June 2021 Regional Service Council

Region 6

September 15, 2021

* **Welcome-**
* Liz Learned Regional Manager
* Iwona Morretino DCS Rep Regional Service Coordinator
* Katie Craft DCS RFM
* Kerri King Huntington Co LOD
* Mary Cunningham Miami Co LOD
* Jamie Brown Fulton Co LOD
* Mary Werner Foster Care
* Tanna Wagner Community Engagement Specialist
* Janaei Smith Cass Co FCMS
* Kelly Moorman Huntington Co FCMS
* Bradley Samuel FCM Fulton Co
* Christy Robbins Community Partners Director
* Libby Martin LSSI
* Regina Drummond CQI Team
* Deanna Szyndrowski Scan
* Barbara Hilton FSA- Howard Co.
* Alana Lease
* Andrea Colley Crossroad
* Naomi Henning
* Lisa Blanchard SCAN
* Caroline Sholty Four County
* LaTasha Music Foster Parent

The minutes from March were reviewed and accepted by Kerri King and Jamie Brown. There was one correction that Christy Robbins is the director of Community Partners, not Christy Blanchard as previously stated. June minutes were then reviewed and accepted by Janaei Smith and Mary Cunningham.

* Financial – Katie Craft
  + Financial status report for August
    - Our fiscal year 2022 budget is $12,478,782
    - We expended 1.14 million in July and 1.19 million in August for a total of 2.3 million so far this fiscal year. We are a bit over from where we were last year 38.5% over.
    - The target for the end of August was 18.62 million, Region 6 ended up at 18.7 which was just a little over budget.
    - Last year we spent 1.68 million which is a difference of about $650,000
    - 3.32 million was expended in in-home community based services.
    - We are up $434,000 which is likely Family Preservation services. This was expected.
    - Our DCS foster homes are down a little bit while the LCPA were up around $200,000 from last year.
    - Residential is up around $120,000. This could be because we are catching up on old bills. There is 1 child that has to have 1 on 1-24 hour direct supervision of the child. The per diem was very high for this child.
* Services – Iwona Morreno
  + As an agency at this point we are very focused on being fully compliant with the expectations Family First Preservation Act.
    - The focus is on family preservation and our evaluation of the program as well as focus on becoming compliant with the requirements when it comes to residential treatment of children.
    - The process of independent assessments.
    - The process of having treatment facilities becoming qualified.
    - Having the treatment facilities provide step-down supportive services for youth for up to 6 months after discharge.
  + Family Preservation services – we are really focusing on measuring the fidelity of the program to the service standard as well as looking at outcomes of that service.
  + There is some preliminary data that is being shared with the providers during the bi-weekly calls with David Reed and all of the notes from those can be found on the following link. <https://www.in.gov/dcs/family-first-act/family-preservation-services/>
  + We are looking to help FCM’s and FCM supervisors make conscious choices when it comes to the right provider. We are in the process of creating a searchable database as well as an app for FCM’s to utilize to select the most appropriate provider when it comes to the needs of the family.
  + We are also working with providers in an effort to try and have a census count also available on the database so that we can see which provider has an opening.
  + Family Reunification Services - We have had a request for information period, we have received a lot of really good responses but we are still in the process of analyzing the responses.
* SCAN – Christy Robbins
  + About 74% of our referrals are still coming from DCS.
  + We are trying to increase self-referrals.
  + Howard Co is our highest referral rate followed by Miami.
  + We are getting a lot of self-referrals from families who are seeing it on social media.
  + Huntington Co police department has been making referrals.
  + We are taking necessary precautions with regards to COVID so that we can continue to do in-home visits.
* Foster Care - Mary/Tanna
  + Tanna - Community Engagement is working on kinship care month. We are trying to get donations of everyday items like cleaning supplies, paper goods, diapers and wipes for kinship families to try to help save them some money.
    - There has been flyers sent out containing lists of items that we would like donated.
    - There were a couple of churches that donated through the connections of Hands of Hope.
    - Cass Co had a church that donated everything needed for the homes there.
    - Miami Co has had quite a few donations trickle in.
    - Tanna’s main focus is to visit the remaining counties to try to get donations for the kinship families.
  + Mary –
    - We’ve seen an increase in inquiries in fostering, in August there were 11 and so far in September there have been 7.
    - Recently did another relative reach-out to relatives who’ve had placement to see if they are interested in being licensed. There have been 2 families interested in starting the process.
    - In June, July and August we have licensed 8 homes, 5 were relative and 3 were foster
    - It is projected that we will have 4 completed this month. 2 relative and 2 foster.
    - One of the relatives that we are getting ready to finish has expressed interest in doing traditional foster home as well
    - We have support groups. Lifeline has started a virtual kinship and relative unlicensed support group monthly. Tanna is sending a flyer out to the local offices so that they can get those flyers out to the families.
    - We are working on decreasing the timeframe for initial licensure. We have some initial licensures that we are cleaning up. The goal is 90 days from the date of inquiry to the date of licensing. It depends on the family’s investment.
    - We now have a contract with the Red Cross for virtual adult and baby CPR lessons. So this will make it easier for the families to get their CPR training completed due to the short window.
* Region Updates-
  + Safe Act System- Clearly Safe Assessment- safe act supervisors review and approve assessments. Since 7/1/21 Region 6 has had 1073 assessments and SA approved 48%
    - Time saver for front line staff
    - Decrease stress and staff feel more on top of their work and schedules
    - Streamline process
    - Ability to focus on conditionally and unsafe assessments
* PMR Review – Regina Drummond
  + Region 6 – Practice Program- Review and increase quality of Child and Family Team Process and increase quality sustainable outcomes-
    - Working with Peer Coaches to audit CFTMs and score
    - Increase practice discussions
    - Supervisors direct observation of CFTMs
    - Increase quality of discussions with Parents and Child
    - Better engagement
    - Track and Adjust as needed
* Other –Virtual meeting continued due to COVID
* adjourn