

Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC)

Meeting Notes

Thursday, May 12, 2016

Hoover Building, 1st Floor - SE, Side 1

Members in attendance: Mindy Norwood, Wendy Rickman, Janee Harvey, Mike Mitchell, Kaci O'Day Goldstein, Mike McInroy, Jon Wetlaufer, Andrew Allen, and Rick Venenga.

Members by phone: Tom Bouska, Debbie Orduna, Mary Macumber Schmidt, Dawn Turner, and Mike Arndt

Members not in attendance: Leta Hosier and Jean Slaybaugh

Observers in attendance: Kristie Oliver, Executive Director, 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, review the three-year strategic plan, and provide general updates.

Summary of Meeting:

All membership terms were confirmed and the following will continue with their final term:

- Tom Bouska (DHS)
- Dawn Turner (DHS)
- Andrew Allen (Non-Coalition)
- Mary Macumber Schmidt (Coalition)
- Rick Venenga (Coalition)

Mike Mitchell agreed to co-chair this committee for one more year.

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. As with all prior strategic plans, the current strategic plan will be posted to the CWPC webpage once completed/finalized and updated accordingly.

An update was provided by the members of the planning committee for the annual statewide child welfare services meeting. The confirmed date/time/location is June 1, 2016 from 10 – 3:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Northwest in Des Moines, Iowa. An email was sent to DHS and contractor staff with general topics for discussion and asked for feedback on whether to keep or modify the current topics as well as identify representatives from their respective organization. Once the agenda and materials are finalized, those will be sent out in advance of the meeting. At this time, contractors will be given the opportunity to change their representatives if they believe there is someone else more suited to attend based upon the agenda.

Wendy shared that legislative session is over and provided an update on some of the bills and next steps. The Preventing Sex Trafficking bill was signed with no changes. In reference to the Drug Endangered Children (DEC) bill, a workgroup has been established to report out at next session (similar to the workgroup created for Differential Response). This group will be facilitated by Dale Woolery with the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) and Janee is the identified child welfare policy member on this committee. Janee shared there is a prep call scheduled for June 2, 2016. There was a

brief discussion regarding current children's center rules and what new information may be incorporated in children's residential. There was discussion on TANF (temporary assistance for needy families) funds and utilization of such in relation to juvenile court and Decategorization. Budget meetings for FY 18-19 begin next week.

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.

An update was provided on the SafeCare Effectiveness Research Project/Application process. Mid Iowa Family Therapy Clinic (MIFTC) took the lead on completing the application process for their organization specific to Community Care and FSRP Services. Four Oaks, CFI, LSI, and SWIAFAC joined the application with MIFTC. Georgia State University is moving forward with Mid Iowa Family Therapy Clinic (MIFTC) to begin next steps on scheduling training for implementation of SafeCare in Iowa for both Community Care and FSRP Services. Georgia State will schedule conference calls individually with Four Oaks, CFI, LSI, and SWIAFAC later to gather additional information and refine applications. Although the initial intent was as a consortium of providers, it appears that Georgia State is willing to work with all five organizations individually if their applications are selected through this process. As 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. Mike shared that Rick Venenga and Josh Pedretti (LSI) facilitated training in the service area specific to the Six Principles of Partnership. The plan is to include follow up on the Six Principles of Partnership during the next annual statewide meeting which will follow the format presented in the local area. The format includes completion of a SWOT analysis (S-strengths, W-weaknesses, O-opportunities, T-threats).

Child Welfare Services Workforce – Co-chairs are Mike McInroy and Debbie Orduna. There has been some preliminary work completed on pulling staff qualifications for the following service contracts: Safety Plan/FSRP Services, Community Care, Foster Group Care, CWES, R&R, SAL, Aftercare, Drug Testing Collections, Parent Partners, and Family Team/Youth Transition Decision-Making (FTDM/YTDM) Meeting Facilitators. The requirements for the DHS Social Worker Series as established by Department of Administrative Services (DAS) were also provided. The staff qualifications by contract were entered into a spreadsheet to begin reviewing for similarities and differences. Additional meetings will be scheduled with the workgroup as they work through the outcomes of the charter.

The two co-chairs will set meetings and agendas as they begin working on identifying additional members and timelines for completion of identified outcomes for inclusion within the strategic plan.

Communication – Co-chairs are Janee Harvey and Rick Venenga. Rick provided the committee members with an update from the last workgroup meeting held on May 6, 2016. All current members of the workgroup were assigned the responsibility of identifying the types of meetings held in each of the local service areas as well as who leads those meetings and who is invited to attend the meetings. State level meetings will also be included on this list. Rick is the identified point person to collect this information and will put it all into one document. Once we identify the types and format of meetings, we will begin to identify key messages to share throughout all of these meetings. Additional meetings will be scheduled with the workgroup as they work through the outcomes of the charter.

The two co-chairs will set meetings and agendas as they begin working on identifying additional members and timelines for completion of identified outcomes for inclusion within the strategic plan.

Next steps:

1. The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for July 14, 2016.
 - a. The committee agreed to cancel the June meeting since all will be in attendance to the statewide meeting on June 1, 2016.
2. The planning committee will continue to meet to finalize the 2016 annual statewide meeting agenda and materials.
3. Update the strategic plan by the next meeting so the completed plan can be finalized and posted to the website.

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.