**Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council**

**Friday, April 13, 2018**

**DMCPS 635 N. 26 St.**

**Minutes – DRAFT**

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**Members Presen**t: (roll call not taken) Christine Holmes, Dr. Veneshia McKinney-Whitson, Judge Joe Donald, representative Jocasta Zamarripa, Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Senator Latonya Johnson, Victor Barnett, Dr. James Topitzes, Mallory O’Brien

**Notice of meeting**

First, the notice of the meeting was published in the Wednesday, April 11, 2018 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 Wednesday, April 11, 2018.The notice was emailed to the Partnership Council stakeholders including any media who had requested such notice on Thursday, April 11, 2017. Finally, the agenda was posted on the front door of the DMCPS building at 635 N. 26th St. on Wednesday, April 11, 2017.This satisfies the requirements for notice under Wis. Stat. 19.84(1)(b).

**Minutes**

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve minutes for the January 26, 2018 Partnership Council Meeting.

**Settlement Report – January – December 2017**

Hannah Knouse of the Bureau of Performance Management presented the Settlement Agreement Report for January-December 2017.

**Response – Eric Thompson, Plaintiff’s Counsel**

Regarding Safety and Well Being

* We are doing something right and we are doing it better
* Children are being seen more often
* Health and dental screens are being done in a timely manner.

Regarding Placement (90% of children in DMCPS custody within the reporting period shall have had three or fewer placements during the 36 calendar months of their current episode in custody.)

* This continues to be an area of challenge. We need to do better

Regarding Permanence

* Things are getting better – we no longer think kids are growing up in out of home care.
* Adoption levels are lowest since 2005 – what is preventing us from finalizing adoptions?
* Reunification numbers are also lower in some years.
* We are doing well regarding re-entry.

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Regarding systems (caseworkers, turnovers, caseloads)

* The number of cases workers with caseloads with greater than 15 cases per worker is going up and is cause for concern. This is not where we need to be.

**Agency Response**

**Saint A**

Lisa Vega discussed initiatives that are happening at Saint A.

* Working on stability in collaboration with CSSW
* Train the trainer
* Will be implementing staffing tools.
* Number of case managers has increased to 109.
* Recently held a lunch and learn regarding shared parenting.

**Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin- Community Services**

David Whalen provided an update for CHWCS

* Working on foster care changes to retain parents’ right to appeal.
* Developing a sanctuary model which focuses on effects of trauma on the workforce.
* Staff retention is now better than 2015.
* Seventy percent of staff have been on line for 24 months or longer.

**Announcements**

Chairperson Mark Mertens announced that he has submitted his resignation from the Partnership Council due to the time constraints related to his job duties.

**Health and Education Committee**

* It has been learned that there may be a second wave of grants for Opioid State Targeted Response Grants.
* Looking at increasing the number of people on the Educational Liaison contract.
* The next meeting of the Health and Education Committee meeting will be July 18.

**Critical Incident Committee** – no report.

**Division Updates**

* Administrator Robin Joseph discussed Family Drug Treatment Court.
* Administrator Joseph announced that Catherine McCoy is the new Permanency Consultant for DMCPS.

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**Systems Change Review**

Representatives from Collaborative Safety, LLC provided an informational briefing on best practices in systems change review for safety services organizations. DMCPS staff will be able to participate in the upcoming training regarding Systems Change Review.