 **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, July 9, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. CST

**Meeting Location**: Virtual Meeting

**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Meeting Called to Order**: Regional Service Council meeting was called to order by Regional Manager, Brian Brown.

**2. Introductions:** RM Brown welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting. RSC members present: RM Brian Brown, Marc Brown, Lou Richey, Brian Broek, Shawna Smith, and Sarah Fink.

**3**. **June 11, 2021 Minutes**: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes, none were made. Shawna Smith made a motion to accept the June 11th minutes as written and was seconded by Brian Broek, minutes passed.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Darnitha Woods discussed the Manager Report for Region 2:

DCS County Referrals – Total of 31

* Benton/Newton – 1
* Jasper – 1
* LaPorte – 11
* Porter – 13
* Pulaski – 1
* Starke – 3

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 17

Flexible Funds

* Request – 14
* Approved – 13
* Denied – 1 – due to false information
* There was one CFTM requests from Porter County which resulted in the family being successfully enrolled.
* Concerns with employment, there are jobs available, but clients aren’t motivated.
* Received call from LaPorte Mayor Tom Dermondy thanking Community Partners for all their good work. They were invited to speak at the July 6th City Council meeting and informed them how Community Partners help the community.
* Upcoming backpack events: July 15th – Benton County; July 16th – LaPorte County; July 20th – Jasper County and July 21st – Newton County.
* There will be a Provider fair in October.
* **5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion discussed the changes in the service standards for Home Based Case work by taking out the need for a degree. Dion reminded everyone that home based case work should not, is not, for mentoring and/or tutoring. FCM’s should not make referrals for tutoring and/or mentoring, and providers should not accept those referrals. Any provider interested in becoming a provider for Cordant should contact Dion for contact information. Dion asked for everyone to send him the information requested by the state for Family Preservation. If you sent the email to his manager, please redirect the email back to Dion. Also please make sure all surveys have been returned. Providers will be receiving information/meeting request from the Practice Consultant team to give everyone a better understanding on how DCS Practice is accomplished.

**6.** **Finance – Joni Tusing:** Joni wasn’t available, RM Brown discussed the finance report:

* Budget target is 100%, region is at 110%
* Expenditures YTD is $13,831,721 which is up 3.82% from last year
* In-Home is down 39% ($1,617,325) and Out-of-Home is up 23% ($2,125,760) from last year

Jim Burns asked if the per diem effect the expenditures for Family Preservation cases in which RM Brown stated it is unknown at this time if it does and discussed it.

**7. Region 2 PMR (Practice Model Review):** RM Brown explained the procedure of a PMR and the outcome for the region. Region 2 did an excellent job and is rated first in the state. This was accomplished not only by DCS employees but with the help of great providers. RM Brown thanked everyone for their hard work for making Region 2’s children safe. Jim Burns questioned how they determined what cases to pull from each county in which RM Brown explained the procedure.

**8. Family Preservation Outcomes:** RM Brown discussed the outcome of Family Preservation for Region 2:

* Served 207 families and 442 kids for at least 90 days
* Experienced another subbed incident: 4 families (1.93%) and only 5 kids (1.13%)
* Experienced a removal: 3 families (1.45%) and only 5 kids (1.13%)

RM Brown compared the numbers to the state and Region 2 had impressive outcome numbers. Again, this is due to DCS and providers working closely together for the safety of the children. Dion also thanked the providers for their teamwork.

**9. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:**

Krystal Pollard encouraged that all field staff workers and management complete the faith-based partnership surveys and return to her.

Jim Burns asked that if a provider is short staffed and unable to provide therapist and/or staff, they should have their name removed from the drop-down box until they would be able to accept the referrals as to not frustrate the FCMs. Dion asked that they notify the county LOD and email himself so he can help in the matter.

**10.** **Adjournment:** RM Brown thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. thru Virtual Teams. Provider meeting will follow for 1 hour 10-11 am CST.