Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

Recommendation to the Commission

Party Submitting Recommendation: Emergency Shelter Care subcommittee

Date of Submission: 4/14/2021

Type of Action Requested:
☐Legislation   ☐Administrative Rule or Policy ☒Resolution of Support or Endorsement ☐Professional/skills development

☐Other:_____

Which of the Commission's Strategic Priorities does this Recommendation help advance (check all that apply):
☐Child Health and Safety   ☒Juvenile Justice and Cross-system Youth
☐Mental Health and Substance Abuse   ☐Educational Outcomes

Summary of Recommendation:
Recommendation is to create a SharePoint site managed by the Department of Child Services (DCS) but available to all internal and external stakeholders that would allow for specific target population, facility information and contact information.

Background of Recommendation:

What is the need or problem, and how does it impact disparate populations?

There is not consistent awareness of all the Emergency Shelter Care (ESC) programs and target populations across the state. The SharePoint would allow for users to access information about each facility, target population and contact information so that youth that need shelter care would have enhanced access to appropriate facilities across the state.

What data, research or other information did the recommender consult to formulate this proposal?

The data and information were gathered through multiple surveys that were sent to DCS and Probation offices and all DCS contracted Emergency Shelter Care facilities. Information gathered included understanding of utilization, needs, alternatives, target populations, etc.

What disproportionality did the data reveal?

Lack of awareness throughout the entire system as to what was available throughout the entire state to serve youth.

What is the current response to the problem by the State of Indiana?

Local Offices accessed the services they were aware of and made alternatives plans based on what services were available.

What solution is the recommender proposing, and how does it affect disparate populations?

The SharePoint would allow for users to access information about each facility, target population and contact information so that probation officers and family case managers that are in need shelter care for the youth they serve, would have enhanced awareness and access to appropriate facilities across the state.

How does the solution address the disproportionality in the data?

It enhances awareness and removes barriers related to finding information in a timely manner when the emergency shelter care is needed.

Implementation:

Who is responsible for implementing the recommendation?

Department of Child Services

Has the recommendation been discussed with the implementer?

☒ Yes   ☐ No

What is the recommended timeframe for the Commission to review implementation?

☒ 6 months   ☐ 12 months   ☐ 18 months   ☐ Other_____

If a legislative request, cite the current relevant code and specify what change is being recommended.

N/A

If a policy request, cite the current relevant policy and specify what change is being recommended.

N/A

If the recommendation involves an endorsement or public promotion of a specific initiative or statement, attach the document of which you are seeking the Commission's support/endorsement/promotion.