



## First Steps Central MN Joint Powers Board Meeting Agenda

November 7, 2024 at 9-10am

Sherburne County Government Center, Oak Room

Teams link: [Join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 240 732 006 949 | Passcode: FKkK3P



**Powers Board Attendees:** Commissioner Tarryl Clark, Commissioner Jeanne Holland, Commissioner Gary Gray, Commissioner Beth Schlangen

**Additional Attendees:** Nicole Ruhoff, Janet Goligowski, Sarah Grosshuesch, Courtney Ferreira, Mallory Voit, Kelly Ball, Leah Krotzer

| AGENDA ITEM  | MINUTES / MOTIONS  |
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| 1. Call to Order<br>a. Approval of Minutes (Sept 2024 Meeting)<br>b. Approval of Agenda  | Commissioner Clark call to order at 9:03 am.<br>Approval of Minutes – motion by Commissioner Gray and second by Commissioner Holland. No discussion. Approved.<br>Approval of Agenda – motion by Commissioner Gray and second by Commissioner Holland. No discussion. Approved.  |
| 2. Action Items<br>a. Approval of revised Joint Powers Board Bylaws<br>b. Approval of proposed 2025 meeting dates & times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Thursday, February 13, 9a-10a</li><li>Thursday, May 8, 9a-10a</li><li>Thursday, August 14, 9a-10a</li><li>Thursday, November 13, 9a-10a</li></ul> | Approval of 2025 meeting dates – motion by Commissioner Gray and second by Commissioner Holland. No discussion. Approved.<br><br>Approval of revised Joint Powers Board Bylaws – motion by Commissioner Holland and second by Commissioner Gray. No discussion. Approved.  |
| 3. Family Home Visiting Updates<br>a. Budget & Program Updates<br>b. Program Spotlight: Infant Feeding Support<br>c. Individual County Updates   | a. Budget and Program Updates provided by Leah Krotzer. Reviewed Quarter 3 Strong Foundation Budgets, FS Centralized Intake referral numbers and sources, and Family Home Visiting caseload data. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strong Foundation budgets at expected expenditure at end of Q3</li><li>Steady growth continues with referrals and caseloads – eager anticipation of 2025 MDH expansion funds to serve 30 additional families (\$90,000) across the region</li></ul> b. Program Spotlight of Infant Feeding Support overview provided by Kelly Ball. Guest presenter from FS Benton Co PHN, Mallory Voit. |

- 5 infant feeding groups within our First Steps region, along with 2 additional groups close by. There is at least one local group each week day. These groups are drop-in times where families can arrive, do a weighted feed with their baby, have access to lactation experts, and have a social connection with other mothers

Commissioner Beth Schlangen joined the meeting at 9:43am.

c. Individual County updates:

- Benton County: Courtney Ferreira provided an update on Benton County's full caseloads and hiring process for the posted 1.0 FTE PHN position; recent Project Connect event with 150 people stopping at the Benton First Steps booth; this week's Babe Café (St. Cloud YMCA) had highest attendance at 22 moms.
- Stearns County: Janet Goligowski provided an update on Stearn's County Project Connect attendance; full caseloads looking forward to expansion funding in 2025; PH coordinator position opening; presentation to THRIVE with partners for Family Resource Center overview; continue to add new members to PH Taskforce; Opioid work has 8 projects approved including adding PHN and in process of developing County Health Ratings dashboard comparing county to MN status in Opioid work.
- Wright County: Sarah Grosshuesch provided an update on Wright County discussions with MDH Strong Foundations grant FHV caseload capacity to address closure/served ration and eligibility for expansion funds in the future; 2 FHV staff on docket to train in MECOSH early 2025; moving to implementation of Family Resource Center opening in Howard Lake (new) Public Library and mobile FRC.
- Sherburne County: Nicole Ruhoff provided an update on Sherburne County caseloads are full, eagerly anticipating 2025 expansion funding with current hiring process for open PHN position; Promise Practices grant growing connections with Latino/Hispanic community organizing Healthcare for All event (78 families attending); FS presenting at MDH Partners in Public Health conference next week and AMC conference in December; MDH pleased with innovatively meeting our FS Community Action Committee requirement leveraging already existing community partner meetings/connections, PH Taskforces, and client input across our region; Family Resource Center at Main Street Family Services moving towards January 2025 opening

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|            | with hiring of coordinator; attendance of Fairview Community Advisory Board (hoping to increase referral partnership); Baby Café/Lactation Connection partnership with ECFE. |
| 4. Adjourn | Commissioner Clark adjourned meeting at 9:50am.<br><br>Next meeting (proposed): Thursday, February 13, 9a-10a  |