

Regional Services Council

Region 4 Meeting

Date: July 13, 2020

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Meeting Chair: James Pippin, 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

Network for Safe Families (Paige Hamilton, SCAN):

Paige Hamilton distributed and reviewed the following handouts:

- Region 4 Budget Reports May 2020
- Region 4 Stats Report May 2020 Service Summary
- Region 4 Stats Report May 2020 Referral Summary
- Region 4 COVID-19 Demographics Report 7/8/20

Dion Smith could not attend. He sent the following information to be shared with the RSC:

- Family Preservation – Is a per diem based model that should be all inclusive. But in most cases you should not have to do outside referrals. Of course there will be exceptions and those exceptions fall within Diagnostics and Evaluation Services, Outpatient Substance Use Services, possibly Visitation but we can staff anything you need to know
- We have 15 contracted Providers but only 13 are currently servicing the Region that have capacity to take cases right now

- We've been having bi-weekly phone calls with all of the Family Preservation Providers throughout the State. We have them every other Friday. We try to work through:
 - The Services and how those are being offered to the families
 - The kinks they may be going through, anything they've been seeing. Currently we are working through the Assessment that's been given. Some Providers have been very good about giving out the Assessment in 7 days once they've made face to face contact with the family. Other Providers have just been uploading scores which mean nothing to you unless you are in know on what those assessments are and what the scores entail. We are working to change that Service Standard so they actually give information in those assessments and not just scores so you understand what those assessments assess and what the recommendations are for those things

- Since COVID-19 hit; we've been having weekly conversations with all of the Providers across the State. Those weekly conversations are being held by David Reed as well as the Family Preservation calls. With the COVID-19 calls we discuss:
 - What's going on throughout the State and what we're expecting our Providers to do through this COVID time
 - The Director put face to face time back in so visits can happen face to face without virtual means. As for the rest of the services; for now we can offer any type of alternate means of contact as long as the Child and Family Team agrees to those services
 - If your Provider has not been on any of these weekly or bi-weekly phone conversations and would like to be involved; please let Dion know

Fiscal Updates – Katie Craft

- We are currently at 90.40% of our budget. We should be at 100%
- Next Fiscal Year Budget not approved yet but anticipate amount will be around what we spent this year

Jamie Pippin

- Jamie accepted a job offer outside of DCS so this will be his last week
- We welcome Erin Shidler as the new Regional Manager for Region 4. Erin has been covering Region 3 and Region 4 since Jamie's deployment in April. Her previous position as Region 3 Manager has been posted. She will continue to cover Region 3 until the position is filled
- We had an opening in Whitley County. Amanda Herendeen moved down to Whitley County as the LOD there. The Noble County LOD position has been posted. Kate Stephenson is covering Noble County in the interim

Matthew Skeens

- We welcome Matt Skeens back to DCS as Chief Counsel for Region 4
- Matt discussed TPRs and the impact that service interruptions might have on mandatory filings 15 out of 22 months. HHS is asking all State Agencies to give a hard look at all of those cases and make sure that any interruptions in service are taken into account and in those cases we are not required to file a mandatory petition

- Matt is asking the Attorneys in Region 4 to look at each case independently, analyze the facts in each separate case, the impact COVID has had on each separate case and work with you all to make informed decisions on how to proceed on those cases

Erin Shidler

- Erin has been covering Region 4 for a few months now so things will really look the same until a replacement is hired in Region 3. She is looking forward to working with all of you and meeting those of you she hasn't met

County Updates

Allen - (Heather Rouns, Division Manager for Alexys Vosmeier) – Our office has been getting the office ready so we can be compliant with social distancing. We have all of our PPEs. We are communicating via Teams

DeKalb – (Wesley Husselman, Director) – DeKalb has done well with social distancing and keeping up with PPE. We're doing virtual staffing's with families and the providers. We've added 2 more staff. They are finishing up their trainings. We have a 3rd staff member starting her training on July 27th at that point we will be at full capacity

LaGrange- (Kathryn Stephenson, Director) – We have everything that we need for PPE. Like everyone else; we've been using Teams a lot for everything. We have a Case Manager graduating tomorrow and another Case Manager that starts July 27th which will put us at 10 active Case Managers. Our courts continue to hear our hearings in person. We continue to work our assessments and cases

Noble County (Katheryn Stephenson, Interim Director) – They most recently hired an FCM that started today. They also have a few in training as well. That will put them at 19 Case Managers so things are going well there

Steuben – (Ron Lahmeyer, Director) – Assessments are down. We have a re-hire starting back Today. We had 2 adoptions. We are fully staffed

Next Meeting – Virtual Meeting October 5, 2020 @ 12:00 p.m. RSC Members will vote on the following 2021 RSC Meeting dates/time and determine if these meetings will continue to be virtual via Microsoft Teams:

- January 11, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m. – Virtual via Microsoft Teams
- April 12, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m. – Virtual via Microsoft Teams
- July 12, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m. – Virtual via Microsoft Teams
- October 4, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m. – Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Adjournment

With no other business meeting was adjourned.

Signatures:

Secretary Helena Harmon

Chair Eun Smell

Date 10/5/2020

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Approved: hg (secretary's initials) Date: 10/5/2020