**Regional Service Council Minutes**

**Region 3**

**Meeting Date**: October 11, 2019

**Meeting Location**: CAPS

1000 W. Hively Avenue

Elkhart, IN 46517

**Council Members Present**: Erin Shidler, Regional Manager; Michael Carroll, Director Marshall County DCS; Wendy Disher-Taljaard, Director Elkhart County DCS; Katie Solorzano-Malacara, FCM Kosciusko County DCS, Heidi Trenerry, Supervisor St. Joseph County DCS, Ken Downs, Division Manager and proxy for Teresa Zornig; Andrea Nishimoto, FCM Supervisor and proxy for Lindsay Castro.

**Council Members Absent**: Teresa Zornig, Director, St Joseph County DCS; Lindsay Castro, Director Kosciusko County DCS, Philice Hutchen, Marshall County DCS, Judge David Cates, Kosciusko County Superior Court; Judge Curtis Palmer; Marshall Circuit Court; Magistrate Deborah Domine, Elkhart Circuit Court.

**Others in Attendance**: Paige Hamilton, Community Partners, Joni Tusing, Regional Financial Manager, Dion Smith, DCS Regional Services Coordinator, Janet Rathberger, Regional Assistant DCS; Elena Delacruz, Bowen Center; Sherrie Shivok, Family Focus; Libby Martin, LSSI; Debbie Branfield, Crossroad; Tara Hamilton, NYAP; Janice Nichols, Bowen Center; Sean McCrindle, Bashor; Michelle Murphy, Bowen Center; Sherry Flowers, Family Focus; Andy Ogle, Redwood; Kiana Jackson, Youth Service Bureau, Tricia Griff, HBS; LaShaunda Parker, Lifeline; Chandra Patton, Lifeline; Stephanie Paduch, SCAN; Brad Kolano, SCAN; Andrea Colley, Crossroad; Whitney Nesbitt, Bowen; Adrienne Batteast, Lifeline.

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Erin Shidler.

1. Welcome/Introductions of Members and Guests.

2. Approval of Minutes. Minutes for the 7/12/2019 reviewed. Michael Carroll motioned approval of minutes. Wendy Disher-Taljaard seconded. Vote taken. All in favor. 0 opposed. Motion carried.

3. Community Partners Update. Paige Hamilton, Program Administrator, YTD (two months) $10,000 behind. Everyone knows that funds have been reduced, everyone is showing a need. In September 212 referrals received, 69 enrolled (33%), 13 inappropriate referral, 37 met needs prior to enrollment, 22 refused, and we were not able to contact 8. We received the most referrals from Elkhart County in September, 113. Our goal is 50% engagement. We are currently short staffed, and trying to hire. Local Prevention dollars are on target with spending. One provider is out of money, and one provide is not able to get two programs off the ground due to staff issue. Paige is doing outreach at the schools.

4. Service Update. Dion Smith, Regional Service Coordinator, 10/1 contracts out, we have some new providers; Murphy Mentoring, Genesis Outreach for homebased casework, and Growing Minds Counseling. It is Biennial time, public testimony posted, measurable outcomes for what the state has prescribe. Next RSC early December with more information to come.

5. Financial Update. Joni Tusing, Regional Finance Manager. 1st quarter target 26% actual 23.81%. In-home down 13.23% from last year. Out of home still down, .06% from last year, foster is up 19.27% and residential down. Total YTD expenses 5.32 million. Comparable charts reviewed, not a big difference. LCPA has gone up. New KidTraks user agreement out to add new people, it’s on-line.

6. County Updates:

Elkhart – Wendy Disher-Taljaard, Director, reported Supervisor turnover and gained an additional supervisory position for the office. Adoption Day in Elkhart County is 11/15 with 4 or 5 adoptions scheduled. Increased Informal Adjustments three times from what they were in January.

Marshall – Michael Carroll, Director, hired two Family Case Managers and one of his Family Case Managers has transferred out to the Institutional Unit leaving one vacancy. Michael Carrol was Guest Speaker at the CASA Appreciation Dinner. CASA nominated Essence Ward as Family Case Manager of Year.

St. Joseph – Ken Downs, Division Manager, we continue to grow, with new Family Case Managers. 400 -500 assessments a month. We are seeing alot of unique cases. Scheduled to move into the new space in November. Once moved the 3rd floor will begin remodeling. The office is celebrating Halloween with our foster children invited to the office on the 17th for trick or treating.

Kosciusko – Andrea Nishimoto, Family Case Manager Supervisor reported that assessments up, very busy. Two clerical positions are open and they have hired two FCM.

7. Other Business. None

Provider Presentations:

* + LaShaunda Parker, Regional Coordinator, Lifeline Youth & Family Services
  + Sherrie Shivok, LMHC, Clinical Director, Family Focus, Inc

Erin adjourned meeting at 9:40am.

*Next Regional Service Council Meeting; March 13th, 2020, 9:00am at CAPS, 1000 W. Hively Ave., Elkhart*