

Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC)

Meeting Notes

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Hoover Building, 5th Floor - NE, Side 1

Members in attendance: Mindy Norwood, Janee Harvey, Kaci O'Day Goldstein, Mike McInroy, Jon Wetlaufer, Mike Arndt, and Tom Bouska

Members by phone: Mike Mitchell, Leta Hosier, Debbie Orduna, and Mary Macumber Schmidt

Members not in attendance: Wendy Rickman, Rick Venenga, Dawn Turner, and Jean Slaybaugh

Observers in attendance: Martha Munro, Coordinator for the Child Welfare Provider Training Academy (CWPTA)/Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa

Purpose of the Meeting:

The purpose of the meeting this month was to discuss membership terms, select a new Non-Coalition member, review the three-year strategic plan, discuss results of survey from annual statewide meeting, and provide general updates.

Summary of Meeting:

Youth & Shelter Services (YSS) recently joined the Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa so Andrew Allen stepped down as one of the two Non-Coalition members leaving a vacancy to be filled. The vacant term is effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2019. An email notification regarding the vacancy and application process was sent out to Non-Coalition organizations with current child welfare contracts on behalf of Wendy Rickman as the Child Welfare Division Administrator. Applications received were provided to the CWPC members for review and selection. Susan Smalley, Director of FSRP Services with Mid Iowa Family Therapy Clinic (MIFTC) was selected as the newest member of the CWPC.

The current strategic plan was reviewed but there is still work to be done on identifying leads, others to be involved, and timelines for some of the focus areas and tasks which will be updated as those areas are identified. It was determined that Janee, Deb, Mike Mitchell, and Mindy would come together via a conference call to begin filling in the blank columns. Once the columns were completed, the plan would be submitted to all CWPC members for review, modifications, and approval. As with all prior strategic plans, the current strategic plan will be posted to the CWPC webpage once completed/finalized and updated accordingly.

The annual statewide child welfare services meeting was held on June 1, 2016 from 10 – 3:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Northwest in Des Moines, Iowa. There were 106 participants signed up to attend from both DHS and child welfare service contractors. All participants were asked to sign in on the date of the meeting. The sign in showed that there were 99 confirmed participants in attendance to this meeting. At conclusion of the meeting, a survey was provided to all confirmed participants in order to solicit feedback on the meeting to determine usefulness of the meeting, including breakout sessions and the ability to network. Out of the 99 participants in attendance, 61 participated in the survey. Results of the survey were provided to members of the CWPC for review and discussion as we move forward with future annual meetings. The feedback received on the morning service area breakout sessions regarding the Six Principles of Partnership was positive and 80.7% of participants identified the session as useful to their work as a partner in the child welfare service array. The afternoon breakout sessions were also identified as useful in relation to understanding individual/organizational roles and opportunities to positively impact the child welfare service array, in considering how data informs and assists in determining the impact of interventions implemented in service delivery across the child welfare service array, and positively impact ability to partner across services and contracts within the child welfare service array. CWPC members also reviewed the individual comments noted within each of the survey questions. Based on the feedback received from the survey, the goal is to

continue with scheduling the statewide meeting. As we move forward, the planning committee members will review all feedback and determine the message that we want to get across during the next meeting, including what areas to cover for discussion in breakout sessions and/or through panel discussion. It was determined that planning for the next statewide meeting should begin sooner than later and that we need to begin with asking for volunteers to be on the 2017 planning committee. Some of the general discussion resulted in the idea of surveying potential attendees/participants as to what they would like to get out of the meeting; what would be their purpose in attending the meeting; consideration of discussion regarding evidence based practices; and sharing innovative practices across the state. During the morning service area breakout sessions, each respective service area completed a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) Analysis and captured responses on flip chart paper. All of the information recorded on the flip chart paper was collected and documented by service area. Once this committee identifies the most productive way of sharing the information, it will be shared with service areas to follow up during their local meetings, etc.

There was a report out on the local service area meetings that occur around the state. All shared that meetings occur with some occurring monthly and others quarterly or when the need arises. The local service area meetings continue to expand with invitations to accommodate more disciplines to be at the table for discussion, including Judges.

An update was provided on the SafeCare Effectiveness Research Project/Application process. Mid Iowa Family Therapy Clinic (MIFTC) began implementing SafeCare in Iowa on July 1, 2016 for both Community Care and FSRP Services in the Des Moines Service Area. Four Oaks, CFI, and SWIAFAC are in the process of scheduling orientation and training so they may begin implementing SafeCare in their respective contract areas. As more information becomes available, it will be shared.

Work Group Updates: (The following updates were provided by each of the co-chairs in attendance) - As of this meeting date, the active workgroups are as follows:

Training – Co-chairs are Mike Mitchell and Dawn Turner. No update provided this date. The joint training committee is scheduled for a conference call the first week in August. An update will be provided at the next CWPC meeting.

Child Welfare Services Workforce – Co-chairs are Mike McInroy and Debbie Orduna. No update provided this date as the workgroup members are in the process of scheduling the next meeting. An update will be provided at the next CWPC meeting.

Communication – Co-chairs are Janee Harvey and Rick Venenga. Rick is compiling the information received from workgroup members on the types of meetings held in each of the local service areas as well as state level meetings, who leads/facilitates those meetings, and who is invited to attend. Once this document is compiled, workgroup members will begin to identify key messages to share at these meetings.

Next steps:

1. The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for August 11, 2016.
2. Mike Mitchell, Janee Harvey, Debbie Orduna, and Mindy will work together to complete the blank columns within the plan to present to the CWPC members for review/approval.

Our Vision:

The combined experience and perspective of public and private agencies provide the best opportunity to reach our mutual goals: child safety, permanency, and well-being for Iowa's children and families. Collaboration and shared accountability will keep the focus on child welfare outcomes.