



## Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 2

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, June 12, 2018 – 5:30 p.m. CST  
**Meeting Location:** LaPorte County DCS, Michigan City, IN

**Council Members Present:** Ellis Dumas, Magistrate Jonathan Forker, Judge Michael Shurn, Mark Brown (proxy for Judge Mary Harper), Renee Woodworth (proxy for Dee Lynch), Ron Fisher, Shawna Smith, Brandi Spear, Meghan Finn, Linda Rugg and Sarah Fink

**Council Members Absent:** Sharon Mathew, Mitzi McGlone, and Sandi Beckett

**Others In Attendance:** Joni Tusing, Dion Smith, Michelle Goebel, Kecia Blakely, Lou Richey, Jim Burns, Melanie Dooley, Esther Stiles, Jeanne Ann Cannon, Stephanie Paduch and Cheryl Highsmith

### Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Called to Order at:** Regional Service Council meeting was called to order by Mr. Dumas at 5:30 P.M. CST. Mr. Dumas, Regional Manager for Region 1 informed the council and public the regional manager position for Region 2 has not been filled at this time.

1. Roll was called, and the Regional Service Council introduced. It was noted that a quorum was present and seated.
2. March 6, 2018 minutes: Magistrate Forder made a motion to accept the March 6<sup>th</sup> minutes as written and was seconded by Ron Fisher. Vote taken, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, minutes passed.
3. **Community Partners Report:** Ester Stiles presented the council with summary report from February – April, 2018 and briefly went over key elements and answered questions. Lou Richey questioned the Total Families Served and Total Referrals into Community Partners pie charts for Newton County. After a brief discussion Ester stated she will check into the numbers

and send a corrected version to the regional secretary to be mailed to all RSC members.

**4. Regional Services:** Dion Smith announced to the council RFP's will open on June 22<sup>nd</sup> for Substance Abuse Disorder (no random drug screens) and Diagnostic Evaluation (child hearsay only). The RFP's will close on July 13<sup>th</sup>, scores will be done by July 18<sup>th</sup> and contract will be given by October 1<sup>st</sup>. There will not be an open RFP for Child Advocacies Center, those contracts will be extended.

**5. Regional Budget:** Joni Tusing gave a Financial Status Report to council members comparing year to date. Joni was happy to report that Region 2 is back on budget.

**6. Addition to Region:** Mr. Dumas announced to the council the state is looking into adding Benton County to Region 2. Newton County will absorb the employees from Benton with Director Ron Fisher

**7. Jim Burns – Fatherhood Data:** Mr. Burns from Family Focus gave the council a handout with Fatherhood Engagement Outcomes from January 1, 2016 through April 30, 2018. The council had several questions concerning the data and after a discussion Mr. Burns stated he would gather more concrete numbers and send them to the regional secretary for distribution to the council members.

**8. Testimony / Announcements Public:**

Jim Burns discussed how many days the referrals are in the que and Mr. Dumas discussed how providers need to check the que on a daily basis.

9. Mr. Dumas asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Linda Rugg made the motion and was seconded by Magistrate Forder at 6:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2018.