

STATEWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) to DCF

The duties of the SAC members are:

1. To promote collaboration in regards to the Strategic Plan for youth, family and provider involvement
2. To gather information about “asks” identified by the DCF from RACS and other interested parties
3. To attend SAC meetings and present concerns and feedback about the DCF
4. To advocate for racial justice, child welfare and behavioral health for all children in CT

AGENDA: November 1, 2021

Meetings are from 9:30-12:00, 1st Monday of the month

1. 9:30 Introductions

2. 9:30-10:30 Regional Advisory Councils and Regional System Development

- a. RAC reports
- b. RAC and System Development
 - i. October-
 1. Review of RAC assessment tool and revise as desired.
 2. RACs and System PDs will then use this tool during the month of November and December and assess their own RAC. Once completed each RAC will have a list of its strengths
 - ii. January and February- RACS will share their strengths with each other

3. Minutes

4. Membership

- a. PENDING SAC APPOINTMENTS:
 - i. Recommended for appointment from Governor: Christopher Scott, Samaris Rose-Smith, Deb Kelleher, Elisabeth Cannata, Rachael Levine
 - ii. Received confirmation of their appointments: Sarah Lockery, Stephanie Cotton
- b. VACANCIES:
 - i. CT Licensed Healthcare provider
 - ii. Adult caregiver of youth involved with services (behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice)- TWO VACANCIES

5. SAC Member Advisement

6. SAC Legislation Committee Report: Sammi

7. SAC Budget Balance: \$15,196.26

Anticipated Expenses for June 29, 2022 SAC Retreat: \$10,207.50

- \$2,987.50 Jerry Milner Fees (estimated) Airfare, hotel, travel, transportation, speaker fees
- \$2000.00 Stipends 6 RACS x 6 people = 36 + 4 SAC or statewide guests= 40 x \$50= \$2000
- \$5220.00 \$29 pp x \$150 people = \$4350 + \$870 tip= \$5220.00

Legislation Committee Chair- SAC needs to vote on how to recognize the co-chairs

8. DCF Report-

- a. Racial Justice
- b. Discussion of any items as required by statute- please note the following upcoming topic

- **November**- Issue any reports it deems necessary to the Governor and the Commissioner of Children and Families (**begin draft of our annual report**)
- **December**- Issue any reports it deems necessary to the Governor and the Commissioner of Children and Families (**review and revise annual report**)

c. DCF requested topics/updates

- Reduction of children in out of home placement
- Achievement of Needs Met and In-Home Visitation Consent Decree Outcome Measures
- Children's Behavioral Health Forums at the Legislature
- Fathers
- "National Adoption Month" and "Home for the Holidays" themes

d. Assess need for closed session

9. Retreat Planning

- a. Chris Scott, Sarah Lockery, Jerry Milner

What:

- The SAC retreat will focus on the implementation of Family First in CT

Why:

- To continue the inclusive process (DCF, youth, families, providers, State agencies) experienced during the development phase of the plan into the implementation phase of the plan
- To build partnership and trust
- To identify realistic goals and objectives for the next year

When:

- June 29, 2022

Where:

- Cascade, banquet hall, Hamden CT

Who:

- SAC members
- RAC members
- DCF Central Office staff
- Youth
- Guests who are positioned to make change

Agenda: (TENTATIVE)

- 8:45-9:30 Registration, networking, breakfast
- 9:30 SAC Welcome
- 9:35-10:30 DCF presentation: Overview of the CT Family First Plan
- 10:30-11:30 Jerry's description of the ideal Family First
- 11:30- 11:45 BREAK
- 11:45- 12:45 Small group discussions amongst RACs and Statewide officials about how each measures-up to the ideal. Resist talking about what to do next- stay focused on assessing.
- 12:45- 1:30 LUNCH
- 1:30-3:30 Jerry facilitation-
 - Groups report their assessments

- Large group discussion: Based on the assessments- what are some realistic goals for the next 12 months
- How will CT work on these goals- who will do what?
- How will we hold ourselves accountable?
- 3:30-4:00 Closing
 - Fun activity
 - Thank you for coming

10. New Assignments