



Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 15

Meeting Date: October 19, 2023
Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams

Council Members Present:

Sandy Ante, Dearborn/Ohio Local Office Director
Denise Burton, Decatur Local Office Director
Gary Keith, Jefferson Local Office Director
Michelle Smith, Ripley Local Office Director
Alyssa Shelton, Jefferson DCS Supervisor
Laural French, Advocates for Children
Kristen Lane, Ripley County Supervisor

Council Members Present by proxy:

Morgan Thomas / Proxy for Judge King, Ripley Co

Council Members Absent:

Michelle Adams R15 Manager
Teresa Patrick, Switzerland County Local Office Director
Amy Neimeyer-Davis, Decatur DCS Supervisor
Kristen Lane, Ripley County Supervisor
Bailey Wolf / Proxy for Jefferson Co Prosecutor
K-Lynn Minor, Jefferson FCM
Kerri Fox, Foster Parent/YES Home
Jennifer Sturges / Proxy for Judge Day, Decatur Co

Others in Attendance:

Belinda Foreman, Regional Finance Manager	belinda.foreman@dcs.in.gov
Jon MacMurdo, Services Coordinator	jon.macmurdo@dcs.in.gov
Michelle Morrow, DCS Continuous Improvement	michelle.morrow@dcs.in.gov
Erica Roberts, Community Partner/IHBS	eroberts@ihbs.us
Chrystal Hardin, Community Partner/IHBS	chardin@ihbs.us
Jennifer Barnes	jbarnes@WernleYouthan.onmicrosoft.com
Amanda Green	amanda.green@lifespringhealthsystems.org
Dedra Watkins	Dedra.Watkins@youthvillages.org
Liz Ulery	Liz.Ulery@anthem.com
Gloria Whitcraft	WhitcraftG@safy.org
Andrea Goodwin	andrewgoodwin@omnivisions.com
Susan Weddle	susan.weddle@lifelineyouth.org
Ashley Pike	ashley.pike@uhsinc.com

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 2:00 pm

- I. Welcome/Roll Call: Introductions
- II. Approval of Minutes: ***Gary Keith made a motion to approve the July 19, 2023, minutes; Michelle Smith seconded; all in favor.***
- III. PROGRAMS/COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - A. Community Partners / Chrystal Hardin
 1. Quarterly Report, Referral Report, Budget & Flex fund reports
 2. Success story regarding a mother needing housing. Assisted mother with obtaining employment, enrolling children in daycare, identification of social supports for family, and obtaining housing. At the request of the family case was closed out successfully
 3. Fiscal: Currently on track-at target budget
 4. Referrals: 80 referrals in last quarter
 5. Using flex funds for bedding
 - B. Regional Finance Manager - Belinda Foreman
 1. Financial Report sent to RSC members.
 - a. SFY 2024 is July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024
 - b. 09/30 SFY 2024 Target budget spend no more than 25%
 - c. R15 as of 09/30/23- 26.63%
 - d. Other Spend
 - i. Family Pres per diem-25.86%
 - ii. Family Time Visit Supervision-traditional 8.07%
 - iii. Bachelor 52.18% Paraprofessional 47.82%
 - iv. Home Based Family Centered Casework 3.28%
 - C. Regional Services Report – Jon MacMurdo
 1. Jon reported new contracts will start 2025.
 2. An RFP will be out next summer for all contracts for services.
 3. Working on substance abuse treatment goal- Hold a Region 15 substance use provider fair that would include residential and local treatment providers. The purpose is to build connections between providers and local office staff. More to come on this goal. If you or a provider are interested in helping with planning let Jon know

D. Biennial Plan Goal: Provider Presentation:

1. SAFY / Gloria McCraft: Serves Region 15 and 18

- SAFY provides therapeutic foster care, family preservation, home based therapy and home-based casework services.
- SAFY also provides under a federal grant, not on contract with DCS, a support services program to resource homes. Services are centered around parents who may not be able to provide care for their children due to incarceration or rehabilitation services due to drug misuse. It is open to all, not just DCS clients.
- SAFY is working on a contract to provide community-based services, including home based therapy, home based casework, parent education, and child prep throughout the state.
- Every CHILD OF INDIANA is launching to help families find foster parents. SAFY is a part of this initiative.

2. Just In Time 4 Change / Justin Volk: Need to reschedule

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Suggestions for Provider Presentation for January 2024

1. Reschedule Just in Time?
2. Youth Villages

B. Practice Model Review Results Region 15- Michelle Morrow

1. Focused on building trust-based relationships and child & family teams
2. CFSR- Currently on Round IV- State of Indiana received approval to do our own review. We are measuring ourselves the same way as we are reviewed in CFSR.
3. Highlights of areas reviewed.
 - a. Safety- Region 15 did well in this area. 90% had assessments initiated timely. Risk and safety assessments- 100% of initial risk and safety assessments accurate while 66% of ongoing assessments completed were accurate.
 - b. Stability- 100% of cases reviewed demonstrated stability. 70% were noted to be with relatives.
 - c. Achieving Permanency Plans- 90% of cases done in a timely manner. 64% made concerted efforts to move towards permanency.
 - d. Well Being-60% of families actively involved in planning their case which includes caseworker visits, involvement with team meetings, involvement with mothers (63%) visits and dad 63% for frequency and quality.
 - e. Tracking and Adjusting-82% mother actively involved in process.
 - f. Strengths and Opportunities- FCMS did a great job getting everyone prepared to work together to complete the review. This also shows in relationships with providers and families. We are building this. Are we taking one on one time with children and caregivers? Each person needs to have that. Are we using that one-on-one time to drive the case. Are we taking opportunity to move forward by soliciting feedback on how to make this better. Are we asking

parents and caregivers questions such as; How do you want me to address difficult topics? There is opportunity to assess the mental health of our children and getting services in place. Are we taking the time to identify and discuss ideas to remove the barriers to get children to willingly engage in needed services?

g. Initial assessing of children and family needs is fantastic.

h. We are keeping kids together by working hard from the very beginning

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2024 Proposed Meeting Schedule: 3rd Wednesday / 2:00 pm / Virtual
January 17 April 17 July 17 October 16

Approval of 2024 Schedule: *Michelle Smith motioned to approve meeting dates to remain quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and for the meetings to remain virtual. Denise Burton seconded the motion.*

VI. PUBLIC BUSINESS

- A. Amy Phillips reported an upcoming Trauma training with 1 day in February and 1 day in March. Amy will send out details.
- B. Valley Vista will be partnering with Amerimed (Emergency Medical Transport Service) to transport patients further away from Greenwood. The emergency medical transport will be at no cost to the patient. It is for patients requiring acute care services.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Time: January 17th, 2024 / Microsoft TEAMS / 2:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at: 2:48 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Denise Burton; Michelle Smith seconded the motion.