LCPA Provider Monthly Meeting 3/1/2023

* Every Child in Indiana: Suzy Roth - [suzy@handsofhopein.org](mailto:suzy@handsofhopein.org), Takeem Morgan - [Takkeem.morgan@gmail.com](mailto:Takkeem.morgan@gmail.com), 215-510-9153
  + Overview – originated in Oregon – have met with 20 LCPA’s. Technology site and collaborative impact effort. Reach out to increase the quality and reach for children. Bringing LCPA and volunteer community to support foster care. Arkansas and Indiana are the 2nd and 3rd states to implement.
    - Currently doing team building
    - Gap analysis for highest need in the state
    - Successful foster parent
    - Efforts and results will be distributed of inquiries to be Foster Parents to LCPA’s
    - Will modify specific to Indiana.
    - Microsoft donated to establish.
    - Submit 4/16/23 and 4/17/23.
    - Next steps
  + Forum Conversations - next one is 3/1623, one is scheduled for 4/20/23 virtual or in person - to participate in forums - c.horning@thecontingent.org
    - * Takeem doing 1 on 1 meetings – invited agencies to participate. Have emailed everyone on the call. Please reach out.
  + EC Conference for Foster Parents
  + Every Child Symposium - March 11, 2023, 9-3pm – Grace Fishers. 1 day for Foster Parents, 5 credit Hours anyone can come. Focus on dealing with trauma. Will look at local recruitment efforts coordinate with state efforts.
  + David Reed –
    - encouraging LCPA’s to be in the process to meet the needs of the kids in Indiana.
    - Have had success in other states.
  + Crystal – discussed collaborative efforts to recruit foster parents and the opportunity these programs provide.

DCS’ official statement relating to the FP initiative that was discussed in the LCPA meeting:   
  
DCS is committed to bringing the Every Child foster care recruitment tools to Indiana and envisions them being the foundation of all foster care recruiting across the state. DCS also recognizes the critical role that LCPAs play in supporting foster parents and ensuring foster care placements are stable and safe for all children who need them. As a result, DCS plans to match all potential foster parents identified through Every Child system with LCPAs to complete the licensing process and support the families through their foster parenting journey.

* Foster Care licensing - LaKessa Thomas - [Lakesha.Thomas@dcs.IN.gov](mailto:Lakesha.Thomas@dcs.IN.gov) and Amelia Champer - Amelia.Champer@dcs.IN.gov
  + New process – LT – streamlining referrals across the state. Will be the same, but instead of using map will only need to use one email to address statewide. LT will be monitoring. The in box with instructions and help guide forms will be going out within the next week. Will send the information to those on the call. So, there will be one email to streamline. If have questions can use that same email address. DCS communications will be sending out to administrators.
  + Amelia – introduced herself – co-supervisor.
    - Safe trainings – dates included in agenda, have 3 refreshers scheduled.
  + Overdue annuals
    - Consultant team and residential – working together to address.
      * Are finally under the 300 mark – 270 due currently.
      * Will be hearing from consultant this week to gather information.
      * Will be sharing info with residential to determine how to tackle the rest of the overdue annuals.
* Notice of proposed rule making
  + Info memorandum in the chat
  + States to be able to have different states to license relatives and nonrelatives.
  + Children’s Bureau is making the proposal.
  + To expedite to license relative and kin (broadly defined to include non-blood relatives)
  + 40% of kids go to relative without access to supports.
  + Looking at ways to build in supports for license.
  + Can make comments thru 4/17 - notifications were sent out

Questions?

* Do you know if there has been a wide reception of comments given from LCPA or community – there were 380 people from across the county, but nothing definite on the reception.

LCPA Fiscal –

* Have sent out notice letters or agencies giving details of time for audit.
* Looking at beginning of 2022 thru 8/2023
* Will get notice.
* Auditing payment of LCPA on payment to the foster parents not including admin. money
* Not lengthy or punitive
* Required by federally required.

Questions –

* Will this happen every year moving forward or in a cycle – will be at least a couple of years in the cycle. Anticipate every 3-4 years. If find anything troublesome, may do more regular audit to assist with internal controls. At end of the last cycle no one was flagged high risk. Don’t anticipate it for this cycle either.
* Have there been any outcomes or trends than can be shared or will you be sharing any updates or trends. Will be bringing that type of information in future months to this group.
* This is a low-risk organization and only required once with each contract period.
* Foster care requirement – have been notified to those who are going to be funded. If haven’t heard anything can reach out to Rebecca. Will be moving those requests into contract area for an April 1 start date for your project.

Educational services – Melania Gant – educational liaison manager

* If have question on education can email Melania – Melaina.Gant@dcs.IN.gov
* Team role – advocacy of DOE and educational systems for youth in out of home care
* Melania will be regular speaker these calls.
* Want providers to know if have kids with barrier, gap, or lengthy issues to access to education services or anything related to education reach out to Melaina and she will connect you to the regional liaison.
* Have been have general discussion with DOE to consult on issues have been dealing with. Will include the types of issues or needs can be brought up during these discussions as well.

2023 LCPA’s and high acuity youth; services division

* Intensive foster care RFI – will continue to keep on the agenda to give updates.
* Kim and Lyon – Integrated Care Team
  + Rolling out a weekly staffing Tuesday at 10am – have had good feedback.
  + Opening up to higher needs kids, open to local office and providers to assist in finding the right level of care and the unique opportunity that foster care provides.
  + If see invitation are free to forward on to others
  + Has been a great experience so far.
  + The kids being staffed – do 2 per week, higher acuity higher needs. Screen for being appropriate for foster care.
  + The intention is to get a good review of the child and not just what is coming through in a referral.
  + Know they are going to need extra support.
  + Provide ideas, plan for extra services.
  + Gotten good feedback.
  + Preventative measure to keep kids not needing residentials out of residential and in family settings.
  + Have previous and current provider present for those kids being presented - residential, hospitals, etc.
  + Will continue and tweak the process so it is a regular procedure to address the serious needs of the kids we have.
  + Have been keeping data and looking at outcomes and other information to report back.
* DCS Foster Care Recruitment (RFF) – David
  + Looking a procurement process
  + Reviewing what we’ve learned.
  + Assisting what things could look like
  + Goal of better stability
  + Less likely to land in residential.
  + Still thinking through the procurement process and ideas presented
* LPCA urgent discharge – Crystal
  + First mentioned last month
  + Keeping on agenda to keep updating.
  + Residentials already familiar
  + Part of the contract and what providers are doing.
  + Procedure put in place for notices, tracking, monitoring disruptions for a better process.
  + These generally are the high acuity youth.
  + Met with residential providers with PSF and worked on a quick easy form for provider staff to provide the information required by the contract when submitting discharge request notification
  + The request then goes to DCS treatment team so they are away and can begin the process of what next steps will be
  + Planning to implement something similar for LCPA and that allows foster parents to have a voice.
  + Will continue with updates.

Licensing –

* Announced last month in process of hiring new specialist.
* Have hired Shalia Melanta for the central region of the state – will be reaching out to assigned facilities.
* Have realigned facilities assignments.
* Plan on rolling out changes effective 4/1/2023.
* Will be hiring from current Residential Licensing Specialist if there are going to be in changes to who will be your Residential Licensing Specialist.
* For audits – created a spreadsheet will be include in scheduling letter to assist in identifying the sampling of files needed to be reviewed for the audit.
* Reach out Residential Licensing Specialist or supervisors if have questions.
* Hiring and interviewing an LCPA manager
* Moving to having 2 teams for licensing- an LCPA and residential
* Want a unique and distinct focus with the licensing unit so will be separating the 2 types.
* Hope to make a decision hired soon.
* Moving several current team members and moved to the LCPA team to ensure RLS and focus on LCPA and foster homes to assist in moving forward in supporting of or kids in the new wave in the foster care system.

Reminder if need to add to LCPA contract list – link is on the agenda being sent out – if have someone leaving agency and need to be taken off the list, please email Crystal, only when need to remove someone