March 2021 Regional Service Council

Region 6

March 17, 2021

* **Welcome-**
* Liz Learned Regional Manager
* Iwona Morretino DCS Rep Regional Service Coordinator
* Katie Craft DCS RFM
* Julie Hobbs Wabash Co LOD
* Kerri Baker Huntington Co LOD
* Mary Cunningham Miami Co LOD
* Janaei Smith Cass Co FCMS
* Kelly Moorman Huntington Co FCMS
* Jan Williams YSB Huntington
* Caroline Sholty Four County
* Jennifer Rutkowski-Smith SCAN
* Lisa Blanchard SCAN
* Makayla Gusching SCAN
* Courtney Calhoun
* Barbara Hilton FSA- Howard Co.
* Kimberly Sims
* Bradley Samuel FCM
* Camille Anderson Recovery Café Fulton County
* Shannon Faulkner Indiana United Methodist Home Programs
* Andrea Colley
* Naomi Henning
* Alyssa Blackburn
* LaTasha Music Foster Parent
* David Mullins Crossroads
* Service Coordinator-Iwona
  + All current contracts will be extended past July 1st.
    - We are not planning on opening any requests for proposals this year.
    - All current contractors should have been or will be notified from our Child Welfare Plan regarding this decision about their opting in or opting out of having their contracts extended.
  + New state vendor Cordant Health Solutions for drug screening
    - Will start on 7/1/21, we will continue with Forensic Fluids until 6/30/21.
    - Cordant will be reaching out to all of the partners who have a contract for substance use assessment or substance use outpatient treatment. This will continue to work the same as Redwood or Abbot.
    - Cordant will roll-out in stages, Region 6 will likely be in the early roll-out.
    - We are trying to get a clinic in each county so there will not be so much travel.
  + Family Preservation-
    - Going strong and growing.
    - We’ve had the services in place for about 9 months.
    - We stand at 76 referrals for Region 6.
    - The full evaluation of the programing and quality is in place and in progress right now. This is in preparation for our full implementation of the requirements of the Family First Prevention Services Act. We are due to be in full compliance as of October 1.
    - There was a good joint training on FFPSA on March 5 which included DCS staff and court staff from around the state.
    - Although Region 6 doesn’t have a lot of providers, Iwona is very pleased with how we are utilizing the providers and the resources that we have and how we are working with our providers to address the concerns and issues that arise to foster improvement of quality of services.
    - We are slowly getting the opportunity to get more providers to expand their service ability into Region 6. We have already approved Counseling Partners into Howard County.
    - We have recently been in contact with Crossroad Family Services. We have met with the CEO David Mullins. They are wanting expand to Huntington County for their Family Preservation Services as well as home-based casework and home-based therapy. They are currently a community health wrap-around program in Allen Co. They are used to serving vulnerable populations.
    - Crossroads has a brick and mortar in Huntington County.
  + A new Recovery Café opened in Fulton Co for caregivers and adults who are struggling with substance use and with mental health difficulties.
* **Budget and projections-Katie Craft**
  + For January and February 2021 we spent over $1.4 million each month, this is a bit high due to payments being pushed through to pay vendors that were behind.
  + February target 67% Region 6 was at 73.2%, a bit over mostly due to residential placement being up in every county except for Miami.
  + We currently have 24 children in residential.
    - We are doing a lot of work at the local levels to bring children out of residential care if appropriate.
  + Family Preservation services will increase home base numbers.
  + Local directors are actively working and partnering with probation to help identify resources available to them to meet the needs of their children and provide services for them.
* **Foster Care Updates- From Liz**
  + There continues to be growth and structuring in the foster care program.
  + We have a placement line person to help find placement for a child who can’t be placed with family and we try to keep a child locally as much as possible.
  + Community Engagement Coordinator-Tanna Wagner, Tanna will reach out to the local levels to help identify the needs and how we build supports to the families in the foster care setting. How we identify the barriers and how we work through them.
    - Tanna can do presentations in the community.
  + Relative Support Specialist-Helps the relative secure placement and also link them to supports for potential licensures.
* **Prevention- Community Partners-**
  + J**ennifer Rutkowski-Smith-**Budgets
    - Referral Summary-Month to date referrals are at 72%
    - We have enrolled 116 families year-to-date.
    - 300+ referrals, keep in mind that not all families were found or were eligible
    - December was slow for Community Partners
    - 126 adults 244 children
    - Program outcomes-doing well in most areas. The goal is to make contact within 5 days of the referral, we are at 86% but should be at 90%, we are going to look into our outreach processes to see how we can be more aggressive in trying to reach families. The pandemic has limited us, some families don’t want people in their homes, and we still offer and try.
    - Goal achievement, 86% should be 90%, families just don’t seem to be engaging quite the same due to the pandemic.
    - Services- through January, we are a little bit behind schedule, we should be at 58% but we are only at 55%. We are looking at this and trying to make sure that we are enrolling as many families as possible and looking at what services that can be provided.
    - LPD Balances-Not in great shape here, should be at 50% but only at 30%. We are reaching out to agencies to see what is happening and if they have a plan to catch up.
  + **Makayla Gusching**-Needs Assessment presentation
    - We discussed with Liz about looking at trends and how the finances were awarded.
    - For 2018-2019 the awards by service standard were pretty even between After School at 29%, Gear Up at 25%, Community Education at 22% and Parenting Education 24%
    - For 2019-2020 46% of the initial award went to Community Education, 30% to Gear Up and 24% to After School
    - When we reallocated there was a big shift where 51% went to After School, 17% to Community Education and 33% to Gear Up.
    - For 2020-2021 The Initial Award 27% to After School, 27% to Gear Up, 38% to Community Education and 9% to Youth At-Risk.
    - YTD Invoiced 48% for After School, 30% for Gear Up, 25% for Community Education and 6% for Youth At-Risk.
    - Region 6 Needs Assessment-Looking at all of the information and all of the needs of the families the top ones are support with Child Behavior, Counseling, Household Origination/Cleaning, Information on Budgeting, Job Training, Rent/Utilities and Subsidized Housing.
    - The 2 year trend was very similar
    - By county we looked at any need that was showing at 40% or higher and included in the graph. Very similar needs across the board.
* **Recovery Café-Camille Anderson Program Director for Indianapolis**
  + Is a love-based peer recovery community which is fairly new to the state but it is a model that started 16 years ago in Seattle
    - There are over 40 Café’s nationwide.
    - The Recovery Café we believe that we all start with love at our core, but throughout life we experience trauma that disconnects us from that love of our self and the love of others.
    - Some of our principles that guide us are to show respect to yourself and others, to cultivate compassion, to give back, to connect with a love of ourselves and others, to practice forgiveness and encourage growth.
  + We are all on a journey recovering whatever keeps us from being our best self. You are in recovery whenever you say you are
  + We include medicated assistance treatment, solo or natural recovery, faith based recovery. We are not here to replace any existing form of recovery, but to be a support.
  + Some of the requirements to be a member are
    - 24 hours drug and alcohol free
    - Weekly participation in a recovery circle, this is the heart of the Café.
    - Contribute to the life of the community.
  + We are a café so we do have fresh coffee, we always have a meal provided.
  + We have free monthly Sober Social Events available to the community.
  + Recovery Circles-very different than what you might see in traditional circles. The same group of 8-10 people, facilitated by a trained leader. You have the freedom to speak and receive support from individuals with experience.
  + School for Recovery-we bring in a lot of support through classes.
  + Sober Social Events-examples that we offer are self-care like foot spas, nails, haircuts, yoga & meditation.
  + Please visit [www.recoverycafefultoncounty.org](http://www.recoverycafefultoncounty.org) for more information.
  + [Beth.kreitl@webloom.org](mailto:Beth.kreitl@webloom.org) if you are interested in learning more or setting up a tour of the space.
* **Indiana United Methodist Home Programs-Shannon Faulkner**
  + We are a group home in Lebanon Indiana that serves youth ages 14-19
  + Currently we have 6 group homes with 8-10 youth per home.
  + We have a fully accredited school on-site that youth for grades 8-12 per home.
  + We offer therapy whether it be psychotherapy, individual or family.
  + We have medication management.
  + WE have homes that specialize in independent living.
* Residential discussion and the increase expenditures relating to residential placements. Discussed the new process and how we are working diligently at the local levels to ensure wrap around services are available to help maintain a child in their community and with family while addressing the needs of the child. Provided information on the CFTR process.
* Next meeting 6/16/2021
* adjourn