Roxanne Maher

From:	Kate Sikorski
Sent:	Thursday, August 17, 2023 8:56 AM
То:	Jason S. Hartling
Cc:	Karen Goetchius; Fred Allyn, III; jdavis@ledyard.net; Town Council Group
Subject:	Clarification Regarding APRA Funded Counselor Position

Good Morning Superintendent Hartling,

I wanted to reach out and provide some clarification regarding the ARPA Funded Counselor position. In Nov 2022 we hired an LPC who worked with us till June 14th at which time they left for a Maternity Leave. During this time I had reached out to them and they had planned to return in August. Unfortunately, the infant has significant health issues and I was informed on August 9th that they would not be able to return. At which time I reached out and notified the LYS Dept Head, Karen Goetchius, and stated:

"Honestly, I am torn and may want to discuss more at some point re: next steps for this temporary position. LYS is planning to have another intern start this fall and I still do not have a clear grasp on what the SBH services MH component and cases will look like. There are a lot of moving parts right now. "

It was not my intention for this statement to be interpreted as LYS not needing/wanting to hire another clinician based on SBHC services. I have attempted to reach out to have meetings and gather information regarding the SBHC and how the services in Town will work in collaboration but unfortunately these meetings did not take place. The moving pieces that that I am referring to in the original email include Ledyard Youth services office space usage and shifts in the space that may occur over the next month, wanting to make sure all the clinical hours for the interns and the hired Clinician can be met. I was hoping to utilize a conversation with the Department Head to discuss a solid plan moving forward so that the needs of the Town were being met along with the needs of the staff.

My goal since I started as the LYS Coordinator/Director is to increase the services provided to the families in Ledyard. This continues to be the goal of Ledyard Youth Services.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. Sincerely,

Kate Sikorski-Maynard



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