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Description automatically generated **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, January 13, 2023 – 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. RM Brown asked for new attendees which Briana Kessler introduced herself from Four C Health. RSC members present: RM Brown, Marc Brown, Angelina Brouillette, Sharon Mathew, Brian Broek, Shawna Smith, and Sarah Fink.

**3**. **December** **9th, 2022, Minutes**: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes, Brian Broek made correction in section 11; it should read RM Brown, not RM Broek. Brian Broek made a motion to accept the December 9th minutes with the correction and was seconded by Crystal Bradley, minutes passed.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Nicholas Neal discussed the year end events, each successful with good attendance. Nicholas stated they are fully staffed at this time and invites will be going out for the April conference plus other events. Nicholas has meetings set up with Stark, Pulaski and LaPorte to discuss events and child abuse vigil. Kristin discussed the Community Partners report for December.

Open Referrals – 133

New Enrollments – 84

Discharges – 72

DCS County Referrals – Total of 50

* Benton/Newton – 3
* Jasper – 4
* LaPorte – 19
* Porter – 19
* Pulaski – 2
* Starke – 3

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 34

* Benton/Newton – 0
* Jasper – 6
* LaPorte – 19
* Porter – 7
* Pulaski – 0
* Starke - 2

Flexible Funds

* Request – 19
* Approved – 19
* There were 2 CFTM request from Porter County and 1 from LaPorte County. 2 safe sleep requests from Porter County, 1 each from Starke and Jasper County.
* December events highlighted.
* Concerns with mental health services, which are improving slightly. One position vacant for a Neighborhood Liaison.
* Discussed the CP newsletter.
* RM Brown discussed increased cases moving to preventative services and more money will be coming to help with the cost.

**5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion went over Family Preservation data:

Inception 90 Days

State Cases 8,987 6,287

Region 2 Cases 397 285

State Children 18,300 12,899

Region 2 Children 803 590

Dion stated Family Preservation appears to be working with the numbers on the decline. Family Preservation is now open to probation. Crown Counseling did an addendum to their contract and added family functional therapy as well as home-based therapy to Region 2.

**6.** **Finance – Joni Tusing:** Joni went over finances for December:

* Budget target is 50.21%, region is at 45.98%
* Expenditures were $ 1,005,885 (YTD is $5,448,343, down $842,679)
* In-Home is down 29.65% and Out-of-Home is down 8%
* Discussed each county expenses:
  + Benton - $45,202 (YTD up 47%)
  + Jasper - $66,672 (YTD down 13%)
  + LaPorte - $487,379 (YTD down 1%)
  + Newton - $24,817 (YTD down 58%)
  + Porter - $199,191 (YTD down 20%)
  + Pulaski - $48,372 (YTD down 15%)
  + Starke - $134,252 (YTD down 26%)

**7. Region 2 Child and Family Outcomes:** RM Brown discussed the outcome for the year on the PI Overview comparing the region to the state data and how the region is helping families through the community instead of through DCS. Discussion on how or if families are being tracked and if the community efforts are working. RM Brown explained how the efforts are working and are being tracked. It was asked what disguises between formal DCS involvement and utilizing community services instead. RM Brown and Kristin Smith talked about the communication between the agencies. Sarah Fink replied with how CASA is another venue to have in the case to help identify issues. LOD Ritchey explained the process that must be followed legally. RM Brown explained the goals the region is going to be working on for 2023 which is engaging and teaming and will be presented to the council soon.

**8. Megan Ryan:** Was not available

**9. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:** RM Brown appreciated the questions and discussion during the Child and Family Outcomes portion of the meeting.

**10. Next RSC Meeting:** The next regular RSC meeting will be held virtually on February 10th, at 9:00 a.m. central time.

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