

Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, September 18, 2009
BMCW Region 1
Minutes
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Present: Pastor Archie Ivy, Cyrus Behroozi, Deborah Blanks, Linda Davis, David Hoffman, Saleem El-Amin, Judge Michael Skwierawski, Dr. Earnestine Willis, Mary Pat Skelly Bohn, Mary Sowinski representing John Chisholm, Colleen Ellingson, Janel Hines, Mike Boeder, Teri Zywicki, Matt Gebhardt, Wanda Montgomery, Cathy Swessel, Kathy Elertson

Minutes:

Minutes from August 14, 2009 meeting approved as corrected.

Cyrus Behroozi introduced new BMCW Director, Arlene Happach. Cyrus thanked Linda Davis, Pastor Ivy, Deborah Blanks, Mary Sowinski and Representative Grigsby for their help in the selection process.

Public Policy Committee – Youth Aging Out of Care, David Hoffman, Andre Olton and Mary Thomas.

Mary Thomas presented a letter regarding youth aging out of foster care on behalf of the Public Policy Committee. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the recommendations made in the letter.

OPQA/PRES

Judith Hermann and Melissa Wavelet presented an update on CAP 5 information. The Executive Committee had the opportunity for questions and comments:

- What qualifies as an “annual physical exam”?
- The Committee asked that outcomes of screenings be added to information provided.
- Need more specific information than “not achieved”.
- Committee would like to see the report from the child’s point of view (worker change rate).
- Who will be analyzing/integrating data?
- We need to develop a process to determine how to get questions to OPQA/PRES. (E-mail Linda Davis at davis.127@aol.com and she will forward questions).
- Consider advance distribution of these reports so they are available before the Partnership Council meetings.
- The Executive Committee would like to see a monthly report on the number of children each worker has.

H1N1

Kathy Elertson and Mark Ramion addressed issues related to the H1N1 virus:

- The state has been working on/tracking the virus since April.
- The Pandemic Plan is one of the means of looking at ways to prevent the spread and prepare for an outbreak of H1N1.

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- Meetings have been held with Nancy Buckwalter (DCF emergency preparedness contact person). At the present time, we are not sure how many doses of the vaccine will be needed, but there should be enough vaccine for everyone.
- Information in E-Wisacwis needs to be updated to ensure information regarding medical complications for children is current.

- The state is prepared to address the H1N1 virus and its workforce:
 - Streamlined communications will insure that information gets out to staff within a day.
 - Each agency has several layers of leadership in each position including first and second back ups.
 - In the event of a pandemic there will be a morning report to determine how many staff are able to report for work. Work is also being done to determine who can work from home and what they can do.

Office of the Milwaukee Ombudsman for Child Welfare

Pam Matthews presented the Ombudsman's report and the Committee discussed the use of systemic/case specific results in the report.

Accreditation and Strategic Planning, Linda Davis

- Jess McDonald and Connie Flower may have discussions with DCF/BMCW/Partnership Council about facilitating the Strategic Planning process.
- No agreements have yet been reached with anyone about the process.
- Need to be more focused and determine what priorities should be.
- We will be working in a small group to develop the process.
- Goal to create a document that will "go somewhere".

Indian Child Welfare Act, Cyrus Behroozi

Work to incorporate ICWA into Wisconsin law continues in the legislature. There are still some differences to be worked out, but it is anticipated that the bill will be moving into executive session to work on passage.

Mary Sowinski reported that the Bar Association has major portions with this bill and suggested that the Partnership Council vote against it. This will be an agenda item for the October meeting.

Child Death/Egregious Incident Report

Mary Pat Skelly Bohn presented the monthly report.

Updates

Arlene Happach will begin work as the new Director of Bureau of Milwaukee Child

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Welfare on October 5. The Bureau is now fully staffed at the executive level.

CEO Reports

CSSW

Cathy Swessel reported on recent CSSW activities.

- A third recruitment canvassing of Milwaukee neighborhoods. This canvassing project occurred in the 53214 zip code area.
- School supply drive.
- A reminder that Adoption Day is November 20.
- CSSW is working with Discovery World for a special program with foster children and families.

IFS, Teri Zwicky

- Focusing on CAP process and doing trainings with staff
- Meeting with Pam Matthews and the Office of the Milwaukee Ombudsman's Office for Child Welfare relating to issues at Region 3.
- Case review with children in Region 3 regarding trauma informed care.

CFCP, Wanda Montgomery

- Working with Office of the Milwaukee Ombudsman's office for training.
- Contracts for RFP's for Parent Assistant, Home management and Housing Assistance have been awarded.
- CFCP's second career fair was held on September 12.
- Working on ensuring that CFCP is adequately staffed and working to get to 10-11 cases per worker.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion made and carried, the Partnership Council Executive Committee will go into closed session, pursuant to sec. 19.85(1)(f), Stats., in that it may be considering the medical, social and personal histories of specific persons involved in child protection investigations.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Zellner