Regional Service Council Minutes
Region 9

Meeting Date: **10.23.2009**

Meeting Location: **Avon Town Hall**
6570 E. US Hwy 36.
Avon, IN 46123

Council Members Present:
Char Burkett-Sims - DCS Region 9 Regional Manager, Pat Baldwin – Hendricks County Prosecutor, Shelly Chadd – Director, Putnam County DCS, Carlos Shrewsbury – Director, Montgomery County DCS
Taren Duncan – Director, Morgan County DCS
Deb Berkey – Supervisor, Hendricks County DCS, Laura McMann – Supervisor, Boone County DCS
Kandi Killin –Boone County CASA, Kalay Colley – Foster Parent, Stephanie Kerner – Foster Parent
Tim Haltom – FCM, Putnam County DCS, Kelly Smith-Perry - Parent

Guests Present:
Bob Daugherty – Regional Finance Manager, Peggy McCoy – Roth and Associates, Mark Fairchild - Community Partners, Mike Scime – Montgomery County YSB, Emily Perry – Susie's Place, Jana Minks – Supervisor, Montgomery County DCS
Patti Harmless – Putnam County CASA, Mindy Williams – Valle Vista Health System, Dale Crowder – Wabash Valley Hospital, David James – The Villages, Pascal Fettig – Boone County Mental Health, Mary Prater – White's Family Services, Jill Hendricks – Whitington Homes, Millie McDonald – Whitington Homes

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM

RSC Members:
Chair – Char Burkett-Sims
Vice Chair – Sally Berish
Judges – Judge David, Judge Milligan
Prosecutor – Pat Baldwin
CASA – Kandi Killin
DCS Directors - Carlos Shrewsbury, Taren Duncan, and Shelly Chadd, Proxy – Rhonda Allen
DCS Supervisors – Laura McMann, Deb Berkey, Proxy – Melissa Page
DCS FCMS – Waylon James, Tim Haltom, Proxy – Amber Overbey
Foster Parents – Kalay Colley, Stephanie Kerner
Parent – Kelly Smith-Perry
Child previously involved in services – Kaitlynn Mills, age 17

Financial Report:
The state budget is $440 million. There is an 11 ½ % cut from what was requested. This was allocated to 18 regions based on historical data from the last 3 years. As of September the budget for Region 9 was at $8.1 million with a 5% reserve of $430, 00. Expenditures should not be more than 25% of the budget.

In the first quarter Region 9 is at 25.1%. The region total is almost just a little over the target %.
Expenditures by county:
Boone is at 26% of their budget. They are spending more in probation. This needs to be monitored.
Hendricks is at 29%. 4 % over what they should be. They are over in all categories and higher than they have been based on past history.
Morgan is at 18%. They are well within budget but using a little more than usual for preservation.
Putnam is at 18%. They are well within their budget but using more in preservation and miscellaneous costs. There need to be more focus on where we are spending and if the spending continues the way it is, there will be concerns.

Biennial Regional Services Plan:
The first meeting will be Tuesday, November 17th at the Boone County Courthouse, 4th floor at 4:30 PM. It is expected to last approximately 2 hours. The purpose of the meeting is to go over priorities for spending within the region.
Members of the workgroup:
Char Burkett-Sims – Regional Manager
County Directors – Kamilla Aeschliman, Shelly Chadd, Taren Duncan, Carlos Shrewsbury
Kalay Colley - Probation
Mark Fairchild – Community Partners
Patti Harmless – CASA / GAL
Judge David – Boone County Circuit Court
Bob Daugherty – Regional Finance Manager
Stephanie Kerner
Kelly Smith-Perry

Survey Results:
Peggy McCoy from Roth and Associates will be helping with compiling the results of the survey sometime next week.

Community Partners:
It is anticipated to be a busy month with referrals with the stressors of the Holiday Season. There are lots of referrals coming in from DCS and the schools. They trying to avoid a waiting list but they are already at 25-30 caseloads per worker.
The Hendricks County Kids Fair is coming up. It is anticipated there will be about 3000 kids and families there. There will be free food and entertainment and it is community funded.
The Steering Committee had a meeting to talk about next year's activities. They are looking at having more outreach activities, a parent support model and family activities such as a cookout, parent's night out, etc. They would like to have 1-2 small activities in each county.

Education Rights Seminar:
There will be an Education Rights Seminar provided by the Youth Law Team. It will be at the United Methodist Home in Boone County Monday November 30th from 12:30 PM – 4:00 PM. It will be open to DCS and probation but there is a limit of 45-50 people. There is no charge but you need to make a reservation. Please see Kandi Killin for more information if you are interested.

Respite Care Grant:
Deb Berkey and Stephanie Kerner went to Orlando Florida for a conference / training. There are programs all over the United States. There is over $1 million dollars in incentive for adoption.
Stephanie is getting ready to start the second part of the grant that is due November 20th. They would like to start a steering committee to start programs in each county
They would like to have a foster parent from each county. Kalay Colley will serve on behalf of Montgomery County and Stephanie will serve on behalf of Hendricks. The steering committee's purpose will be to help in deciding which direction to go to get programs up and running in the region. They have already started a respite circle in Hendricks County. They would like to start and educational training. This will be a free training. They will be looking at models and day out programs. They hope to get some

feedback from the surveys that were sent out. Stephanie will keep the Regional Services Council informed of the progress on this project.

Next Meeting:
The 2009 November and December meetings would fall on Holidays. It was decided that since there will be a workgroup meeting for the Biennial Region Services Plan on November 17th, there would not be a regular RSC meeting held in November. It was decided to have the next Regional Services Council Meeting on Friday December 11th at 9:00 AM.

Meetings by Conference Call:
The topic was discussed at the last meeting as to whether a conference call could be made if a voting member could not attend the meeting. We are still looking at options to be able to provide the ability to have conference calls. According to protocol, we cannot provide this option for every monthly meeting and some members voiced that face to face communication is important. A suggestion was made that if there is an option available to provide this, it could be done on a quarterly basis.

Input for workgroup:
Healthy Families and Mentoring Moms:
Mike Scime provided input regarding Healthy Families. Due to TANF demands, there is less funding available for families. The cuts have not affected the services levels but by next August 2010, service levels could be reduced. Prevention dollars could be used.
Montgomery County is trying to firmly establish Mentoring Moms. The agency also operates with the CASA program. They are looking to put a mentor with families upon the terms of the CHINS and separate CHINS from the CASA program.

Susie's Place:
Emily's Place has now been open for 6 months with 151 cases to date. They are hiring another forensic interviewer. Hendricks County has a good operational multi disciplinary team. They would like for this to branch out to the other counties to have multidisciplinary teams. Sometimes only the FCM from another county is coming to the interview, no team. There are concerns about travel time from other counties, especially with criminally involved cases. They would like to make sure that they are meeting everyone's needs and would like more feedback. 90 of the 151 cases have come from Hendricks County. Every county has used for the remaining cases but they would like to see more consistency. Boone County is having a Prosecutor and LEA meeting. A suggestion was made for Emily to attend the meetings in each county to bring the members together. The process in Hendricks County is working great.

Meeting concluded at 10:12 AM

Next Meeting Date: **December 11th**
Time: **9:00 AM**
Meeting Location: **Avon Town Hall**
6570 E. US Hwy 36.
Avon, IN 46123