

Region 4 Advisory Council Voting Members Meeting

July 15, 2014
Hartford DCF Office
250 Hamilton Street
Hartford, CT

Voting Members Present: Becker, Sarah; Bryden, Liz; Caban-Hernandez, Janier; Farrell, Alice; Glynn, Hector; Jefferson, Tina (DCF); Johnson, Wayne (DCF); Kearney, Diane; Landolina, Beth (DCF); Lau, Christine (DCF); Lebron, Nick (DCF); Little, Lorna; Parkinson, Alana; Roundtree, Stone, Martha; White, Jeanette (DCF); Wilson, Beresford

Voting members absent: Blue, Terrence, Arciniegas, Milly, Perez, Salina, Stone, Martha, Wilson, Beresford, Johnson, Winston, Batsie, Deb, Brown, Sophia, Carroll, Tim, Farinella, Ivy, Hunter, Colinda, Robles, Josie, Regina; Schiessl, Kathy; Velez, Maritza (DCF)

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 primary purpose of the meeting was to elect an interim Co-Chair and to move recommendations to implementation.

- Meeting started at 12:15 no quorum for voting
- Regina will be taking a leave of absence from July through November
- Team is looking for an interim co chair
- No nominations were received
- Interim co chair is needed to prepare the agenda and organize the meetings
- There will be no meeting in August
- Ivy and Alice Farrell along with Chris Lau will all help to chair the meetings in Regina's absence
- Members have also offered to help with some of the tasks
- Members will help create the agenda
- There is money available to RAC for parental involvement
- SAC (Sate Advisory Committee) meeting is 51% parental involved
- \$1500 dollars is the allotted amount & must be used to promote family engagement
- 510c3 to administer with out a fee
- Application is May 31-September 1st, 2014
- Any volunteers to do the application
- Money could be used for food and gas cards for parents that attend from far away.
- 12 voting members are parents that would be eligible for gas cards
- Get the application in and then decides how to use the money
- Could be used for new recruitment of parents
- We should apply and bring the decision on spending to a full RAC membership
- Nick, Terrance, Deb and Janier will work together to create a proposal budget for the application

- A motion was made by Regina based on a conversation she had with Alice asking her to be interim chair person. 2nd by Alana-all in favor- yes. (Alice was in favor per conversation making this a quorum)
- Professional Development Committee brought back their proposal -supervision feedback tool
 - They changed the language to be strength based from what the members had suggested
 - The committee ran the tool by HR and got their feedback
 - They will no longer track the individual results each time it is administered.
 - Performance appraisals are in September so this will be done in October so as not to coincide
 - Staff satisfaction survey will be done Region wide not Statewide
 - Each Region can make adjustments to the survey
 - Each PM or SWS can take their own results and do what they would like with them
 - This tool should be presented as strength based
 - Case Planning CQI Team would like to get region wide results on the questions related to case planning portion
 - This is a professional development tool with no relation to HR
 - Results will come to Beth Landolina
 - Questions were asked: Who will be introducing the tool to staff, will it be management??
 - Tool will be tested in the Hartford office first with the SWS
 - Beth will oversee the survey and see how it work
 - PM & SWS need to discuss how it will be administered
 - SWS may be asking staff to complete the questions but they will be returned to Beth
 - Some SWS won't be interested in the feedback but some will
 - Part of being in a leadership role is to get constructive ideas for growth and development
 - If successful maybe this type of tool could be created for our families to give input
 - Finished survey tool will be sent to RAC voting members by email
 - Vote on this will also be conducted by email
 - Sept & Nov meetings are full membership RAC meeting, Oct & Dec will be voting members RAC meeting
 - Region 4 racial justice-operational strategies set up 4 CQI teams
 - Asking for each team to embed the racial justice work into their strategies
 - Held **two** meetings with Jen Agosti-looking at data for our region
 - Forming teams, doing exercises (Walk of Privilege & Who I am), and having conversations that the team would have with other 4 committees; Work force development, Community providers, disparity/disproportionally, community partnerships
 - DAT teams-2 weeks ago Color of Justice presentation- parents, providers-power point presentation and feedback
 - Met with Catholic Charities to see what population is immigrants and refugees in our region and what can we do to help
 - Ideas for next months agenda- Proposal for budget, CONNECT grant, new laws- pre-school, Raise the Grade, Adolescent policy

The Region 4 RAC voting members meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Submitted by,
Terry Hall