

Regional Services Council
Region 4 Meeting

Date: October 5, 2020

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Chair: Erin Shidler, Region 4 Manager

Meeting Secretary: Helen Garmon

Call to order

Start time: 12:00 p.m.

Roll call

Approval of minutes from last meeting

As read X As corrected

Recommended Correction:

Program/Committee Reports

Unfinished Business

None

New business

Welcome

We are pleased to announce Joe Sims and Melissa Hayden to the Region 4 Management Team!

Joe Sims is the new Local Office Director for Noble County. Joe began his new role on September 7, 2020.

Melissa Hayden is the new Local Office Director for Allen County and today is her first day on the job. Melissa was formally part of Region 4 so we're glad to have her back.

Community Partners Update - Paige Hamilton, SCAN Administrator

Paige Hamilton distributed and reviewed the following handouts:

- Region 4 Network for Safe Families 7/1/20 - 6/30/21
- Region 4 Stats Report August 2020 Service Summary
- Region 4 Stats Report August 2020 Referral Summary

Paige Hamilton announced this will be his last RSC meeting as he is leaving SCAN. He is excited to join Family Centered Service in Wells County. Lisa Blanchard who is the VP of

Social Services will be taking over the RSC. We thank Paige for his partnership all of these years and wish him the best.

Service Update - Dion Smith, Regional Service Coordinator

- Dion announced he has a new Manager, Crystal Whitis
- As of now all Family Preservation Providers are expected to do face to face in home visits to make their Per diem start. What we had been doing due to COVID was allowing them to do virtual contacts for that first face to face visit and then they could begin their billing from that virtual contact
- Our Community Based Providers can continue to have virtual contacts if the Child and Family Team allows it. If the Child and Family Team does not wish to do so; you can have those visits in person as well. But that should be the Child and Family Team decision
- We will give our Community Based Providers a 30 day notice before we stop virtual contacts
- We're still having bi-weekly phone calls on Family Preservation. If any of you are Family Preservation Providers and you're not on those phone calls; please let Dion know and he will get you on that list. David Reed hosts those calls bi-weekly

Regional Budget Update – Katie Craft, Regional Financial Manager

- Katie reviewed the Region 4 – September 2020 CHIN Financial Status Report
- In July, August and September we spent 7.7 Million. We're actually down, we spent almost 10.7% less than what we spent last year
- Our budget for the year is 34.5 Million. Our target for September was 27% and as a Region we're at 22.38% so we're doing really good as a Region so far

County Updates

Allen - (Heather Rouns & Chad Smith, Division Managers) – We have adoption day coming up. We're open to adopt at least 23-25 in November so we're looking forward to that. We are back to normal on cases coming in

DeKalb – (Wesley Husselman, Director) – DeKalb is fully staffed. We have 19 case Managers. We had 1 adoption recently and that youth had been on our case load for several years but it ended successfully. We have 3 children scheduled for adoption hearings in December. We have seen an increase in our Intakes in the last 3 months. We're just about back to where we use to be as far as Intakes each month. We have everything that we need as far as PPE. Right now DeKalb is sitting pretty good

LaGrange- (Kathryn Stephenson, Director) – Currently we have 11 case managers, 1 is still in training and will graduate in 2 weeks. Our case load has increased slightly during this time But not by too much. We're still maintaining between a 70 to 80 mark of cases in our county. Our assessments are coming in steadily as well now that school is back in session

Noble County (Joe Sims, Director) – We're fully staffed with 19 FCM's. We have 1 graduate last Friday. However, as of the 16th we will have an FCM going to licensing so we will be down a FCM. Assessments are up actually higher than what they were prior to COVID a little bit so

we're working through that. We had 4 kids get adopted in September that had been around for a little while

Steuben – (Ron Lahmeyer, Director) – We are fully staffed. We had 5 adoptions last week which was exciting and we'll probably have a few more by the end of the year.

Whitley - (Amanda Herendeen, Director) - We are also fully staffed. We have 1 case managers finishing Cohort in 2 weeks which will give us 11 case managers. We are seeing an increase and kind of a return to normal as far as the number of assessments we are receiving. As far as case loads; we are running normal. We are trying to utilize Family Preservation as much as we can. We've opened several new IA's. We have a couple of adoptions scheduled for next month so that's exciting. We have one we're trying to get scheduled so hopefully everything will come together and we'll be able to get that adoption scheduled for November

Next Meeting – Virtual Meeting January 11, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

With no other business meeting was adjourned.

Signatures:

Secretary *Helen Harmon* Chair *Kathryn Stephenson*

Date *1/11/21* Date *1/11/21*

Approved: *hg* (secretary's initials) Date: *1/11/21*