

Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council

Friday, January 31, 2014

BMCW 635 N. 26 St.

Minutes

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Davis, Colleen Ellingson, Dr. Earnestine Willis, State Senator Nikiya Harris, Mallory O'Brien B. Thomas Wanta, Steve Gilbertson, Maria Rodriguez, Judge Dwyer representing Judge Triggiano.

Linda Davis opened the meeting with introductions and the reading of the public notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

First, the notice of the meeting was published in the Friday, January 24, 2014 edition of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Second, the notice was faxed to the newspaper of record for the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin State Journal, on Friday, January 24, 2014. Finally, the notice was emailed to the Partnership Council stakeholders including any media who had requested such notice on Tuesday, January 21, 2014. This satisfies the requirements for notice under Wis. Stat. 19.84(1)(b).

MINUTES

Minutes from the November 22, 2103 meeting approved as read.

REHABILITATION REVIEW PROCESS, Jennifer Walkerhauser, Office of Legal Counsel
Jennifer Walkerhauser presented an overview of the Rehabilitation Review process.

The rehabilitation review is a process by which potential foster parents who have been barred from licensure under the Caregiver Law have the opportunity to demonstrate that they have been rehabilitated and are not likely to repeat the offense for which they have been barred. The explanation of the process and application information can be found on the internet at <http://wwlmad0p0728.dcfint.wisstate.us/rehab-review>.

MILWAUKEE DATA PROJECT, Dr. Mallory O'Brien, Homicide Review Commission
Dr. O'Brien presented information from the Milwaukee Data Hub Project which will create a hub to merge multiple data sets in order to inform program planning for many organizations and institutions in Milwaukee. The Council expressed their support for the project.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Arlene Happach

Initial Assessment Specialists

Today is graduation day for the first group of non-CSW Initial Assessment Specialists. The 29 graduates represent diverse educational and cultural backgrounds. Seven new trainees will be starting soon. We are getting closer to being fully staffed.

CARE4KIDS

- CARE4KIDS is a new Medicaid program that provides health care for children in out of home care.
- CARE4KIDS program went live on January 3, 2014.
- 75 children currently enrolled.

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- Currently only includes children coming into out of home care as of January 3. Children who came into out of home care before January 3 will be included in Phase 2.
- Mike Boeder will be taking charge of CARE4KIDS.

Citizen Review Panel

- At the January meeting of Citizen Review Panels, it was decided that the statewide project for 2014 will be Guardians ad Litem. Paula Brown will be the coordinator for this project. Anyone interested in participating should contact Arlene Happach.

2014 Focus

- New Initial Assessment Specialist Positions
- Placement Stability
- Youth services and young children.

Complaint Resolution Report

- The semi-annual complaint resolution report for July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 was distributed.

DSP

- Legislation is moving forward to extend out of home care to age 21 for students with an IEP.
- Post-reunification services are open to the balance of the state counties.

CARE4KIDS

- Seventy-five children in Milwaukee and 25 children from the other five counties are participating.
- A shout out to the Department of Health Services and Children's Hospital for working together strongly and collaboratively on this project.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Out of Home Care Committee

- The Out of Home Care Committee has been looking at data regarding children three years old and younger who have experienced three or more moves.
- What can we do to improve these numbers?
- Are people trained enough regarding behavior issues?

Critical Incident Committee

- The Committee reviews cases and makes recommendations.
- Thirty-four cases have been reviewed since 2011.
- Four more cases will be reviewed at the next meeting.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Maria Rodriguez distributed information regarding tax preparation help.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Anderson announced that Elizabeth Hudson has been named as the Director of the Office of Children's Mental Health.

Judge Triggiano is returning to the Partnership Council as the Presiding Children's Court Judge.

Memberships for Partnership council members Colleen Ellingson, Mallory O'Brien and Sue Gadacz are expiring. Deadline for reapplying is March 31.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Zellner