

Region 4 Advisory Council Voting Members Meeting (Opened to Full membership)

December 20, 2016

Hartford DCF Office
250 Hamilton Street
Hartford, CT

Members Present: Deb Batsie-Hernandez, Tim Carroll, Alice Farrell, Bryan Flint, Hector Glynn, Tammy Harris-Wilson, Brenetta Henry, Beth Landolina (DCF), Nick Lebron, Donna Maitland-Ward (DCF), April Mayo, Sabra Mayo Evelyn Melendez, Judi Orlando, Lisa Palazzo, Malika Robledo (DCF), Kathy Schiessl, Zoe Stout, Joanne Tremblay-Jackson, Linda Trigilio, Kelly Waterhouse, Jeanette White (DCF),

Voting Members Absent: Sarah Becker, Giselle Jacobs, Diane Kearney, Lorna Little, Manuel Maldonado, Alana Parkinson, 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 receive a legislative update from Josh Howroyd, increase RAC and CQI membership, receive YAB & SAC updates and get agenda ideas for 2017.

Josh Howroyd-DCF Legislative Liaison

- Handout given with Legislator's names for each region
- Legislation is a 5 month session
- For 20 years the democrats have ruled in the state senate now it's 18 democrats/18 republicans-there is no longer a clear cut majority
- There is talk about reducing the number of committees but may not know about this until after the new year
- DCF will be in the for front because of the Juan F. modifications
- Chamber will need to vote on this when the session opens
- One major state agency (DCF) will be offline in the budget with the exit from Juan F.
- \$794.8 million includes 6.5 million for service array (2009 \$852.5 million was spent)

- Federal reimbursement has increased with this Commissioner
- 2 years is the timeframe to get out of the Juan F. consent
- Juan F.-was impossible to meet all 22 measures, the plaintiffs realize the department has made great strides-nationally we are doing well
- With modifications to the consent it will give us a chance to get out of Juan F.
- There is a proposal put forth on substance exposed newborns-researching what other states are doing
- There is a proposal concerning sex crimes and a proposal for oversight of DCF beyond OFCA-maybe an independent ombudsman office
- Another proposal concerning children uncared for beyond parents control-Specialized needs-changing the definition of uncared for to uncared for due to special needs
- If any RAC member would like to be added to Josh's email distribution list for notice of public hearing and new legislation coming up, let Terry know and she get your information to Josh
- Hartford had 2 senators and 5 representative
- 5 day notice is given before public hearing
- Last year Juvenile Justice and Education were the focus
- A summary of the legislations on the DCF website

RAC/CQI Membership Expansion

- Asking member to join the CQI teams
- These are valuable teams that need your input on the department going forward
- Teams give presentations to the RAC on what they are working on
- Modified exit plan-6 outcomes are the focus
- Give presentations to the RAC on achieving the 6 outcome measures
- Connect trainings at the Training Academy to RAC members
- Try to get Jodi Hill-Lilley/Tracy Davis (from the T/Academy)
- Beth can email the trainings that are offered to the community
- CQI teams are where the work gets done
- Case Planning CQI-case planning and needs met
- Children Safely at Home-reviews data
- Fatherhood Engagement Team (FELT)-mission is to increase fatherhood involvement in their children's lives
- Permanency-Region 4 children will stay home, go home or find a home-work being done to find permanency for DCF youth

- Racial Justice- focus is on reducing the number of children of color in Congregate Care and Juvenile Justice
- Workforce Development- work on bringing training and professional development to DCF staff
- CQI Teams are redeveloping their strategic plan-what they will focus on this year
- Case planning is under a major reorganization-be patient while they get organized

Below is who signed up for which CQI team

Case Planning	Tim	Lorna		
Children Safely	Brenetta	Evelyn	Lisa P.	April
Education	Tim			
Fatherhood	Sabra	Evelyn	Linda	
Permanency	Brenetta	Zoe		
Racial Justice	Sabra	Brenetta		
Workforce Dev.	Linda	Bryan		

YAB Outreach

- Chris Lau attended a YAB meeting to ask for youth members to join the RAC
- CT Voices for Children was there also recruiting members so no one volunteered this time
- Providers, if you have any youth you think might want to be involved let us know
- Zoe, maybe you have youth you think want to join?
- Donna and Chris will attend another YAB meeting to try and recruit again

SAC

- Brenetta, Evelyn and Bryan (Alternate) are the new SAC representatives for Region 4
- The last SAC meeting was canceled

Agenda Setting 2017

- January maybe a presentation -Modified Juan F. exit plan

- Our goal is that our work will be the quality that is required to be pre-certified by the end of 2017
- DCF is working with providers to make sure we can meet these outcomes
- Major programs are FBR, IFP, Triple P and MST and other Mental Health programs-we are working to see how these programs are working and what we need more or less of
- Racial justice work- working with Joyce James, a national consultant, developing strategies for Racial Justice
- Region 4 will have 5 sessions in which she will work with us on our data around children of color
- We had a planning call with her last week and will be meeting on January 12th from 9-4:00 in the Hartford office
- We are inviting members of the RAC to these 5 session
- Alice, April, Linda, Evelyn, Brenetta and Sabra all expressed interest in attending
- Feb agenda-training academy-Jodi Hill-Lilly/Tracy Davis
- Email any thoughts, ideas or what you would like to see on the agenda in 2017
 1. Josh Howroyd to come again with an update
 2. Jodi to come and talk about upcoming trainings
 3. Kinship

October Minutes

Motion made to accept the October minutes by Brenetta and 2nd by Evelyn. Minutes approved

Motion to adjourn by Alice and 2nd by Hector.

The Region 4 RAC full membership meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM

Submitted by,
Terry Hall