

SAFELY HOME, FAMILIES FIRST

Regional Service Council Minutes

Region #16 Meeting

Date: April 26, 2018
Time: 12:00 Noon
Location of Meeting: Vincennes University, Ft. Branch, Indiana
Meeting Chair: Regional Manager Melanie Flory
Meeting Secretary: LaJean Gentry
Call to Order: 12:00 Noon CDT
Roll Call: Quorum 4 of 12 Voting Members Present

Voting Members Present

Melanie Reising (Proxy for Melanie Flory)
Aaron Simpson
Trisha Howard
Margaret Angel

Phone Present

Absent with Regret

Absent

Judge Brett Niemeier
Judge Joseph Verkamp
Judge Robert R. Aylsworth
Sue Knopf
Sarah Gough
Libby Treado
Melanie Flory
Shirley Starks
Dirk Carnahan

Others in Attendance

Gwen Girten
Debbie Dailey
Natalie Kassenbrock
Nick Miller
Renate Stephens
Jaclyn Coomer
Samantha Freeman
Kathy Seymour
Tyler Bittner
Andrea Bennett
Lori Reinhart
Tara Kilps
Rick Carlson
Caitlin Purkhiser
Dena Allen
Diane Braun
Dewayne Outlaw

Tucker Smith
Jan Dotson
Christina Wicks
Sarah Melton

Welcome

Director Melanie Reising welcomed everyone to the meeting, and introductions were made.

Approval of minutes from last meeting on January 25, 2018:

As read X

As corrected

Minutes of the January 25, 2018 RSC meeting had previously been e-mailed. Aaron Simpson made motion to approve the Minutes after corrections; Trisha Howard seconded that motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote of voting members present.

Program/Committee Reports:

Community Partners Report – Natalie Kassenbrock – Natalie noted Community Partners reports continue to be posted to the website. A success story was shared of a Community Partners self-referral. A mother needed assistance finding stable housing and employment. Community Partners worked with her to gain skills for employment, and she was able to find full-time employment with the new employer also willing to work around the children’s school schedules. The mother was also approved for Section 8 Housing and was able to secure housing a couple of months later. As the mother was not from Evansville, Community Partners was able to educate her on resources available and food pantries in the area.

Twenty referrals were received in February and 13 referrals were received in March. Fifty families in Region 16 are currently receiving services. Breakdown of services per county can be found on the website. The budget is running at 77.4% through March with the target being 74%. Services are being monitored so that funds can last through June 30th, which is the end of the fiscal year.

Natalie distributed flyers with information regarding the Parent Cafes in Region 16. Cafes are now being held in every county in the region and have seen significant increases in the last couple of months. Parent cafes are parent to parent learning and building of protective factors for families.

Region 16 Data Management Reports:

Melanie provided data from the Practice Indicator reports: The number of children in care is currently 1898. Regional assessments are at 656. The average length of stay is 417 days. FCM contacts with children at are 99.7%

Practice Update: Melanie reported there is nothing new to report, but as discussed at the last meeting CFTM’s are a big focus this year.

Foster Care: -- Sam Freeman – So far this year 27 homes have been licensed, which is a little under target. Licensing of homes continues to be a focus. There has been a change in the relative foster care workers with one worker promoting to supervisor in a county office, and the second relative worker transferring to a different position within DCS.

May is foster parent appreciation month. An appreciation event at Walther's has been scheduled for May 19th. Sam noted they continue to present at different events and are looking at other ways to locate foster parents.

QSR: Melanie noted CFSR's are happening weekly with several traveling in the next few weeks to review in other counties.

PRT: -- Lori Reinhart – The next PRT is scheduled for May 15th and 16th. The six cases to be presented have been selected and are in prep stages. The dates of the next two PRT's are August 21st and 22nd and October 16th and 17th.

Budget Report: -- Debbie Dailey – Debbie reported regions received additional appropriations due to deficits. As of March, the ninth month of the fiscal year, the percentage of budget spent was 74.2%. Region 16 should be within the budgeted amounts for the next three months of April, May and June.

Services: -- Gwen Girten – Gwen reported the Biennial Plan has been signed by the Director and posted to the DCS website.

Gwen noted there are some small RFP's coming out in the next few months. Gwen stated she has no news on statewide RFP's at the present time.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business noted.

New Business/Program Updates/Announcements

Kathy Seymour noted the biggest change for Redwood was the addition of Tyler Bittner to their team and noted Tyler will be a bonus for them as he comes from the Vanderburgh Co. DCS office. Tyler will cover regions 8, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18. Kathy noted they have added another person to the team who will cover the northern regions. Tyler is now available for calls.

Natalie stated they are trying to shift the Parent Cafes to actual parent led cafes so that parents are taking an active role and branching out into the community to bring family and friends in.

Andrea with Amends stated their women's program is up and running. She noted the women have been very active showing they want to be there. Andrea reminded everyone that they do have an adolescent men's program for ages 13 to 17. The only referrals they have received at this time have been from the Vanderburgh County Probation Department. Referrals can be made through KidTraks. Andrea noted they can participate in CFTM's; just send an e-mail with that request. Andrea noted she or she and Harry can do presentations in the local offices or do a mock class. Get with Andrea to schedule at andrea@amendsprogram.com. Andrea distributed brochures with class schedules.

Diane Braun stated they were partnering with Indiana Youth Institute in a couple of weeks to present youth worker cafes at VU. She passed out flyers noting the topic will be Understanding the Impact of Bullying. To enroll, those interested may register on line under Youth Worker Café.

Tucker Smith with Indiana Regional Youth Village noted they have suspended their sexually maladaptive youth program at this time, and are currently in the process of revamping and rewriting policy. Packets with updates and program descriptions are available.

Dena Allen reported they were working to license more foster homes as well stating they have had successful turnouts for foster parent training, have been working hard to get paperwork turned in for those interested, and working to recruit people who can take sibling groups or special needs children. They also have foster parent appreciation events coming up in May and June. They continue to provide post adoption services and connecting of adoptive families with local resources. Dena noted they are also willing to attend CFTM's. They have also started a couple of post adoption support groups. They have one in Tell City and now have one in Vanderburgh County. They will meet in Vanderburgh County on the second Thursday of the month during odd months of the year. They do ask for RSVP's so that child care and food are available. Support groups are open to any adoptive family.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Time: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2018, at 12:00 noon CDT at the VU campus in Ft. Branch, IN.

Signatures:

Secretary _____

Chair _____

Date _____

Date _____

Approved: _____ (Secretary's initials) Date: _____

Regional Service Council Region 16 Motion Chart

Date: January 25, 2018

Chair: Regional Manager Melanie Flory

Motion	Discussion	Action	Person Responsible
1. Approve January 25, 2018 RSC Minutes	Two changes noted.	Adopted	Motion by Aaron Simpson Seconded by Trisha Howard All voting members present.
2.	None		
3.		Adopted –	

Vote count must be recorded in the minutes.