



## Regional Service Council Minutes Region 5

**Meeting Date:** April 7, 2017

**Meeting Location:** Department of Child Services  
Tippecanoe County Office  
250 Main St., Ste 301  
Lafayette, IN

**Council Members Present:** Angela Smith Grossman, Regional Manager; Paige Heath, Tippecanoe County FCM Supervisor; Karen Hayden Sturgis, Director White County; Judge Faith Graham, Tippecanoe County; Debbie Brenneman, Foster Parent; Laura Tibbets, Foster Care Specialist Supervisor; Jennifer Steinsdoerfer, Warren Co. FCM; Jennifer Johnson, Carroll County DCS Director

**Council Members Absent:** Coleen Connor, CASA Director; Rhonda Friend, Benton/Fountain, Warren County DCS Director

**Others In Attendance:** Mary Waltz for Cassie Wade, Bauer Family Resources; Pam Biggs-Reed, Bauer Family Resources; Angie Guimond, Tippecanoe County DCS Director; Sandra Lock, Clinton County DCS Director; Keith Luebcke, Tippecanoe County FCM Supervisor, Courtney Taylor, Warren County FCM Supervisor; Debbie Branfield, Crossroads.

<b>Meeting Minutes</b>
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**Meeting Called to Order at:** 9:00 am

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Review of Community Partners (Bauer report out)
  - a. With current direct service spending, the current budget is projected to be overspent. A vote was done to authorize the move of the remaining \$7,047.54 from the Community Partners Prevention fund that did not get awarded to the Direct Services fund to add to the direct service allocations.
  - b. Discussion about funding process for the Prevention money for the next year.
    1. Some suggestions were made to consider the applicants and agency awards for prevention money. Some items of discussion were giving some type of notice to programs that have received funding for multiple cycles to not count on these funds as sustaining funds or a reduction of funds over time. Another idea discussed was to focus our prevention award efforts more narrowly. Regional Manager and Community Partners will meet prior to next Regional

Service Council to develop a proposal to present at the next Regional Service Council Meeting that might guide grant decisions.

2. Staffing levels for the Community Program staff are adequate and fully staffed at the present time. There has been little turnover which has allowed for strong consistency in service delivery.
  
- 3) Budget Review
  - a. General Child Services regional Budget is currently overspent by 25-30% for this fiscal year
  - b. In the coming months, appropriations will be added back into the excel sheet for review by Local Office Directors and regional Service Council.
  
- 4) New Initiatives
  - a. Tippecanoe County FCM Supervisor, Keith Luebcke currently working with Bauer on a pilot program to offer Substance Abuse Services in rural counties using audio and video.
  - b. Tippecanoe County DCS currently working with Wabash Valley Alliance on program to provide some intake services in the local DCS office to help with timeliness and early engagement of getting services started for the families. Meetings occurring in April to determine the process and viability.
  
- 5) Biennial Plan
  - a. Regional Service Council members were asked to start thinking about suggestions to bring to the table in future Regional Service Council meetings regarding suggestions for focus areas and themes for service intervention
  
- 6) Good of the Order

Next Meeting: Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 @ 9:00am

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Smith Grossman, MSW, LSW  
Regional Manager, Region 5

