

Region 3 Regional Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2016

In Attendance:

Banton, Kym
Calvert, Rick
DeWitt, Lisa
DiMauro, Nancy
DiPietro, Terri
Forbes, Samantha

Grant, Donna
Grivois, Lorna
Halpin, Myke
Jacaruso, Jon
Kalisher, Allon
Marti, Bill

Rein, Wendy
Reyes, Loida
Sedlock-Reider, Lisa
Taylor, Jillian
Terry, Shirley

Welcome and Introductions

Review of March Minutes

Motion made and seconded to accept the March 7, 2016 minutes.

Chair Report

- **FAB**

Lorna Grivois

The group has agreed to focus on developing rights for transitioning youth at the next quarterly meeting. The date of the next meeting was discussed and the many conflicts with peoples schedules over the next few months. It was decided to table this until the fall.

Jon gave an update at the RAC/FAB about ISS. The difficulty of arranging the ISS meetings due to scheduling conflicts was also discussed. Nancy will continue to try to form a monthly ISS meeting.

Nancy discussed PCT (Priority Case Teaming) meetings that are occurring weekly in each region 3 office which includes providers that are currently involved with the child or have recent knowledge of that child. These meetings assist in the prevention of children being placed in congregate care. Communication to providers on PCT's being held was discussed.

Donna asked that all of the DCF meetings held and what their purposes are be put on the agenda for the next RAC meeting.

- **SAC**

Sam announced that the SAC met in April. Sara Lourie from DCF Young Adult Services presented on referrals to Young Adult Services. CFSR (Child and Family Service Reviews) was also discussed. The next SAC meeting is June 6, 2016.

Sara Lourie will come to the next RAC meeting in June to present on region 3 referrals. Elizabeth Duryea will also attend to discuss Family Based Recovery. The SAC also had a separate special breakout meeting to discuss by-laws.

Child and Family Services Review

CFSR Update

- AK provided overview of review process with highlight on changes from Round 1 to Round 3. Highlights of this round include: state elected to conduct its own review, feds certified the process. Feds will run stakeholder interviews including provider group. Wendy Rein, UCFS, will participate as Region 3 representative on the provider group. Feds will evaluate child welfare system and expect the state to develop a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) addressing rated areas that are deemed not to be in substantial conformity.
- Kym Banton- can get families for table
- Rick C: Findings are \$ issues and others are not; does the federal government impact programs, policies, funding as a result?

Requested Topics, Roundtable Updates & Discussion (ISS, CONNECT, Communication forms, DCF Directors updates, and any/all others)

Allon reminded the group that the chairs are keeping notes on the meeting to inform the SAC of what is being discussed at this table.

- **CNP**

Kym reported that Community Network Programs are now fully staffed. This is a new program for community transition with the target being non DCF families. Windham, New London and Middlesex counties have 3 community based clinical case managers to provide assessment and early intervention planning for children and youth ages 0-18 for an average length of involvement of 3 months. The assessment and care planning for community children and families uses the wrap around process. Children and youth beginning to experience an increase of behaviors negatively impacting their functioning in the home, school, or community can benefit from CNP.

Child Frist, JRB's, Head Start and police departments are some of the referral sources however anyone in the community including self-referrals by parents, caregivers or natural supports can refer.

Since the third quarter they have enrolled 21 into the program and had 72 separate face to face contacts.

Sam would like to provide this information to the SAC about inter-generational work that should be looked at as a recommendation.

- **ISS**

First effort was low attended by providers and family that planned to participate (by call) did not. Some concern that final invite did not make it to all intended recipients. Nancy discussed value of combining with PCTs.

- 2 presentations in 90 minutes weekly; effective process to divert kids from higher levels of care
- Cases in which people are feeling stuck; interventions have consistently failed (same notion as desired for ISS)
- Providers do come to PCTs - those that have been or currently working with family

- Could evolve the PCTs by: Developing a distribution list of providers and family advocates to invite
- Consider family representation at each
- Have 1 meeting/month that would be designated as ISS specific
- Determine a core community group that would be "standing" for ISS in each office
- Could schedule ahead for select months
- Want providers to have the opportunity to request case for presentation
- Target - kids who have had multiple ED visits, those with multiple service attempts, those that re-encounter DCF

Opioid Epidemic

There have been several forums throughout the region lately. Donna discussed that the taskforce which includes people from the community, providers, legislators, Beacon Health will be meeting on May 19, 2016 at QVCC at 6:00 to discuss disconnect of services.

Congressman Courtney has proposed a bill for emergency funding and is aggressively seeking stories of families.

Sam announced that there will be a Narcan training at the Catchment Area Council to provide an overview on opioid addiction and administering NARCAN from 4:00-6:00, Sam will send out the information to the group.

Allon discussed racial disparity and populations served in the region. He has found a glaring disparity in outcomes for kids of color. There is a need for geographic analysis to see where these issues are happening.

State Budget

Donna asked Allon to discuss DCF budget and staff reductions, he indicated that the reductions are almost exclusively at CJTS.

Rick discussed how to deal with the cuts to the OPCC's across the state.

Jillian offered Beacon's help with the DDS referral process.

Wendy discussed the issue of lack of sufficiency in services for high end DDS clients.

Child and Family Agency

Rick discussed potentially exciting partnerships with Church of the City of New London which has become a walk in community center. Child and Family Agency is looking to partner with them and embed some staff there with the strategy of finding out where people are already going and provide services to them where they would be anyway.

New London public schools are in discussions to extend their welcome center where there is legal assistance and immigration support.

Sam discussed recent information she came upon about placing social workers and counselors in public libraries.

Beacon Health Options – CT BHP

Sam discussed Beacon looking at data of youth utilizing ED's. They are trying to get as many people as possible to do data collection from hospitals to find out who is referring them, and where they are coming from and what are chief complaints. Their next meeting is on June 3, 2016.

RAC

The decision made to no longer hold meetings in July and August.

Next RAC Meeting June 2, 2016