

Region 4 Advisory Council Voting Members Meeting

October 18, 2016

Hartford DCF Office
250 Hamilton Street
Hartford, CT

Members Present: Sarah Becker, Alice Farrell, Wayne Johnson (DCF), Nick Lebron, Manny Maldonado, Evelyn Melendez, Judi Orlando, Lisa Palazzo, Josei Robles, Joanne Tremblay-Jackson, Linda Trigilio, Jeanette White (DCF), April Mayo, Kenneth Cayones

Voting Members Absent: Deb Bastie, Tim Carroll, Bryan Flint, Hector Glynn, Giselle Jacobs, Diane Kearney, Lorna Little, Alana Parkinson, Kathy Schiessl, Martha Stone, Milagros Vega, Beresford Wilson

The DCF Region 4 RAC meeting was held at the Hartford DCF office from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM. This meeting is for the Voting members & DCF Staff.

Overview of Meeting

The overview of the meeting was to get an update from the CQI Teams & YAB, to see the Commissioner's presentation from Region 4, go over the RAC by-laws, get an Education Subcommittee update and go over voting concerning; membership and outreach and SAC representative.

CQI Updates

- Region 4 has 5 expectations
 1. Exit for Juan F.
 2. Ensure Children reside safely with families when possible and appropriate
 3. Achieve Racial Justice Across the DCF system
 4. Prepare Children and adolescents in care for success
 5. Prepare and support the workforce to meet the needs of children and families
- FELT (fatherhood engagement team) team Vision fest was held in Hartford on 9/17
- Our Region set up basketball games and activities gave out popcorn , tee shirts and water bottles

- Successful turn out of fathers and their children
- The court monitor reviewed in-home cases beginning in October-CQI team is reviewing the in-home case for case practice
- Each CQI team will meet with Ann McIntyre to have us structure our meetings to help meet our 5 expectations
- CQI teams will communicate to the RAC about any trainings put on by the CQI teams
- RBA (Results Based Accountability)-How do we take the performance expectations and put them into data to see how we are performing
- For each of the expectations there are measures
- We have ROM and Link as the DCF data sources

Permanency CQI

- Team did a MAP (Multi-Disciplinary Assessment for Permanency) review to see where we are with Permanency planning?
- Is this useful? Are the teams using the feedback?
- Coaching model-what are we doing? To see if our youth have a lifelong connection?
- The court collaborative meeting-Permanency presentation to the attorneys and judges

Racial Justice CQI

- Team facilitated Courageous Conversations
- Personal Biases-consultant Jen Agosti came and facilitated this conversation

Region 4 Commissioner's Presentation-handout given

Purposeful visitation model

- Focused on improving visitation
- Supervisors are getting training on purposeful visitation, coaching of staff and supervision
- Doing webinars and in person training
- CQI team is doing random reviews of the social worker and supervisor's narrative to see if the model is being used
- Professional development committee is focused on the supervisors

Juan F.

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- There are 22 measures in Juan F.
- The measures that have been consistently met have been certified
- OM3 case planning and engagement with the family and assessment of the family
- PM's are reviewing cases-Hartford is up to 80%
- OM15-needs met is meeting the children and family's needs, medical, dental and other services included

- Manchester is consistently meeting this measure and now Hartford is up to 75% for OM15

OM1 & OM2

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- OM 1 & OM 2 have not been certified yet
- The Court Monitor has been looking at the quality of the investigations
- OM1 is Careline-Careline assigns the Region a case that is a same day, 24 hrs. or 72 hrs. case response time
- 90% we have to meet for this measure
- OM2 is the completion of investigation within the 45 days
- The standard is 85% and we have consistently met this measure
- Page 7 & B* is a summary of the 1st quarter of 2016 compared to the 1st quarter of 2015
- Reports are way up during this time period-we think it is because of the new Mandated Reporter laws

OM17-In home visitation

- In home case the visitation is 2 times per month
- Manchester met the measure but Hartford has not met the measure-are using the strategies to meet this measure

OM18

- Graph on this page shows the caseload
- Caseloads-not yet certified

Children Reside Safely with Families

- Graph shows as of 6-01-16 865 children are in DCF care
- 383 are with relative of fictive kin
- 333 are in Foster care
- 112 live in Congregate Care setting which is 12%
- Our goal is to drop the Congregate Care from 12% to 10%
- Of the 865 children=345 are Hispanic, 263 are African American, 193 are white and 62 are multi-racial
- The next two pages are information on placement by type and race
- Page 15 explains the increase in children served in their homes and the CR meetings helping to increase these numbers
- Preferred Permanency goals = Reunify within 12 months, Transfer of Guardianship (TOG) and Adoption within 24 months

- Strategies to achieve these permanency goals

Achieve Racial Justice across DCF System

- CQI team did a review of 70 cases
- They asked the intake staff to talk to families about culture and race
- The CQI team is talking with supervisors about how to talk to their workers about race and culture
- How does this affect the work?

Prepare Children and Adolescents for Success

- OPPLA reductions- when permanency goals fail these are the children with no permanency goal
- Permanency teaming, OPPLA reviews and permanency round tables are some of the things we are doing to decrease the OPPLA numbers
- Life Skills and CBLs for adolescents starting at 14 years old
- Page 24 is educational date
- Page 25 is date on Post-Secondary Education (PSE) plans for 8th graders

Other agenda items (YAB update, RAC by-laws, Educational Sub-Committee, and Voting items will be tabled until the next meeting

Motion to adjourn by Nick Lebron and 2nd by Wayne Johnson.
The Region 4 RAC full membership meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM

Submitted by,
Terry Hall