with young children and understand what resources each of us offers. We are aiming to serve as early childhood ambassadors for Milford families with young children.

That said, our discussion today will focus on how to refer families to each other; with a focus on potential "warm" hand offs.

REFERRAL discussion around these Qs:

Starting with Providers (Parent Perspective will be covered at next meeting)

- * How are Milford families accessing your services and resources?
- * And how would you prefer Collaborative partners/members refer/bridge families and their young children to you? Best way?

Cindy/Waypoint:

- Cindy = the family resource center coordinator for waypoint and we are in Nashua & cover the entire Hillsborough County except for Manchester
- Families currently access our resources by either calling into the resource center (I would take the call or calls are forwarded to me).
- We can take referrals from any provider.

- We can take self referrals
- And that's for our Parenting Plus Home Visiting and healthy families programs
- Best way to refer = warm handoff. Reach out to Cindy directly
- We also encourage families to find out about our family resource center and make the calls themselves because we can answer a lot of the questions that way >> We can answer specific questions where as a referral source may not be able to
- Link to Cindy's member profile >> <http://milfordthrives.org/cindy-blanchard/>

Valerie Robinson Greater Nashua Mental Health

- The only way to get into greater Nashua mental Health through our intake office so it's not like people can call me directly
- there is there is a phone number
- We also have open access/walk-in hours that people can go to at 440 Amherst St. If they arrive between 8 - 11:30 Monday through Thursday, they will talk to somebody that day (will have to wait for next available)
- All programs go through our intake office so you call the number is 889-6147 and ask for intake and they'll make an appointment. At the intake appointment they'll get an evaluation of the diagnosis
- New "Child Parent Psychotherapy for children (birth to 6) and their parents.
- t's a combination of trauma therapy and attachment therapy. We work with the child and a caregiver to give the caregiver the tools they need to understand the child's play and help the child process their trauma and strengthen their relationship and bond.
- I'm one of the people that has been trained and helps to diagnosis infants up to 5 yrs.
- Q: Jan Trudeau? Substance Use for adolescents
- Link to Valerie member profile/contact info

Kim Kamieniecki NAMI NH

- Most referrals come from the community, Greater Nashua mental health, and the school district. Other referrals from parents; parents referring other parents; DCYF; police departments. Anyone can make the referral.
- Contact Kim directly (ages 6-26 w/mental health diagnosis); Kim can also help families navigate the Medicaid process if needed.
- For families with children struggling with mental health challenges. We offer support, education and connection with other families. Depends on need of family
- or being connected with the community or education collaborative communication skills and there's a lot of different types of supports I provide to the families it's really depending on the need of the family I'm so really anybody can make a referral and I have a very simple and referral form and I'm not sure if if you guys have that or not but I'm happy to share that so it's in your member profile that we're going to post and so like a reference for a collaborative members and for all of us to know if we i want to reach out to Nami we want to connect a family with Nomi New Hampshire this is the form we have to fill out is there a warm handoff that we can make like you know we shall absolutely yeah you anybody can contact me I'm at work with youth from ages of 6 to 26 so it's not really the 0 to 5 year and you know they they do need to have a mental health diagnosis of some sort and also Medicaid and I kind of say that a little bit loosely because I'm not Medicaid process can be really daunting for a family so that's something that you know I can assistance for that process OK great so really birth to 580 or gateway will be Valerie and greater Nashua mental Health great thank you kim for the dress is just here today

Monica Gallant at CAST/Community Action for Safe Teens, Boys & Girls Club

- Children's Resiliency Retreat for children who are impacted by a loved one substance use disorder (could be any family member or family friend) for children in grades one through 12.

- Alateen offered at the club
- Social emotional learning program for all children who attend the club, Kindergarten and up. SEL is included in our after school programming
- Youth leadership program, YES Team
- Community Coalition
- Referrals come from school, families, NAMI and other social service agencies like our churches are a big collaborative partner
- Prefer warm handoff especially for the Resiliency Retreat. Perfectly fine to share my email / phone info with the family that is in need
- Monica's member profile >><http://milfordthrives.org/monica-gallant/>

Catherine Kendall Boys & Girls Club

- * Our referrals come from schools and families
- * Before school, after school care, vacation and summer camps. Still open during COVID
- * Other theatre, gym activities have been modified due to COVID but robust theater and athletic offerings (K and up)
- * Other sites: Jacques; Antrim; Greenfield
- * Call the Club; website good overview of programs
- * Milford School District provides transportation for students to the club.
- * Scholarships available
- * Waypoint collaboration with Boys & Girls Club for parent education offerings -- will also provide childcare
- * Parenting Café's = future options in person and potentially virtually. Collaborative members will be looking at these opportunities for parents based on their input/needs assessment.
- * Q: at Jacques Memorial and a Heron Pond with our title I group, we have a Parent Advisory Group.
- * Operates both virtually and in person because it's more convenient.

Melissa MacDonald, SAU/Preschool

- * Special Education Preschool (Inclusive) Currently serve 3 year olds and 4 year olds. (Typically 10-12 3 yrs; 15-17 4 yrs w/typical). COVID has limited class sizes.
- * Works collaboratively with Gateways; participates in Gateways evaluations of young children approaching 3 and transitioning from EI to SAU Pre-K. Gateways does outreach to Melissa/SAU to invite them.
- * ChildFind at least once/year
- * PLC Race to K >> working together to revise curriculum and reporting tools
- * Melissa's info >> <http://milfordthrives.org/melissa-macdonald/>

Leslie Brigagliano SAU, Curriculum & Title I Director

- * SAU PreK and preschools in area and families register their students for K directly
- * DIAL4 Screen pre Kindergarten
- * Also did overview of K; "orientation"
- * Trying to make it easy/online for K registration
- * Leslie's info >> <http://milfordthrives.org/leslie-brigagliano/>

Pam Smith of Bridges

- * Best way to access our services = Walk in/Hot line/chat services
- * We can also meet people at other places, hosp/school/doctor
- * Referrals from families themselves/doctors/police/dcyf/CAC
- * ALL confidential!

- * Bridges contact info >><http://milfordthrives.org/kathleen-parker/>

Will morrow, Juvenile Diversion Office and MPD “bridger” to services

Which services/supports do you find most helpful in your work?

If you had a wish list for of resources and supports for parents with young kids ... what would that be?

- * Once a case gets sent to me through our patrol division or through a law enforcement notification letter through DCYF
- * Follow up w/family ... and help bridge them to supports. Most often work with them to fill out referrals...otherwise, they don't get done. They're under so much stress already, especially given the reported incidence.
- * DCYF mandated services
- * I would like printed referral forms (from any of you!) to have in my binders >> so that I can fill them out with families when I'm at the home. (2 Families to NAMI NH already)
- * Specifically, the youngest children...around 3 years old. Needing to understand what services are available for them. I.E., GNMH's new services — CPP.
- * Will's info >> <http://milfordthrives.org/will-morrow/>

Mary Burdett, NIC-U

Which services/supports do you find most helpful in your work?

If you had a wish list for of resources and supports for parents with young kids ... what would that be?

- * We have a social worker team which is so helpful
- * So nice to get to know the Milford-area providers. I would love info to pass along to the social workers that they can share with families.

Ardith Kirchberger, SpeakEasy Speech Therapy

- * Offices in Nashua and can see people in Milford
- * Birth through adult
- * Able to work adults and children who have a variety of different communication disorders
- * I can help with developmental screening
- * Have folks email or call me; I also have a website and FB page.
- * Accept all commercial insurance as well as Medicaid and Medicare >> I bill for them through insurance
- * Often serve children that are on the cusp of identification (and do not qualify for special ed services); often work with young children to help prepare for K
- * Schools can refer families to Ardith and she'll work with them and bill through insurance.

Liz Fitzgerald from the United Way & Greater Nashua SmartStart coalition

- * sister coalition to Milford Thrives
- * We host an annual Baby Shower (different this year due to COVID).
- * Free Fun family events for families: last year FROZEN movie night highlighting an educational partner (i.e. Waypoint)

- * In future, looking forward to a Kite Flying event (when safe); Ultimately would like to host a monthly fun event and incorporate “Choose Love” curriculum
- * COVID wifi access and tech resources from United Way (refurbished laptops; hot spots...)
- * info@unitedwaynashua.org
- * Tutoring program available as well in partnership with BGC, YMCA
- * Waterford Upstart Program for pre-K four year olds entering into K in 2021 >> free opportunity!
- * Joslyn Kuchinski new Coordinator of the SmartStart Coalition

Trina McLenon @Wadleigh

- * Programming and materials for families
- * More success with materials “to go” (book bundles; craft...

Joelle Martin @ Milford Thrives

- * connector! Happy to be a resource if you’re looking for something specific

Needs Assessment Consultants >>

Alison Gray and Mary Devlin

- * Provided a needs assessment update: Committee meets once a month (2nd Thursday @1:00 p.m.) Everyone is welcome
- * See slides
- * Overview of the Discovery process too
 - * Member Profiles will be key >> please get in your member profiles to Joelle
 - * Community Mapping: overview of resources available
- * Needs Assessment overview

Survey for Collaborative Members

You will receive an email link to a quick survey regarding your questions/interest in future discussions. This will help guide our work together as well as topics for future Collaborative discussions. Thank you

UPDATES

Thank Leslie Brigagliano for a successful Distribution Day at Jacques Memorial School !

- * Able to engage parents picking up their children — both am and pm sessions
- Plus, engaged parents with students doing remote learning
 Milford Thrives + Waypoint + Ardith/SpeakEasy + Bridges
 Fun giveaways: cocoa packets; play dough; Target gift card giveaway
- * Definitely an event we’ll be able to build on in the Spring!!

Monica/CAST

- * Supporting children and youth in the presence of loss and trauma — free; Dr. Tina bridge of eastern Michigan university
 (two-part series Wednesday, December 2 and then the second part of December 9)

- * FB PAGE: Suicide Prevention workshop
- * COVID Care packages ... we are putting together care packages — please let us know if you have families you'd like to distribute these to.
- * Remote Learning @BGC SV K-8
- *

Thank you & Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

See you next month.