

Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC) Minutes

September 11, 2014

Members in attendance: Barb Gay, Julie Allison, Mary Macumber Schmidt, and Jon Wetlaufer

Members by phone: Dawn Turner, Holly Karr White, Pat Penning, Tom Bouska, Rick Venenga, and Jennifer Sievert

Members not in attendance: Nola Aalberts, Mike Mitchell, Wendy Rickman, and Mindy Norwood

Observers in attendance: Kristie Oliver, Executive Director, Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa

Membership

The Committee reviewed the non-coalition membership application from Mike Arndt, Youth Homes of Mid America. The motion was approved. The discussion about committee membership included reminders for the CWPC to continue to monitor the representation of private providers that are members of the Coalition for Children and Family Services and those that are not. It was noted that consideration of membership should include regional representation from across the state as well as service representation.

New member orientation for Holly, Jon, and Mike will be scheduled by Barb and Julie prior to the October CWPC meeting.

Strategic Planning

Julie recommended to CWPC that we wait on until late Fall 2014 to reach out for technical assistance for strategic planning, as the federal RFP for the technical assistance center is not final yet. Julie will continue to monitor and make the request for CWPC. Mary suggested that membership be a topic for discussion during the CWPC strategic planning.

Contract Procurement Timeline

Julie reported that DHS has not received any additional feedback on the timeline that has been shared. She reviewed the feedback that had been shared, with included that DHS has heard that the timeline was helpful, that the timeline helped clarify the activities that have to take place before and after the RFP.

The CWPC discussed the issue that fiscal year 2018 is still heavy with contracts, and that advance notice is helpful, but perhaps planning could be done now to reduce the number for fiscal year 2023. The members discussed the need for logical reasons to alter the service contracts rather than just making random moves to stagger the contracts. It was noted that this could also be a topic for the strategic planning of the CWPC.

Contract Alignment Workgroup

There was discussion to clarify that the only recommendations that were approved last month and provided to Wendy Rickman were on FSRP and Community Care. Members asked for clarity on the process after Wendy reviews the recommendations. Julie said DHS will take the recommendations into consideration for future RFPs but will not respond back to CWPC.

The CWPC accepted all of the recommendations of the workgroup for Foster Group Care, Recruitment and Retention, and Child Welfare Emergency Services. The members asked that the recommendations be put into a similar format of the first half of the recommendations for submission to DHS.

Related discussions during this review included the DHS placement stability review that was being held later in September 2014. The workgroup will be doing case reviews, looking for opportunities and strengths of the system.

Joint Training Committee

Dawn reported that the committee continues to work their charge to develop and implement the new worker training. She shared the 6 principles of partnership as a basis for the development of the training. The next step is to begin to implement in 2015. The group identified the 6 principles as something that should be included in the CWPC strategic planning. The group determined that the 6 principles should be a key focus of the 2015 statewide meeting for Contractors to form a key message about partnership and ask for their commitment to roll into their organization's staff orientation and training.

New Services Initiatives

Julie shared that the quarterly report on Differential Response will be sent out shortly by DHS. Mary will be attending a statewide meeting for Integrated Health Home providers in September 2014, and will report back to CWPC during the October meeting.

Follow-up Partner Survey

The CWPC will conduct the survey in March 2013, to line up with the 2015 statewide meeting. Work to develop the survey questions will begin in January 2015.

ROM

The public reporting is now available on the DHS website.