

Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council Out-of-Home Care Committee Meeting

August 5, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Minutes- DRAFT

Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, the meeting was conducted by Zoom rather than in person. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Partnership Council members and other interested persons who receive advance notification of Partnership Council meetings.

Committee Members Present

Chairperson Judge Laura Crivello

Senator LaTonya Johnson

Notice of Meeting

The notice of the meeting was published on the DCF and DOA websites on August 2, 2021 and in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on August 2, 2021. Second, the notice was emailed to the newspaper of record for the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin State Journal, on August 2, 2021. The notice was emailed to the Partnership Council stakeholders including any media who had requested such notice July 30, 2021. Finally, the agenda was posted on the front door of the DMCPs building at 635 N. 26th St. on July 30, 2021. This satisfies the requirements for notice under Wis. Stat. 19.84(1)(b).

Because the meeting was conducted by Zoom, the notice included information about how members of the public could connect to the Zoom meeting and how to locate the agenda and other meeting materials posted on the DCF website.

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Chairperson Judge Crivello welcomed people to the meeting. Also appointed to the committee are Supervisor Sequanna Taylor and Representative LaTonya Johnson.

Judge Crivello provided information regarding public notice of the meeting to the committee.

Review and Approval of Past Minutes, Judge Laura Crivello, Chairperson

Judge Crivello reviewed that the meeting notes from the 5/6/2021 meeting had been sent out and asked for a motion to approve them. Senator Johnson made motion to approve the notes. Judge Crivello seconded the motion, and the minutes were finalized.

Committee Presentations

- Susanna Leggio, Children's Wisconsin – Community Services and Dwyane Marks SaintA
 - Presented on Placement Stability
- Oriana Carey, Coalition for Children, Youth, & Families
 - Presented on Out of Home Resource Strategies

Committee Member Remarks, Judge Laura Crivello, Chairperson

Bria Grant, Partnership Council Member and Executive Director at Unite MKE, asked how the system tracks youth with 25+ month in out-of-home care. It was discussed that if a youth is placed in a residential care center, they likely have 4+ placements as attempts are made to try to step down youth from different levels of care. It was also discussed that DMCPs tracks the number of placement moves at face value but that not all placement moves are bad moves. The example was given of stepping a youth down to a less restrictive level of care. The discussion also included pointing out that we ensure that residential placements are only occurring for those youth who have need of additional higher levels of treatment.

Bria Grant asked about engaging more youth in Wraparound programming. Dwayne Marks discussed that they work to determine the fitness of Wraparound for each youth they serve. He shared that not all youth are a good fit for this program.

Bria Grant asked about how we repurpose Wraparound to better support families. She discussed wanting to “work ourselves out of a job.” Bria Grant also asked about how do we make sure parents are receiving all of the support to have successful reunification. The group discussed ways that this can be done in the work done within child welfare.

Community Feedback, Judge Laura Crivello, Chairperson

It was discussed that Project THRIVE is a new program SaintA and Boys and Girls Club are partnering on. Judge Crivello indicated that she would reach out to schedule this. It was also discussed that CASA had presentation on how they are affecting and assisting our youth and families so it may be worthwhile to have them come to a future meeting.

Concluding Remarks

Judge Crivello adjourned the meeting.