

**Regional Services Council Meeting
Region 6**

Meeting Date: January 14, 2016
Meeting Location: Howard County DCS

Council Members Present:

At Howard County: Elizabeth Learned, Regional Manager; Brian Brown, Cass County Director; Karen Denton, Howard County Director; Lee Sones, Fulton County Director; Tracy Timmons, Cass County Supervisor; Margery Justice, Wabash County Director; Angie Isley, Miami County Supervisor;

Council Members Absent: Judge Christopher Lee, Fulton County; Judge Leo Burns, Cass County; Judge Timothy Spahr, Miami County; Judge Bob McCallen, Wabash County; Terri Weaver, Investigator for Wabash County Prosecutor's Office; Kay McInnis, Miami County Director; Cassie Bault, Miami County Supervisor; Bendi Grawcock, Howard County Supervisor; Stephanie Winkle, CASA;

Others In Attendance: Dion Smith Sr., Regional Services Coordinator ; Stan Antonelli, Villages; Rachel Tobin-Smith, Scan-Community Partners; Paige Hamilton, Scan-Community Partners; Jan Williams, Youth Services Bureau; Mystine Collins, Cass County Child Advocates;

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| Meeting Minutes |
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Meeting Called to Order at: 1:11PM.

1. Rachel Tobin-Smith informed the group that each county had \$10,000 available to them for prevention. The money has to be designated for expenditure by March 1, 2016, and has to be spent by June 30, 2016, and cannot be carried forward. There was discussion among the group as to how to best utilize the money. All the counties could pool the money together and have a conference with a speaker, or designate the money to enhance existing services in each county. RM Learned suggested looking at the non-profits in each community as they are already providing valuable services for children and families.

Rachel Tobin Smith provided local prevention, Community Partner Services, and regional summary data handouts and discussed each. The local prevention and Community Partner data summaries were for November 2015, as December 2015 numbers were not yet available. So far this fiscal year, Region 6 has spent under budget by about 5%. Spending should be at 41%, and is only at 35.70%. There was a discussion in regards to the Flex Fund. The Flex Fund is used after a family has had 2 denials for

financial assistance, and there is a \$500 cap. Lee Sones motioned for the cap to be increased to \$750, and just one denial. Karen Denton seconded. The motion carried. The Regional Summary Data reports show that 391 families have been served to date, with 138 families enrolled. According to the data, families in Region 6 are making progress.

2. RM Learned presented copies of the signed protocol regarding abandoned infants in each county. The Biennial Regional Services Strategic Plan for SFY 2017-2018 was presented for review. Dion Smith Sr. discussed the Biennial Plan. Margery Justice made a motion to approve the Biennial Plan, and Lee Sones seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and all voting participants were in favor. The Biennial Plan was approved.
3. RM Learned provided an update as to the vacancies in the Region. FCMs are being hired, along with Supervisors in Cass County and Fulton County. There were no other updates from the local offices.

Meeting adjourned at: 2:00PM