



Regional Service Council Minutes Region 9

Meeting Date: 1.20.2017
Meeting Location: Avon Town Hall
6570 E. US Hwy 36
Avon, IN 46123

Council Members Present:

Rhonda Allen – Region 9 Regional Manager DCS
Shelly Chadd – Director, Putnam County DCS
Pat Baldwin – Hendricks County Prosecutor
Megan Gelarden – Supervisor, Morgan County DCS

Guests Present:

Waylon James – Director, Morgan County DCS
Holly McFadden – Children's Bureau – Community Partners
Michelle Wisely – Chauncie's Place
Julie Ensinger – Columbus Behavioral Health
Rachel Jern – Putnam County Family Support Services
Kassie Frazier – Sylvia's CAC
B Waterbury – National Youth Advocate Program
Alexandra Barnes – Villages

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

Meeting Minutes from 10.21.16:

All were in favor to accept the meeting minutes from 10.21.16

Follow up re: Residential Meeting:

- December 13th met with Nicole Gellar and Dan Zachary – discussed hiring practices, financial concerns
- Focus on Indiana kids but not opposed to kids out of state.
- Plan to use structured education – online, in classroom, or local school system
- No timeline for opening doors - May be 6-9 months out
- Specialty – sexual maladaptive - separate unit – 30 kids
- High risk, high need that failed placement – focus on taking ages 10-18
- Open and transparent – welcome to take tours – still getting things in order
- Nicole Gellar is the main contact
- Emphasized – even though separated from other agency, there is still the appearance that it is still the same. Need to distinguish themselves, meet with teams and stakeholders. May be able to get beyond if they get involved in community
- Conversation cleared up concerns

Budget Update:

- 6,587,320.81 - Spent in first 6 months
- Significant in 6 months that we have expended allocation
- Caseloads are higher
- Every county is at about the same percent
- Looking at Probation and DCS expenses

Services/Data:

Have a little control over services for families on how quickly they get services, court being timely, things we aren't accomplishing with families so that we can get to permanency.

Closing about 70% of cases

Report tracking – We only track what Feds require

Open and closed / report

Cases influx has affected meeting needs of families in a lot of other areas – court, providers, etc.,

Need services available to families while parent incarcerated

Child and Family Services Review –in June at 3 sites

- Feds said we need Program Improvement Plan
- 7 outcomes - 2 safety, 2 permanency, 3 well being
- Also systematic factors and stakeholder interviews

Looked at database, case review system, quality assurance training, providing training to probation, responsiveness to community Foster Parent recruit and retention

Safety – scored low

Outcome 1: child are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect

Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate

Example - Statute for response times 1 hour, 24 hour, and 5 day –had low scores

Being released to media – Children's Bureau Website

Permanency – did well

Well- Being - did well

60 cases reviewed - 25 in home 40 out of home

1st time probation cases were included

IV-E funding - any case that gets that is fair game for review

Themes for improvement:

- Initiation of assessments – face to face contact
- Risk and safety assessments – sometimes not well documented
- Documentation
- Stability of Foster Care Placement
- Understanding underlying needs of family
- Lack of services in some areas
- Probation – understanding of services and delivery of services to children - What services are available and how to deliver - training to bring probation on board

CFSR: what's next?

Program Improvement Plan –

- RSC may be asked to help in groups to problem solve with us - Strategies
- Initial draft due in 90 days

Community Partners:

Celebrating 10 year anniversary this year

- Wrap up for 2016
- 1 new liaison in Hendricks
- 6 liaisons total
- Referrals – down a little from previous year – January has been unusually slow – schools, DCS
- Referrals have picked up from mental health providers
- Strategies
- Services standards – engagement rate high – 90 %
- If any outcomes or measures you want them to track, let Holly know

Material Relief Fund:

- Over 55,000 material relief will include spend down money – gift cards – extermination
- Breakdown by county
- Housing, rent, utilities, food, and child care are high

Outreach Efforts:

- Hendricks Kids Fair - about 1500 people – gave away coats
- Wants something similar in all the counties
- Safety fair – focus – can get creative

Parent Café – started in winter - not a good time to start

- Have a format and process – wrap up in February and start in spring or summer when they can have better turn out

Shared Success stories

Save the Date:

Annual Conference

- Friday May 8th at The Palms in Plainfield
- Has a few spots to fill

Prevention Subcontractors:

Chauncie's Place

Boone County – part time advocate – subcontract

Grant – Boone County Smart Steps and Body Safety Programs for school age children

Host parent info night in each school district – ask questions, receive materials

Talk time – following presentations 4th grade students if they feel they've been touched inappropriately

New program 14 min video – produced by Carmel high school students

Began in December - all 5 Zionsville elementary schools - 1498 students

Upcoming at Lebanon schools – ask for dates

Feels like this has evolved – better than it used to be – evidence based – accidental / difference

Putnam -Youth Violence Prevention Plan

Various funding sources for different projects
Safe dates – dating violence – for high school students
10 classrooms 18 students per classrooms
Understanding of dating violence – more knowledge
Students engaged - want to participate
Prevention plan focus is high school
Health class – everyone in high school gets to have this

Bidder's Conference:

Utilizing prevention funds
Looking at potentially dedicating additional money to create at risk youth or probation
Exposed to something more pro-social
What we are looking to do and give a time period to create a proposal to Holly and bring back to this group on what to fund / not fund.

February 14th at DCS office - about 2 hours
What will proposals look like/ how to score?
Can email Holly if any questions
Any interested parties have until March 10th for proposal
Will have discussions at the meetings about funds –

Additional Discussion:

Reminder:
If you want something presented at the RSC meeting or any data you would like to see, let Rhonda know.

Next Meeting:

March 17, 2017, Avon Town Hall

10:10 meeting adjourned