

RSC Minutes

September 21, 2018

Introductions were completed and RM Snook welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Those present: James Snook, Debbie Dailey, Gwen Girten, Dewayne Outlaw, Amy Tempel, Heather Trobaugh, Susan Lents, Nancy Rennie, Katie VanVleet, Tammy Lampert, Jonda Bowers, Megan Stafford, Dale Stroud, Sybil Rodeck, Jessica Richardson, Susan Lents, Tyler Bittner, Ashley Manship, Samantha Sellers, Lisa Smith, Chelsi Hamilton, Tawana Jackson, Kelli Christian, Kyrstin Stethen, Shannon Blaize, Mendy Berry, Melissa Staggs, Casey Newton, Alysia Rhinefort, Ginny Franco, Paula Rasche, Audrey Dortch, and Leighah Wheeler

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous RSC meeting was made by Mendy Berry and a second by Jessica Richardson. Minutes were approved.

Congratulations to Casey Newton on the birth of his third child☺

Welcome to Melissa Staggs, foster parent, and newest member of RSC.

Regional Services Coordinator: Gwen Girten reported that the Services Team is undergoing some changes and Austin Hollabaugh is the new deputy director.

There is a new update regarding HBCK, change to occur mid-October. The new standard will include doing a global assessment of the needs of the family. This has been discussed with the provider coalition with the goal being to help us better understand the needs of the family.

There is not a date on the state wide RFP, but documents should be similar to what is already online, but there are some additional documents. There is a RFP guide to assist with this process.

Finance Manager Report: Debbie Dailey provided financial reports and stated that we are in the 2nd month of fiscal year with July and August expenditures reported; we are under budget as a region.

She reminded everyone that these budgets are a target. Currently, there are 2 counties that are over budget, but it could be a matter of the billing cycle. When the region has 4-6 months of financial reporting, that will provide a better idea. She reminded everyone that we still need to identify the needs of our families and provide the appropriate services.

Community Partners Report: Jonda Barnett reported that as of September 1, 2018, a total of 50 referrals had been received since June 1, 2018. A home based caseworker (HBCW) was assigned to 48 cases, a home based therapist (HBT) was assigned to 2 cases. During the last quarter, 100% of engaged clients closed successfully with one or more goals completed.

There are 72 levels currently being serviced through Community Partners for Child Safety to assist 72 families.

Region 17 received a total of 22 referrals during the month of June. Of these referrals, 1 case came from Crawford County, 9 from Daviess County, 2 from Dubois County, 3 from Martin County, 1 from Orange County, 3 from Perry County, and 3 from Spencer County.

Region 17 received a total of 28 referrals during the month of July. Of these referrals, 4 cases came from Crawford County, 8 from Daviess County, 5 from Dubois County, 0 from Martin County, 1 from Orange County, 2 from Perry County, and 8 from Spencer County.

She reported that they are currently running close to budget and 90% of their home visits have utilized evidenced based practice.

As of June 30th, 95% of families with 8 or more home visits did not have a substantiated case with DCS.

The following success stories were shared with the team:

- This family referred to the Community Partners program and resided in Spencer County. The family comprised of a single mom and her three children. The mother had left an unhealthy relationship and was starting over. The goals were assisting with emergency needs, public aid resourcing, and other supports. The Community Partner's Program assisted the family in locating beds for the children as they did not have any in the new home due to leaving all items in a hurry when leaving the unhealthy relationship/living environment. IHBS then aided the mother in locating school clothing and supplies for the upcoming school year. IHBS provided counseling to the mother as she attempted to navigate her goal of a divorce and issue of custody with the children. The mother worked together with service providers to ensure she had information for all the resources in the area for food banks, clothing/thrift stores, and financial aid help in Spencer County. After only meeting 5 times mom was able to obtain employment with efficient pay and hours that allowed her to support her children. With this new employment the mother felt better prepared to take care of her daily responsibilities.

- This family referred to the Community Partners program and resided in Perry County. The family consisted of a married couple and 4 children. The goals identified for the family were Family issues, Activities of Daily Living, and Education for the family due to their son's mental health issues. At the beginning of the case there was difficulty for the parents to understand the diagnosis for the child or to advocate for the treatment of due to lack of knowledge. During sessions we would discuss the stress and read over material while discussing ways in which the mother and family unit could be a support to the son in need. This resulted in an increase in awareness; the mom's feeling of support, and the increase in the son's care as a whole. The mother and father reported on my last visit they see, "progress in his behavior and less tension in the home" thanks to what we have discussed and worked on.

RM Snook talked about the utilization of CFTM's to move toward increases in successful planning and including CP in these meetings during the assessment phases to prevent additional DCS involvement.

He also asked about referrals from schools and Johnda advised that they will be visiting schools in the next month to provide additional CP information.

Fatherhood Engagement: Jonda reported that there are 35 open services levels for Fatherhood Engagement. Open service level in each county: Crawford (4), Daviess (3), Dubois (3), Martin (2), Orange (2), Perry (11), and Spencer (10). A success story was shared with the group.

Jonda shared a success story:

The client began services in July 2017. At this time the case was in informal adjustment. The client's wife had left him and his son. Due to the client not following through with medical appointments and continuing to test positive for methamphetamine, the child was removed.

The original goals were for the client to develop coping skills, improve parenting skills, find housing and get insurance set up for himself and his son. At the beginning of services, the client met consistently but was slow to want to work on goals. Eventually he came around and started to work on the goals DCS had set for him. He moved into a place of his own and cleaned it up. His drug screens continued to come back clean. He was working with FEP for 4 hours a week and therapy for two. Over time FEP was cut back two 2 hours and now is every other week.

Due to the client's wife not participating in services, the case plan changed to reunification with him. The child went home in August 2018 and the only goal the client had left to finish was getting a divorce so he could get full custody (paperwork was filed yesterday). As of now the case is set to close in 2 months. He has his son in a set routine and has good supports in place to be a single dad.

Other Business:

2016 Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities:

RM Snook advised that the 2016 Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana is available on the website.

In 2016, 59 child fatalities were substantiated for abuse neglect during the fatality review process; this was a decrease from 77 in the prior year's report, of the total fatalities, 24 of 59 were due to abuse and 35 of 59 were due to neglect

Of the 24 due to abuse- 21 or 88% were children age 3 or younger

Of the 35 due to neglect- 25 or 71% were children age 3 or younger

There are vignettes of each fatality in the report and there is a breakdown of counties with fatalities involved in the report. There are different breakdowns in the report.

RM Snook reported that Region 17's 2017 report has been submitted.

CWG Report:

The CWG report was discussed; the state is really focusing on 22 different recommendations with approximately 55 more action steps/issued to address.

Caseloads continue to be addressed

Initiation times have been addressed at management meetings, how we can address that, and what is reasonable.

There is now a FCM council developed to share information and provide feedback to assist with changes.

There is also a supervisor's council; both the FCM and FCMS council has now met one time.

Public Comments and Announcements:

Anthem provided a brief presentation on the back pack program. Sarah Sailors made an announcement yesterday to make this program available statewide. Ginny expressed appreciation to RM Snook to allow her to attend the first RSC meeting statewide and appreciation to staff.

She talked about Hoosier Healthwise/Anthem Medicaid and persons aged 18-64 on the Healthy Indiana Plan. She reported that Anthem wanted to do something to make a difference for children; they have partnered with Comfort Cases. She would like to ship the backpacks directly to each county. They are age specific. She talked about what each backpack will contain. She would like to meet with individual agencies to provide a presentation about Anthem and services that they can provide.

Dewayne Outlaw with Lifeline reported that they will be having an Open House on December 7th.

Tammy Lampert with SWIACC reported that there was a great turnout for the Cory Jenson training by both staff and the community.

She wanted to remind everyone that Crisis Connection recently had 2 staff trained regarding the Stewards of Children Training.

There is no update regarding a CAC for Orange County.

Tyler Bittner with Redwood reported that it is now Abbott Toxicology, which took place October 2017.

Megan with Youth Villages reported that Kyrstin Stehen will now be assisting in this region.

Katie VanVleet with Raintree reported that they have a new office in Vincennes.

Samantha Sellers with CFS reported that they continue to expand and identify the needs in each county and they are doing some internal modifications and changes to make improvements. Also, Melissa Haaff is the current Director of Hope's Voice, which provides intensive services to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Hope's Voice has expanded to Daviess County and have added another full time staff.

Motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Rennie and Jessica Richardson seconded the motion to adjourn.

Next meeting: December 14, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.

Ferdinand Library

Main St & E 16th St.

Ferdinand, IN 47532