

In my final meeting with the Barton family, I focused on the lifespan development group of adolescent individuals, ranging from ~~tens~~ to twenty years of age. Sigelman ~~and~~ Rider (2008) noted Hime (1999) and Kett (1997) ~~as stating~~ that ~~adoescents-adolescence~~ is the “transitional period between childhood and adulthood that begins with puberty and ends when the individual has acquired adulte competencies and responsibilities” (p. 8). Adolescents tend to focus on their phsycial ~~apperance- appearance~~ and have longer attention spans (Sigelman & Rider, 2008). They are capable of understanding various aspects of life, though these are ~~eruital crucial~~ development ~~stages~~ for personal growth. Adolescents are influenced by their surroundings and their self esteems tends to decrease during these years. Since physical apperance through the puberty phase is a major milestone for any individual, they tend to look at their peers for advice, ~~and-who~~ what they should look like, and how they should act as part of the social norms. For this lifespan development group, I will focus on the Barton’s oldest daughter (Tracie), second daughter (April), and son (Peter).

Follow up

Before I conduct an assessment and refer services to adolescents of the Barton family, I will do a brief follow-up with the referrals I suggested to the entire family and great-grandmother. Phyllis, the Barton mom, continues to work part-time at a bakery and takes care of her grandmother on her off days. She has yet to follow up on referral services ~~due to her work schedule and taking care of her family.~~ Paul, the Barton dad, continues to have health issues and struggles with alcoholism. Paul has recently been employed by the apartment complex to do the landscaping to dress up the neighborhood and even ~~pursued-persuaded~~ them to hire his son as an assistant. He has been following up on his medical treatments and has been watching his fiber intakes as advised at last visit to the hospital. Todd, Tracie’s boyfriend and Max’s dad,

Comment [jk1]: Good idea

Comment [jk2]: realistic

continues to work on his family's seed farm, but has recently disclosed to Peter that he wanted nothing to do with Tracie and Max. ~~Grandma Betty~~, Phyllis' grandmother, Betty's health has declined and she has have been receiving care from a hospice nurse. She has lost a significant amount of weight since our last meeting, and the family has proceeded to process leaving her home with the Barton family to assume when she passes. Unfortunately, Grandma Betty passed away and left the Barton family responsible to pay the back-taxes owed on the property. Suzie, the Barton's youngest daughter, is excited to start kindergarten in the fall and has been role-playing as a teacher with her nephew. Suzie has not wet the bed in weeks and is now sharing a bed with her older sister, April. Max, Tracie's son, continues to process normally and has been consistent with medical wells checks. Due to Max being born premature, his esophagus had not fully developed, and he is being treated with for acid reflux, which occurs after feeding. The Barton family has been dealing with several stressors this summer; Grandma Betty's passing, car issues, and financial strains. I anticipate the Barton family to continue living in Grandma Betty's home, tending to the home repairs, and follow-up on previous referrals.

Comment [jk3]: not clear what you mean

Comment [jk4]: or progress?

Assessment and Identified Needs

Tracie, the Barton's eighteen year old daughter, gave birth to her son prematurely. She has naturally taken on the role as a new mother while working limited hours at a drug store. Her boyfriend, Todd, had recently expressed that he wanted nothing to do with her or the baby. Tracie is devastated, but is managing to take taking care of her son, younger sister, and grandmother while at home. Tracie is in need of medical care, parental education courses, clothing, nourishment, housing, social activities, education, transportation, employment, and childcare. Good list of needs here...

The Barton's sixteen year old daughter, April, takes on the role as the second mom in the family. She is [a](#) natural at taking care of her family's needs, but too often neglects her own needs. She struggles to balance self-care and tending to her family. She has recently been employed for a summer program at the local youth center. She is currently sharing her bed with her younger sister and has expressed wanting her own bed. April is in need of medical care, clothing, nourishment, housing, social activities, transportation, employment, and education.

The Barton's fifteen year old son, Peter, works odd jobs with his dad and was recently hired to assist his dad at doing landscaping for an apartment complex. He struggles to balance personal priorities such as school and family issues. He takes pride in his family and has put their needs first; including skipping school to work odd jobs with his dad. Peter is in need of medical care, clothing, nourishment, housing, social activities, transportation, employment, and education.

Referrals and Anticipated Outcomes

All three Barton children are in need of similar services to meet their needs, [but are old enough to be responsible from some where others may need collaborative efforts with their parents.](#) I have suggested that the Barton children [to](#) apply for assistance through the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), who provide an array of services to children and adults; including medical programs, childcare services, and nourishment. There are also several local organizations that provide other beneficial services.

Medical

I have advised all three Barton [adolesceences-adolescents](#) to encourage their parents to apply for medical benefits through Department of Social and Human Services (DSHS) for their annual checkups. They could potentially [ly](#) seek medical insurance through the school district, but

Comment [jk5]: An important point to make for them

I anticipate them not following through due to the high monthly fees. Another medical insurance option is the Apple Health for Kids program. The Apple Health for Kids program is a “Washington State initiative aimed at streamlining applications for children’s healthcare coverage” (Apple Health for Kids, 2011). [Good idea...](#)

Tracie has recently had a follow ~~us-up~~ [vist](#) for her son and has expressed her concerns about [him](#) ~~her son Max~~. She is concerned about ~~her his~~ [acid reflux-reflux](#) after feeding, and lessening the dosage to make the medication last longer. Her pediatrician provided her with a box of samples that should last for a couple of months and reminded her to give the correct dosage for the best desirable results.

I anticipate that Peter and April [may](#) not following through with these ~~referrals~~ [referrals](#), but Tracie taking full advantage of these benefits for her and her son. I anticipate Tracie continuing to attend the following doctors appointments to keep up with the [immunizations](#). I have encouraged all three to utilize the free bus fare that Island Transit provides throughout Island County.

Housing Options

During each meeting with the Barton family, I have consistently referred the individuals to Habitat for Humanity of Island County to apply to become a future Habitat family to receive a home, but they have yet to follow through with this referral. Though the Barton ~~adolescencees~~ [adolescents](#) are underage, they are in a developmental stage in which they are focused on personal space and appearance. April and Tracie share their living space with Tracie’s son and their younger sister. April has recently started sharing her bed with Suzie on the floor next to the bunk beds where Tracie and Max sleep. Due to April’s work schedule and Max’s feeding schedule, ~~they are their~~ [sleeping](#) patterns are not consistent. The Barton’s family living

Comment [jk6]: ???

arrangements are not ideal for all three individuals to grow [in](#), but at the moment meets the family's needs. I have also recommended that the Barton family inquire information on Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Housing Choice Voucher Program-Section 8. "The housing choice voucher program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market" (Housing Choice Voucher Program Section 8, 2011, para. 1). I anticipate the Barton children not following through with this referral to stay close to their support system. Tracie and April report making some adjustments to their sleeping arrangements and eventually move the mattress on the top of the bunk bed instead of the floor.

Education and Social Activities

The Barton adolescents are in their prime years in being interactive with their peers. All three could benefit from a nurturing and safe environment to assist them in developing their interpersonal skills. I recommend April and Peter to setup an appointment with their school counselor to discuss their current living situation. The school counselors are very resourceful and could potentially assist them in providing a more stable future through educational programs and/or other extra curricular activities. Tracie has not reported any interests in furthering her education with her new child, but I have referred her to contact the college counselor or express her interest to the home visiting nurses in what programs and/or support groups are available for new parents. They all report knowing that education is their key to success and their way to improve their current lifestyle. I anticipate all three Barton children to follow through with these referrals, but I foresee Tracie being reluctant to pursue any higher education programs to focus more on being a mother first.

Employment

The Barton children are all currently employed, but could benefit from Work Source to improve their resume, assist them with job search, and increase their employment skills. They may also be eligible for scholarships and/or grants through this organization to help further their educational career. April reports being selected for a summer employment through a new program at a youth center. Tracie reports working limited hours at a drug store, but is in need of child care services to allow her to work more consistent hours. Peter was recently hired by his father's employer as his father's assistant for the summer. Peter reports that this was perfect timing since he recently had let go from his job on Todd's family seed farm after their argument on his involvement with Max and Tracie. Though April and Peter are still in high school, like their sister Tracie, they could benefit from the services to assist them in finding stable employment with benefits that may or may not be better than their current position.

Child Care

If Tracie utilizes Work Source to become employed in a more secure position and/or go back to school, she will need a reliable child care provider. The DSHS provides a Working Connection Child Care Program to help families with their child care fees. This program has various requirements as to what they consider an approved child care provider, but the service does allow them to work without the stress of who will watch their children. She could also inquire if her school has any child care assistance programs and/or any recommendations on low-income child care. I anticipate Tracie being hesitant to allowing a stranger takes care of her son and/or reluctant to utilize the services if there is a required fee.

Clothing & Nourishment

The developmental stage that Tracie, April, and Peter are currently experiencing are of their physical appearance. They are all in need of proper clothing to get through the seasons;

Comment [jk7]: And even if they don't get new jobs ---

which could be acquired through local thrift stores, churches, and the non-profit organization, Rice Bowl Ministries, which provides free clothing to the community. There are also several food banks, churches that provide community meals, and community gardens where they can get hold of other nutrition items for their family. [You are giving some very useful service ideas – which I think will be very useful for them...](#)

I have referred Tracie to DSHS to apply for Basic Food program and inquire in other local resources to provide a well-balanced meal (Food Help, 2011). Along with the DSHS benefits, I have also referred her to the Island County Public Health Department to apply for the Women Infant Child (WIC) program. WIC nutrition education for “pregnant or breastfeeding women, infants who are breastfed or formula-fed, and children up to age 5 to help safe guard their health...including referrals to other health, welfare and social services” (WIC Program, 2011). Tracie could also receive supplemental formula and diapers through Pregnancy Care Clinic (First Giving, 2011).

During their appointment with their school counselor, I have encouraged April and Peter to inquire more information about the school district’s low-income meal plans that could potentially provide them warm and nutritious meals while in school.

I anticipate all children having a well-balanced meal through these resources and adequate clothing to get through the spring season. I anticipate the family being able to provide adequate amount of food for the entire family with the support of these local services without having to rely on food from the dumpster, which is their current resource of fresh produce. Sigelman & Rider (2008) noted that “nutrition continues to be an important contributor to health throughout childhood...parents can help by regularly offering a variety of health foods and modeling healthy eating habits” (p. 141).

Plan of Action

The Barton family has had some ups and downs since my first meeting with them. They have followed through with several of the referrals I have recommended, but are hesitant on a couple of them such as the Paul following through with alcoholism treatments and/or support groups. I anticipate Tracie, April, and Peter following through with majority of the services to further assist their parents in providing a home for all of them. Their current housing situation is not ideal, but it does serve a function and I do not foresee them making any larger adjustments to provide more individual spaces for each child. I anticipate the Barton family continuing to live their lives with some minor adjustments through of all the services I have provided them throughout the last year.

Nice job of providing a wide range of positive services, and a realistic look at what may get in the way of their taking the advice... As noted in first several pages, there are a lot of typos/errors to watch for, which ultimately take away from the power of the paper – I suggest a careful proofing. It would help to see a bit more about the actual stage of development, and supports from experts about why you are making the suggestions you are – this will add strength overall... 7.5

Reference

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