

Adoption & Out of Home Care Committee
Of the BMCW Partnership Council
Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2014

Present:

Sara Koeferl
Sara Scullen
Angela D'Fantis
Laura Goba
Christine Holmes
Coleen Ellingson
Arlene Happach

Recorder:

Rachael Kumm

- Call to order.
- Thank agency representatives for information shared at last meeting regarding out-of-home care (OHC) moves and the issues that initiated those moves.
- Continuing review of data on children ages 0-3yr. with 3 or more moves while in OHC.
 - o Foster families requesting removal of children with less than 30 days notice lead to higher rate of moves in order to find more-permanent, proper placement for the children.
 - o Adversarial system may lead to social workers being reluctant to present information to impact decisions to move children.
 - Building relationships with court partners.
 - Building trust with parents' attorneys.
 - Changing view of social workers in a court setting.
 - o Abilities of caregivers to meet high needs of children.
 - o Relative placement issues:
 - May be unable to meet needs of children with high needs.
 - Pre-placement visits to ensure proper placement with family members should take place if time permits.
 - Issues with physical discipline initiate investigations and movement of child is required during investigation.
 - May need more in-depth Initial Assessment (IA) and Ongoing Case Management (OCM) discussion with family members about not using physical discipline at beginning of placement.
- Committee Updates
 - o Judge Mary Triggiano joining Partnership Council
 - o Legislation set to change seat requirements of Partnership Council.

- Two seats set aside for Children's Services Network to change to Presiding Children's Court Judge and District Attorney (DA).
 - Coalition for Children Youth and Families (CCYF) Foster Parent Campaign preparation with Serve Marketing
- Tasks for next meeting:
 - SaintA (formerly Integrated Family Services) and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Children's Services (CHWCS) to report data of court-ordered placement moves to Sara Koefel.
 - Sara Koefel to review trends in court-ordered cases from October – December 2013 of multiple moves for children.