

***Regional Services Council***

***Region 4 Meeting***

**Date:** January 14, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Location of Meeting:** Allen County DCS – 201 E. Rudisill Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46806

**Meeting Chair:** James Pippin, Region 4 Manager

**Meeting Secretary:** Helen Garmon

**Call to order**

**Start time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Roll call**

**Members Present:**

James Pippin

Wesley Husselman

**Phone:**

(260) 240-8929

(260) 925-2810

**Members Absent:**

Judge Pratt

Judge Heuer

Alexys Vosmeier

**Non-Members Present:**

Dion Smith

Paige Hamilton

Amanda Herendeen

Hailey Dykstra

Debbie Branfield

Rachael Glaser

Kelsey Middaugh

Jeff Waibel

Melisa Monterrusoe

Taryn Davis

Laura Hoffman

Dee Szyndrowski

Bill Stephan

Ron Lahmeyer

Kate Stephenson

Trish Fox

Elena De La Cruz

**Approval of minutes from last meeting**

As read  X

As corrected

Recommended Correction:

**Program/Committee Reports**

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New business**

### **Network for Safe Families:**

Paige Hamilton distributed and reviewed the following handouts:

- Network for Safe Families - Services November 2018 Financial Report
- November 2018 Program Statistics
- Local Prevention Services November 2018 Financial Report
- Region 4 Referral Summary Data for the period of 11/1/2018 Through 11/30/2018

### **Dion Smith**

- An RFP that was opened December 2, 2018 and closed on January 11, 2019. Contracts will be issued between April/May with July 1, 2019 as contract start date
- All of our Service Standards have been updated and are on line. The Home Based Casework qualifications are mirrored in Father Engagement
- Community Partners was supposed to have an RFP opened today for Community Partners however, that RFP has been delayed until the end of the month

### **Regional Updates – James Pippin**

- Welcome Amanda Herendeen as the new Local Office Director for Noble County
- Mary Holliday has transferred. The new Regional Finance Manager for Region 4 is Katie Craft
- Residential - Currently we have 105 children placed in Residential for Region 4 therefore, one of our biggest focus in 2019 will be trying to figure out how to ensure that children placed in residential are in the most appropriate placement, and determine if there is a successful stepdown plan in place.
- Emergency Shelter Care – Each week we are reviewing children that are in Emergency Shelter Care to see how we can get them moved out a little quicker.
- Budget – As of January 1, 2019 local offices are able to sign their own appeals to get services provided quicker

### **Fiscal Updates**

- We are currently at 50% of our budget. We should be at 53.09%

### **Regionally and Statewide**

Jamie distributed and discussed the CWG Report. The CWG Report shows what the recommendations were and where we are. You can also find this report on our website.

Collaborative Care FCM, Krystal Pollard recently accepted a position as the Provider Relations Advocate for the North. The Provider Relations Advocate is a liaison between our Service Providers and DCS. There will be 3 Provider Relations Advocates throughout the State; the North, Central and the South.

There was an IARCA Meeting last month and one to the things Jamie took from it was the need to improve so each month the Service Providers will be invited into the local office's to talk about the children; here's where we're seeing a need, here's where we're needing help etc. Each Director will report the outcome of these meetings to Jamie so he

can ensure the local office is meeting with the Service Provides and having these discussions as a “Team”.

### **County Updates**

**Allen** - (James Pippin for Alexys Vosmeier, Director) - Allen County and the Court are trying a new tier structure where certain teams are assigned to certain Courts/Judges.

Allen County hired a third Division Manager, Heather Rouns who’s first day is today! We also hired 6 new Supervisors which brings the total Supervisors for Allen to 23. That total will increase to 24 when another Supervisor is added in February. What they’re trying to do based on the outcome of the CWG Report; is get the supervisor ratio down to 5 to 1

Effective January 1, 2019 Jamie started a Pilot called “The Social Butterfly Initiative” The pilot will run for a Quarter to see how it goes. There’s a very specific set of instructions and guidance’s structured into the FCM’s work week which gives the FCM’s time to go out and meet with their parents face to face and then put that information into MaGik. This includes parents that are incarcerated, out of State etc. Get parents involved who might not have been involved. The hope is to get more parents involved and maybe find more relative placements

**DeKalb** – (Wesley Husselman, Director) – We are fully staffed. Next month we’re beginning a Family Preservation Court

**LaGrange**- (Kathryn Stephenson, Director) – One of our FCM’s is going to be a Peer Coach Consultant

**Noble County** (Amanda Herendeen, Director) – We added a new Supervisor, Tiffani Hovarter bringing our total to 3 Supervisor’s. We have 15 FCM’s and we added two more; one started Cohort today and one will start Cohort next week

**Steuben** – (Ron Lahmeyer, Director) – We have a new FCM starting today. Steuben is also participating in “The Social Butterfly Initiative” Piolet

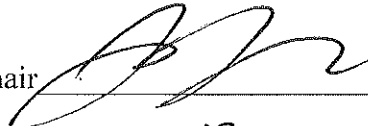
**Whitley County** (James Pippin, R4 Manager) – Jeff Bedree left the Department of Child Services to work for the Federal Government. Interviews for Whitley County Director have been scheduled. We’re hoping to have a Whitley County Local Office Director by late February or early March. We’re still working to get better building security

**Next Meeting** – April 8, 2019 Allen County DCS Office @ 12:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

With no other business meeting was adjourned.

Secretary Helin Harmon

Chair 

Date 4-8-19

Date 4-8-19

Approved: hg (secretary's initials) Date: 4-8-19