**Regional Service Council Minutes**

**Region 3**

**Meeting Date**: January 10th, 2022

10:00 a.m.

**Meeting Location**: Microsoft Teams or

**Join with a video conferencing device**

[indiana@m.webex.com](mailto:indiana@m.webex.com)

Video Conference ID: 118 526 208 8

[Alternate VTC instructions](https://www.webex.com/msteams?confid=1185262088&tenantkey=indiana&domain=m.webex.com)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 317-552-1674,,24095824#](tel:+13175521674,,24095824# )   United States, Indianapolis

Phone Conference ID: 240 958 24#

**Council Members Present**: Kathryn Stephenson, Regional Manager, Teresa Zornig, Director St. Joseph County DCS, Philice Hutchen, Supervisor Marshall County DCS, Tamara Perkey, Director Elkhart County, Heidi Trenerry, Supervisor St. Joseph County DCS, and Amanda Egger, Director Marshall County DCS.

**Council Members Absent**: Judge Curtis Palmer, Marshall Circuit Court, Judge Karin McGrath, Kosciusko Superior Court, Kenyetta Phillips, FCM, Elkhart County DCS, Lindsay Castro, Director Kosciusko County DCS, and Kelli Deisler, Supervisor Elkhart County DCS.

**Others in Attendance**: Dion Smith, Christy Robbins, Joni Tusing, Janet Rathberger, Andrea Colley, Brad Kolano, Libby Martin, Kandyce Emmendorfer, Shannon Faulkner, Ellen Graber-McCrae, Janice Nichols. Nicholle Probst, Yolanda Young, Jackie Dingeldein, Elena De La Cruz, Caroline Sholty, Kimberly Sim, LaShaunda Parker, MaKayla Gusching, Paige Donis, Nicholas Neal, Michael Patrick, Lisa Blanchard and Spencer Luzwick

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 10:00am by Kathryn Stephenson.

1. Welcome/Introductions Members and Guests.

2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes from the 10/18/2021 meeting reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Teresa Zornig, Philice Hutchen second. Approved.

3. Community Partners Update:  Christy Robbins, Program Director.

* Reported on July 1 – December.
  + Drop in referrals from DCS but receiving more referrals from community agencies. December enrollments were low probably due to the holidays.
  + Program outcomes struggling with contacting families within 5 days, goal 90%, actual 86%, addressing by increasing outreach calls and drop byes. 21% Up on improvement goal scores. Services under budget YTD. Local Prevention dollars on target. Served 1079 to-date.
* $1600 in flex funding provided in December for utilities.
* November is on track through the end of December.
* Working with LOD on getting safety items.

4. Service Update: Dion Smith, Regional Service Coordinator.

* Keys Counseling is now Life Solutions.
* Working on updating the visitation service standard, revisions coming out soon.
* Overview of the new DCS Services Hub. Asked providers to please update hub weekly.

5. Financial Update: Joni Tusing, Regional Finance Manager.

* Month of December target is 51.01%, actual 51.99%
  + Elkhart 56.02%, Kosciusko, 47.87%, Marshall 48.72% and St. Joseph 51.52%
* Month of December Region 3 spent $1,794,747.
  + Elkhart $411,674., Kosciusko $150,815., Marshall $87,609., and St. Joseph $1,144,649.
* YTD Region 3 is UP $1,880,986.
  + In-Home UP $1,314,832. Out-of-Home UP $566,153.
* Comparison charts reviewed. Increases seen in community based and residential services. LCPAs are up, but lower than in previous years. Foster is up.
* Family Preservation has been added but still in the In-Home Community based services and residential aftercare is new.

6. County Updates:

* Tamara Perkey, Elkhart County Director, Tamara’s 1st RSC today as new director. Jim Cornish is the new Division Manager. Continuing to hire, 20 FCMs in assessments, 11 in permanency and hiring for an attorney position.
* Teresa Zornig, St. Joseph County Director, one supervisor has left, Wendy Kambo. Some FCMs have left, 4 new hires started today.
* Lindsay Castro, Kosciusko County Director, is in Indy doing a Rapid Improve event. Kate reported that Kosciusko County is fully staffed on FCM, down one supervisor, and focusing on kinship and residential placements.
* Amanda Egger, Marshall County Director, back from maternity leave. Two FCMs recently left so they have vacancies.

7. Other Business

Biennial Regional Plan – Dion reported on the plan which is an overview on what the regional service focus will be for the next two years. Dion reviewed the plan. Joni reviewed the staffing and salary information for 2020/21.

* Vote to approve the Biennial Regional Plan for the next two years. Teresa Zornig motioned to accept the plan, Philice Hutchen second.

Noted that all council members present will need to sign the plan.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:38am by Philice Hutchen, Amanda Egger seconded. Meeting adjourned.

*Next meeting 4/11/2022 virtually at 10am.*