



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor
Mary Beth Bonaventura, Director

Indiana Department of Child Services
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www.in.gov/dcs

Child Support Hotline: 800-840-8757
Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556

Agenda

Call the meeting to order
Approval of July Meeting Minutes
Report from Community Partners
Fiscal Report
Biennial Plan 2017-2018
[http://in.gov/dcs/files/Region 1 final BRSSP.pdf](http://in.gov/dcs/files/Region_1_final_BRSSP.pdf)
Nazareth Home Assessments

Next Meeting:
All meetings will be held at the Lake County Juvenile
Complex-3000 W. 93rd Ave Crown Point, IN

December 11, 2017

Adjournment



Protecting our children, families and future



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Region 1 Regional Services Council Meeting Minutes October 23, 2017 at 3:30PM

Council Members Present:

Ellis Dumas, Malea Guidarelli, Matt Gruett, Breanne LaPlante, Lois Logan-Beard, Erica Rios, Annette Smith, Twan Stokes, Diane Weiss-Bradley, Lashaunta Pierce

Council Members Absent:

Rehana Adat-Lopez, Kathleen Guzek, Thomas Stefaniak

Call to Order:

DCS Lake County Regional Manager, Ellis Dumas, called the meeting to order at 3:32PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Erica Rios motioned to accept the July 24, 2017 meeting minutes. Annette Smith seconded the motion. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Community Partners:

Community Partners, Kristen Chamberlain reported the total number of families served. There were 1, 650 served for the year. In the month of September 163 new referrals were generated. Multiple presentations were held with DCS in local schools. Future Community Partners events include an upcoming Cookies with Santa on December 15th.

Fiscal:

Lois Logan-Beard reported out regarding Lake County fiscal information. For the month of September, \$3.8 million dollars was spent for child welfare services. The target budget is 25% and the actual is at 23.11%. There was no allotted probation budget. At this time, \$1.3 million dollars has been spent by probation for the year.

Services:

DCS Lake County Regional Manager, Ellis Dumas, reported Nazareth Home submitted a Needs Assessment as part of their application for a group home license. The facility can no longer be qualified as foster home per the policy regarding needs assessments for new residential facilities and new foster care LCPA's. RSC must be in agreement for facility to be classified as a group home in the region. The Needs Assessment was distributed and presented to the RSC for review.



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Breanne Laplante moved to approve Nazareth Home's request to be classified as a group home in region 1. Matt Gruett seconded the motion. Twan Stokes added that the experience of caregivers in Nazareth Home and the work they do makes them a valuable asset to community. Ellis motioned for approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

Biennial Plan:

DCS Lake County Regional Manager, Ellis Dumas, reported a special meeting of RSC will be requested and held to discuss, review, and approve the region 1 biennial plan. The biennial plan will focus on main three categories agreed per the work groups. Permanency Length of Stay will be one work group. Repeat maltreatment is the second work group. Cases where children are being re-victimized have increased. The third focus is substance abuse. Substance abuse has increased largely due to opioid use. On October 19th the work groups met to discuss topics and review the previous goals and actions steps. A copy of the biennial plan will be sent via in advance of the December 11th emergency RSC meeting at 3:30pm for members to review.

Next Meeting:

Next RSC meeting date is December 11, 2017 at 3:30pm at the Lake County Juvenile Complex located at 3000 W. 93rd Ave., Crown Point, IN 46307.

Adjournment:

Matt Gruett moved to adjourn the meeting. Twan Stokes seconded motion. Adjournment passed unanimously. Ellis Dumas adjourned the meeting at 3:55PM.

