

Region 4 Advisory Council

Voting Members

June 16, 2015
Hartford DCF Office
250 Hamilton Street
Hartford, CT

Members Present: Deb Bastie, Amanda Beane (DCF) Sarah Becker, Liz Bryden, Alice Farell , (DCF) Wayne Johnson (DCF), Giselle Jacobs, Diane Kearney, Beth Landolina (DCF) Nick Lebron. Lorna Little, Donna Maitland-Ward (DCF), Alana Parkinson, Regina Roundtree, Maritza Velez (DCF), Jeanette, White (DCF),

Voting Members Absent: Blue, Terrance; Brown, Sophia; Caban-Hernandez, Janier; Carroll, Tim; Glynn, Hector; Hunter, Colinda; Johnson, Winston; Perez, Selena; Robles, Josie; Schiessl, Kathy; Wilson, Beresford;

The DCF Region 4 RAC meeting was held at the Hartford DCF office from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM. This meeting is for the full membership & DCF Staff.

Overview of Meeting

The overview of the meeting was to vote on chair and co-chair positions and to look at the DCF performance data.

Introductions

Minutes review

- Motion to accept the minutes from April, 2015 by Alana Parkinson
- 2nd by Nick Lebron-all in favor

DCF Update

- Change in Regional Management team-Treena Mazzotta is no longer the QI Program Manager (PM)-she has been promoted
- Natalia Liriano currently the FASU PM will take over Treena's position
- Charlette Scott will take over as the FASU PM leaving her position open
- Al Johnson retired, his position is being filled by Lisa Zuccaro former ACR PM
- Eric Burnell former New Britain SWS will be the new ACR PM

DCF Performance data-handout given

- The number of children in care has declined-one of DCF's goals
- Relative & Special Study is something we are working to increase
- Congregate Care-the goal is to decrease
- Decrease in the number of entries into care is because of the Considered Removal process
- Children served in their homes-are these children's needs being met?
- Report that measures the In-Home Cases-% of high risk, % that need legal involvement and % of low risk that are ready to be closed
- Does DCF have the number of all children served not just the CIP children?
- 0-3 children-In Home -is increasing
- DCF has asked for a report to capture this information-right now the data is not available
- Going forward RAC could have a data agenda
- We never see the population that DCF prevents from coming into care
- Systems of prevention, FAR and voluntary services
- 4 Regions of Systems of Care could get this information
- Where are the CIP children going? Foster Care, Relative Care, Special Study or Congregate Care
- Great job by DCF-Region 4 leads in low number of children coming into care
- OPPLA=children other than TOG, Reunification or Adoption
- OPPLA-legal permanency
- Region 4 20.9% =Foster Care and 79.1% are TOG, Reunification and adoptions
- Regions doing well should share their practice-this is happening
- DCF is meeting on Permanency practices
- There is a gray area-children not being adopted but there is a strong connection
- The 20.9 % with OPPLA goal is the population we are focusing on
- Open adoptions are an option
- Kinship care-is there an increase in support for Kinship care?
- Caregivers support-CHR has the contract for this
- Disproportionality data in the handout
- DCF can bring more data to the meetings-more to come

Membership

- 20 voting members, 16 voted, 10 by email
- Nick Lebron and Alice Farrell voted in as co-chairs of the RAC
- Alana Parkinson was a runner up
- Next month will be the vote for voting members
- New Co-chairs will facilitate the vote
- Voting membership is a 3 year term

SAC Representative

- State Advisory Council (SAC)-we have one slot
- SAC meets the first Monday of the month at Value Options in Rocky Hill
- New leadership at the SAC
- Each Regional has a SAC member
- If interested, please see Chris Lau-she has the form that needs to be completed
- We need to email Susan Smith as to who our new SAC representative will be
- Alana Parkinson will be the Region 4 SAC member

Agenda for SFY 2015/2016

- Data will be a regular part of the meetings
- Prevention and CIP
- RAC, SAC and Regional Systems of Care to connect with each other and DCF to address our issues and preventative info not just focus on Behavioral Health
- RAC to foster the connections between DCF SW and providers
- Maybe a system can be created for cases closing to connect parents with supports
- System of Care forum for people to talk at the beginning
- Maybe the 1st 15 minutes of the RAC meeting could be an open forum
- Re-Entry-Doug Taylor will present
- Maybe look at the discharge plans

Motion to adjourn by Nick Lebron, 2nd by Alana Parkinson

The Region 4 RAC full membership meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM

Submitted by,
Terry Hall