

MILWAUKEE CHILD WELFARE PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

Friday, May 17, 2024

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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The meeting was conducted by Zoom. The Zoom meeting information was made available on the DCF DMCPs Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council webpage on May 10, 2024. (<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/mcps/partnership-council>).

Members Present: Ms. Libby Mueller, Judge Jane Carroll, Sally Yeldell, Sharain Anderson, Dr. Mallory O'Brien, Supervisor Willie Johnson Jr., Chairperson Linda Davis, Bria Grant, Kelly Pethke, Representative Darrin Madison, and Senator LaTonya Johnson.

Chairperson welcomed and introduced new Council member, Sharain Anderson. Sharain Anderson shared her professional background. She is currently overseeing health programming as an Associate Vice President for Enterprise for Advocates Hospital.

Notice of Meeting – Chairperson Linda Davis reviewed compliance with Open Meetings Law requirements.

First, the notice of the meeting was published on the DCF and DOA websites on May 8, 2024, and in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on May 13, 2024.

Second, the notice was emailed to the newspaper of record for the State of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin State Journal, on May 8, 2024.

The notice was emailed to the Partnership Council stakeholders including any media who had requested such notice on May 10, 2024.

Finally, the agenda was posted on the front door of the DMCPs building at 635 N. 26th St. on May 8, 2024.

This satisfies the requirements for notice under Wis. Stat. 19.84(1)(b).

Review and Approval of Past Minutes, Linda Davis, Chair

Chairperson Davis requested approval of the minutes from the February Partnership Council meeting. Kelly Pethke motioned to approve. Darrin Madison seconded. Unanimously passed.

Chairperson Davis provided updates regarding the child protective services training and orientation for members in June 2024, to look for a doodle poll. The next MCWPC meeting will be in person August 16, 2024, at DMCPs Offices at 635 N. 26th Street Milwaukee, WI.

Chairperson Davis gave updates on several projects relating to DMCPs that she is working on including a collaboration between the City of Milwaukee and CARE4KIDS are working to provide access to lead remediation for youth including out-of-home care youth and work on improving access to mental health services for youth.

Chairperson Davis's term and chairmanship ends July 1, 2024. This is her last Partnership Council meeting as a member and Chair. Chairperson Davis thanked all currently involved and in the past in Milwaukee Child Protective Services from local agencies and community members.

Nadya Perez-Reyes, Assistant Secretary from Department of Children and Families, extended gratitude from the Secretary Office. She shared a video from Emilie Amundson, Secretary of

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DCF. Secretary Amundson recognized and praised Chair Davis as being a fundamental leader in the creation of the Council and her dedication in serving several terms of being chairperson and a member over the years. Nadya Perez-Reyes shared the Governor Evers also extends his appreciation to Chairperson Davis.

Independent Monitoring Report (IMR) and Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services Response, Tyler Oettinger, Quality Review and Performance Analysis Section Manager, Bureau of Performance Management

Tyler Oettinger reported results on the Annual Independent Monitoring Report (IMR) including performance from January to December 2023. The presentation included information on Access, Initial Assessments, Safety, Permanency, Well-Being, and Workforce. Information on mandated reporters was added to the Access presentation. Full presentation is available at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/mcps/data>. Questions were received by Council members and responded to by DCF and contracted partner staff.

Administrator s Report, Sarah Henery, Administrator, Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

Sarah Henery shared her thoughts regarding the data points included in the IMR including highlighting a few areas to watch such as timeliness of initial assessments and maltreatment in out-of-home care.

She also shared agency updates including that the DMCPs has been invited to participate in the behavioral health policy lab along with the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Department of Children and Families. This will focus on youth with specific high needs.

As a Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) update, Sarah presented on some of the work on the agency's prevention-focused services. DMCPs is pleased with the Stronger Families contract. Community Advocates also recently received a contract award of Milwaukee Family Intervention Services (MFIS). These services are designed for older youth and offer a clinical component. Sarah shared her excitement that there are more children being served in voluntary kinship placements than the foster system. Work is still being done with Breaking Barriers and hoping to see more reduction in group care numbers.

Sarah Henery expressed her appreciation for Chairperson Davis's passion and engagement with her work with the organization.

View from the bench, Judge Jane Carroll, Presiding Judge, Milwaukee County Children's Court

Judge Jane Carroll expressed she will miss Chairperson's leadership. Judge Carroll reported Judge Marshall Murray is retiring May 28th. There will be a new appointee, John Remington, who will taking the ben May 20th. There will be another judicial rotation in August.

There will be limited judicial operations due to the Republican Convention; court will run through Children's Court building and some things will be done virtually from July 15 through July 19, 2024.

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On May 31st, there will be a Treatment Court Graduation Celebration.

MCWPC Subcommittees Updates

Libby Mueller reported out the Critical Incident Committee had a meeting and their next meeting will be June 27. One thing discussed is the ability for people to ask for cases that do not make the standards for Critical Incident. These can be submitted to the chair and DMCPs with a reason to request the staffing. The final decision will be made by Chair and DMCPs if the case moves to committee for review. The committee will vote on it and staff in a meeting after that.

Lee Johnson, Access Section Manager at DMCPs, reported for the Prevention Committee because Carmen Pitre had to leave early. He shared the first meeting was May 16 where there was a presentation and discussion around sharing community resources at the point of Access at DMCPs. They spoke about prevention efforts occurring in community now and placing their focus on preventing neglect. September 19, 2024, is the Committee's next meeting and there will be a meeting in December.

Judge Jane Carroll reported out the Teen Care Committee and shared their inaugural meeting was on May 1, 2024. There was a great turnout in the meeting and a lot of interest shown during discussions.

Chairperson Davis reminded MCWPC members they can attend any committee meeting. For Critical Incident meetings, there is a process to attend because of the confidential information shared.

Community Input

No community input.

Concluding Remarks, Linda Davis, Chair

Chairperson Davis thanked everyone for all the support and for all the work that they are doing. She encouraged everyone to continue going forth and shared she will still be working in the background.

Adjourn