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Description automatically generated **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, April 14, 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 LaPorte County Office Director Brian Broek.

**2. Introductions:** LOD Broek welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting. LOD Broek introduced Chris Buyer as a new member of the council from Porter County Probation Department replacing Marc Brown. Kristin Smith introduced Taylor Stroobant as Community Partner’s new Neighborhood Intake Coordinator (supervisor). Charlotte Jones introduced herself as Regional Manager from NYAP in Merrillville. Sarah Johnson introduced herself as the new director for Child Abuse Prevention Council based out of Dunebrook. RSC members present: LOD Broek, Chris Buyer, Sharon Mathew, Crystal Bradley, and Angelina Brouillette.

**3**. **March** **10th, 2023, Minutes**: LOD Broek asked for additions or corrections to the minutes, Sharon Mathew made a motion to accept the March 10th minutes as written and was seconded by Crystal Bradley, minutes passed.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Kristin discussed the Community Partners report for March.

Open Referrals – 151

New Enrollments – 113

Discharges – 106

DCS County Referrals – Total of 69

* Benton/Newton – 1
* Jasper – 2
* LaPorte – 26
* Porter – 27
* Pulaski – 2
* Starke – 11

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 44

* Benton/Newton – 1
* Jasper – 5
* LaPorte – 17
* Porter – 14
* Pulaski – 2
* Starke – 5

Flexible Funds

* Request – 18
* Approved – 18
* There were no CFTM requests, and one safe sleep request from LaPorte County.
* Kristin went over the meetings/events Community Partners attended, successes, and upcoming events.
* Concerns: Increase in available therapists by providers for clients’ mental health issues. Dramatically rising costs of furniture which causes a downward shift in the number of families CP can help. Also, local families struggling to find affordable housing.

**5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion was not available.

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

* Budget target is 76.13%, region is at 70.66%
* Expenditures were $999,077 (YTD is $8,372,003, down $592,745)
* In-Home was $1,633,409: down 24.53% ($530,973)
* Out-of-Home was $6,738,593: down 0.91% ($61,773)
* Discussed each county expenses:
  + Benton - $25,923 (YTD $344,401: up 65.42%-$136,206)
  + Jasper - $78,082 (YTD $743,455: down 6.21%-$49,259)
  + LaPorte - $506,568 (YTD $3,935,621 up 11.07%-$392,254)
  + Newton - $49,492 (YTD $276,275 down 43.50%-$212,673)
  + Porter - $230,192 (YTD $1,790,411 down 14.57%-$305,404)
  + Pulaski - $34,304 (YTD $313,579 down 21.94%-$88,119)
  + Starke - $74,516 (YTD $968,261 down 32.48%-$465,751)

**7. Region 2 Child and Family Outcomes:** LOD Broek went over the data showing the region is doing very well and each county is improving.

**8. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:** LOD Broek announced this was the last RSC meeting for LOD Sharon Mathew as she is retiring at the end of the month. Everyone congratulated her.

**9. Next RSC Meeting:** The next regular RSC meeting will be held virtually on May 12th, at 9:00 a.m. central time.

**10.** **Adjournment:** LOD Broek thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting.