

Statewide Advisory Council Minutes

6/3/19

Attendees: Myke Halpin, Sarah Lockery, Dr. Regina Moeller, Dr. Elisabeth Cannata, Marie Mormile-Mehler, Debor Kelleher, Jennifer Nadeau, Dr. Damion Grasso, Suprena Shuler, Ken Mysogland

Guest: Ray Mancuso

Court Monitor's Overview

- Ray Mancuso meets consistently with DCF Administration.
- 5 measures are still not pre-certified:
 - o Investigations
 - o Case Planning
 - o Needs Met
 - o In-Home Visitation
 - o Caseload Size
- A review of investigations shows an increase in use of the Regional Resource Group and contact with fathers as well as non-custodial parents.
- The Monitor pulls 50-60 cases per quarter to determine case planning/needs met measure
- A review has commenced regarding in-home visitation:
 - o The measure is to visit all active household members twice a month
 - o A statistically valid sample will be 400 cases
- Discussion occurred regarding the role of the Statewide Advisory Council assisting with visitation and content of the visitation discussions. Ideas centered around:
 - o Tool for supervision
 - o Kansas has a tool for adolescents in care which could provide direction in the visit
 - o Possible adaptation of a tool for in-home families so they know exactly what the Department will be asking
- Court Monitor to be on future agendas to provide an update.

Commissioner's Office Updates

- Organizational update will be provided at the retreat at the end of the month.
- The legislative session as so far been favorable. At this point, a Child Welfare Oversight Committee is not being proposed.
- Youth Advisory Boards and Juvenile Review Boards have been added into the DCF budget and are proposed to be under the direction of the Department again.
- Foster Care month memorandum and highlights of the month will be forwarded.

Overview of the Retreat

- The focus of the retreat is enhancing the child welfare system based on the Commissioner's vision and guiding principles.
- Head table in the front of the room and tables which seat approximately 10 people will be arranged.
- DCF to provide name tags, sign in sheets and folders for agenda and handouts.

- Markers, easels, poster paper and pens to be supplied by DCF.
- Computer equipment is required and the DCF Academy will visit the facility to clarify equipment needs.
- 12 youth will be in attendance.
- Draft agenda with timeframes was discussed including presenters and SAC members who will lead topics and transitions during the day.
- A panel of other state agency Commissioners will take place in the afternoon.
- All finalized handouts will be sent to the SAC members ahead of the retreat.
- Discussion occurred regarding breakout sessions and what the Regional Advisory Council groups will discuss in the afternoon.

Child and Family Services Plan Update

- Ken Cabral is the lead for the Department.
- Plan to be submitted to the Federal Government by 7/1/19.
- The plan is being written to enhance the overall child welfare system by collaboration amongst all partners within the communities.

SAC Housekeeping and Schedule

- No meeting will occur in July and the next meeting is August 5th.

Regional Advisory Council Updates

- Region 1
 - o Reviewed retreat attendees, clarified expectations for members, logistics of meetings and other related matters.
- Region 2
 - o Convened agency executives from DCF, contracted providers, other partners and family members as a forum was requested to discuss RAC strategy moving forward. Discussed Family First Prevention Services Act.
- Region 3
 - o RAC leadership lead a teleconference with the Region's Systems Program Director, Assistant Bureau Chief, FAVOR and CONNECT staff to clarify invitees for retreat and subsequent planning.
- Region 4
 - o The Region's annual meeting occurred and a youth member has been voted to be a tri-chair. The Citizen's Review Panel (CRP) sub-committee provided an update. Two family members are attending the national CRP conference out of state and the trip is funded by the RAC.
- Region 5
 - o The RAC meets quarterly including twice a year at night to accommodate everyone's schedule. Discussions included; barriers to successful reporting to the Careline given call volume, Voluntary Services cases and Re-Entry requests not going through the Careline, client and foster parent survey, Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE) report from two years ago, acuity of Therapeutic Foster Care youth in homes has increased due to the closing of congregate care facilities, gaps in achieving

permanency, a potential professional foster parent model like in other states, FFPSA implications for the Region, substance abuse treatment for girls and youth being placed into homes where they do not speak the language of the foster parents.

- Region 6
 - o Discussions included; recent DCF Administration changes, opioid epidemic and the impact on youth, provided summary of CONNECT meeting, REACH project presentation, CAPTA issues and hospital's barriers to developing a plan of safe care, Beacon providers are very good resources with their electronic resource guide and membership recruitment through FAVOR.