Regional Services Council Minutes

Region 9

April 9, 2021

9:00 AM

Microsoft Teams

**Council Members Present:**

Jaclyn Allemon – Region 9 Regional Manager

Magistrate Berish – Boone County Court

Nobuhle Harding – DCS Boone County, LOD

Harmony Jensen – DCS Montgomery County, LOD

Shelly Chadd – DCS Putnam County, LOD

Terrian Brady – DCS Hendricks County, FCM Supervisor

Clay Adams – DCS Montgomery County, FCM Supervisor

Becky McClure – CASA, Boone County

Racheal Oldham – Montgomery County Probation (Proxy for Judge Siamas)

Jenny Stout – Hendricks County Court

**Guests:**

Leah Burris – DCS Chief Legal – Region 9

Joan Caylor – DCS, Regional Finance Manager

Iwona Morretino – DCS, Services Coordinator

Brandi Murphy – DCS, Peer Coach Consultant Region 9

Jill Atterbury – Community Partners

Abby Swift– Community Partners

Kristine Clavijo - NYAP

Shannon Faulkner – IUMCH

Becky Southwick – Raintree

Adrienne Reed - Damar

Porshea Vines - Choices

Katherine Hess - UHSINC

Bev Mussetter – Life Solutions

**Call to order**

* The meeting started at 9:00 AM.

**Approval of Minutes**

* A motion was made to approve the minutes from the meeting on January 8, 2021.
* All voting members were in favor of accepting the minutes.

**New RSC Member Introduction:**

* Clay Adams, supervisor in Montgomery County has taken the place serving as a council member of Ryan Peschke, who has taken on the role as a Safe Act supervisor.

**Safe Act Roll Out:**

* Region 9 is a pilot region for this statewide initiative. This week the fcm’s, supervisors, and managers have been in training and learning the process and expectations for this. SafeAct allows FCM’s to have direct access to Supervisor’s Monday through Friday from 8 to 4:30 to staff assessments where the children are safe. The supervisor’s at this hotline will then close those assessments out. Local CPT’s will still make decisions on what assessments they will review. The goal is to ensure that children are safe in a timely fashion and provide the family with timely assessment closure if children are deemed safe. We are not changing any policy or practice on what we do when conducting an assessment at this time. If SafeAct supervisors do not feel children are safe, they will immediately contact the local office to notify them of needed follow ups. FCM’s will need to have permanent status and be meeting expectations in order to call. Local office managers have discretion in who can call the SafeAct line.

**Budget: Joan Caylor**

* Target budget is 75% - Region 9 is at 80.57%
* Largest spend is out of home community based services, then residential spends.
* The region is down 150 kids from last year
* The largest overall concrete cost is for child hearsay and psychosexual evals. We have to find providers and pay through an Appeal for these providers because we know there is a statewide shortage in the ability to get these.
* We are projected to be over by 1.1 million by the end of June.
* We are high in face to face therapy and supervised visitation.

County Budgets:

* Boone - 74.54%
* Hendricks - 76.91%
* Montgomery – 84.95%
* Putnam – 80.12%
* Morgan –

**Region 9 Pilot for Cordant:**

* On 4/19 we will begin utilizing Cordant for our drug screens provider. We are in the process of getting all staff trained prior to the roll out. There will be training for public defenders, Courts, CASA’s as well. Providers will be trained as well but they are not on the same timeframe as DCS. We are trying to move back to clinic based screens instead of home based screens. There is a Cordant testing site in each county of ours in region 9 except Hendricks at this time. We are still trying to find a location there. Our Redwood and Forensic Fluid contacts end June 30th. Cordant utilizes a system called Sentry and supervisors and attorneys will have access to this.
* Bev Mussetter from Life Solutions and Becky Southwick from Raintree voiced interest in the training for providers.

**Services: Iwona Morretino**

Provider Contracts:

* All providers are aware that contracts expire June 30th and contracts will be extended.
* There were no requests for proposals, but if there are any needs we can add vendors or services standards to existing contractors

Family Preservation

* Continuing with formal evaluations of programming – focusing on quality of services, evidence based models and residential treatment programming. Looking at initial referrals and whether they are successfully closed.
* There are 66 active referrals in Region 9

**Community Partners: Jill Atterbury**

* Ben Abels provided a handout with Community Partners data sent via email.
* Jill Atterbury provided an update to the RSC

Children’s Bureau and Families First Merger

* Official April 1st
* Any open referrals for Families First that need to continue, refer to Children’s Bureau and they will reach out to you.
* Hoping the merger will bring a wider array of services such as BIP, DV, and advocacy for survivors and children
* Referrals – 283 - Community referrals have been higher. School, self, and DCS referrals have been lower. Ben is trying to engage schools more in each county.
* Grandparents café in Boone County has a dedicated group that always attends.
* Went over highest needs in the counties and community events for April.
* Every county has safe sleep and car seat safety available – would like these to be in groups when it gets warmer outside but also be mindful of safe distancing.
* Putnam County has a grant for utilities
* Ben and Jill are trying to get the resource guide out online. Helpforhoosiers.org
* Working on wallet sized resource cards for each community that has county specific info on them. Would like to know which resources to put on them for each county – sent to LODs for input.

Becky McClure (Boone County CASA) will send what they have to Jaclyn if that helps. She will put off ordering more until they see what they come up with.

* Would like to do provider fairs of some sort through the summer months when people can be outside. Will be following up with ideas for this.

**IUMCH – Shannon Faulkner:**

* Residential facility in Lebanon for ages 14-19. They have 6 homes with 8-10 youth
* Campus like setting and fully accredited high school onsite
* Evidence based teaching model
* Shannon will send all the information to Jaclyn to send to the LODS so staff have the information.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 AM.