

Missouri State Foster Care & Adoption Board
Governor's Building, Room 315
200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101
Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Introductions/Meeting Information – Dana Lopez

Board Members in attendance: Dana Lopez, Crissy Mayberry, Craig Stevenson,

CD: Lauren Masterson, Melissa Selsor,

Guests: DeAnna Alonso, Rhiannon Franklin, Courtnie Scott-Cammarata, Renae Beushausen, Julie Murray, Kenya Willis, Kate Watson, Lori Masek, Candice Nahler, Pamela Foster, Joe Yearn, Kathy Haddar, Kelly Kuda, JoDene Bogart

Chapter 1 Revisions to CWM

The primary changes defined the types of recruitment to include child specific and general. It provides general clarification and removed repetitive information. There is added information that provides clarification regarding the responses to inquiries. Information regarding some background material was moved. Information regarding centralized intake processes and localized intake processes was added. They are moving towards a standardize inquiry packet. The completion of Chapter 1 was a way to lay the foundation for Chapter 2.

CS-45 for unlicensed homes –

Reminders that staff have the ability to utilize waivers for unlicensed home and families. Information should be gathered on the CS-45. More information to come out in January. This will help to ensure that when we look at relatives we look at what is a placement requirement vs. licensure requirement. Additionally help front staff to have the conversation about the family's choice and to help provide guidance for options to become licensed. This is assist CD staff to be able to provide information about what benefits are available and not available to a non-licensed family. Families should understand what is and is not included post permanency. Regarding waivers, they are non-safety issued waivers which include things like the age of the relative, sleeping requirements if there are no additional concerns, and health requirements. There are concerns with consistency with how criminal history is reviewed and impacts placement decisions. Recently some guidance was sent out to team members regarding this. There is a relative caregiver flyer that should be reviewed.

10:30 am HB 429 Lauren

Reminder that foster parents can claim a tax deduction up to 5K. The children have to be in the home for a minimum of 6 months. Less than 6 months is prorated. The Department of Revenue makes the determination. A letter is going to go out to all foster families. It will say how many days and months children have been placed. Families will be provided a letter in January and February. The letter will provide information on who to contact with questions. Discussion was held with it would be beneficial for Resource Centers to provide some tax assistance through a tax specialist.

10:40 am LGBTQ+ Sleeping Arrangements Lauren

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This will go back on the agenda in March. But this is a topic that is being discussed and looked into further.

10:50 am CFSR Jodene Bogart

Jodene provided a power point regarding Child and Family Services Review. She shared information regarding the review process. It ensures federal requires occur and determine what is happening with children and family. There are 36 items total. 1st 18 focus on kids and families and come from case review. Provides statewide assessment case level review and interviews with key stakeholders and partners. The assessment gives opportunity to evaluate the child welfare system. Review will be next July 24th 28th. Interviews will occur with children and families. The Children's Bureau provider CFSR final reports based on data profile statewide assessment stakeholder interviews and CFSR Case Reviews. This group was asked to provide feedback to the draft section and provide opinions to the survey. Suggestions include LGBTQIA+ in the cultural differences and to include religion or ethnicity. Jodene asked to encourage foster parents to participate in the surveys. On March 27th she will be asking representatives of child welfare groups their willingness to participate and she will need foster/relative providers to participate.

11:00 am New Curriculum Updates Melissa

The SCRT has come up with 10 session and a total of 28 hours. The website was shared and there is a newsletter that will detail information regarding the curriculum. There will be information on what it looks like to be hotline, information about ambassadors and mentors. They are sharing information about payment, direct deposit, respite vs. babysitting, etc. This will be in the last section of the training. Also information about mileage, clothing allowance, in-service training, visits, court, and open discussion, both foster and adoptive parents will be included in the curriculum. 2nd hand smoke is included, mental health inform consent, psychotropic medication trainings are included. CPR updates include trainees sharing their certificate that they already obtained, attend with contracted CPR provider, participate in the 1 hour online Pre- CPR/ First Aid and then within 90 days become certified. Instructor lead training and virtual and hybrid are all options. Foster parent bill of rights and prudent parenting training are required in the first 45 days. NTDC roles out Jan 1 but April or after new training should be implemented. Discussed the new competencies for MO CARES. Chapter of the CWM will be updated at the end of the year.

11:30 am Child Care Subsidy Jordanna Boyd

Updates regarding Child Care subsidy: They are working to address concerns of Child Care Subsidy. Including looking at ways in which somethings can be simplified. 98 percent of all kids under 4 where in authorized child care. The new expansion will automatically qualify providers for full time child care for kids under 4. The committee is looking at ways in which to simplify the application process for children in protective services. There are amendments with out of state providers and it clear that some enhancement is needed to address these providers. CD will

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partner with the out of state providers to be able to allow subsidy recipients to continue to receive subsidized child care through out of state providers. A new child care system is coming. Parents will have an online portal to be able to apply. Foster parents will have access to the portal directly and they will be able to access their own child care information. This will take it out of the workers responsibility. Work authorizations will no longer need to be provided. It will ask how much and why the child care is needed. Children under 4 get full time no matter what, some verification is needed and the family support team approves the need. Any discrepancies should be discussed at the family support team. There are still updated wording that is needed and will be shared later.

12:00 pm Lunch

12:20 pm Residential Dawn Rector

Show Me Healthy Kids will be part of the team discussions before residential placement is identified. The care manager will be part of the discussion with the team in order to help identify the least restrictive placement. Beginning January 2023, when a child is identified for residential care SMHK will assist in determining medical necessity. The child will have to meet certain criteria in order to be placed in res care. Adoption Subsidy recipients will work with subsidy worker and SMHK will be contacted for assistance. There will be an assessment to help determine if a child needs residential. Previously, we were not a managed care state. Therefore, custody diversion or placing a youth in care were the only ways to access those services. Hawthorne was a referral through the department of Health. Due to the pandemic and worker shortage facilities do not have the staff to bring in the number of children needing services. As a state we are starting to increase resources. The Family First Fed Act includes mandates around the independent assessment. Managed care SMHK is the contract and Home State was awarded that contract. The specialty plan is the Residential piece. SMHK pays for the rehab. CD pays the room and board. Determining the medical necessity includes the determination on the rehabilitation including the level care. CD has contracts and designation for 3 types of residential care. Regular – they are contracted with the state of MO, but they are not QRTP A Qualified Residential Treatment Program. There is certain criteria they have to meet including: they have to be accredited, trauma based cognitive understanding and have nursing available. There are a total of 6 requirements. PRTF (psychiatric residential treatment program) is a higher level of care than QRTP. Not contracted or licensed through CD. They are contracted through Division of Health and Senior Services. There are 4 in MO and payment is approved MO healthnet. They have a different set of criteria that has to be met. These can be accessed by any parent, adoption included, as long as they meet the criteria determined by the facility and Medicaid. Medical necessity includes behavioral and mental health, improvement of the client, and their overall needs.

<https://dss.mo.gov/provider-services/children/residential-program/licensed/index.htm>

12:50 pm Show Me Healthy Update Craig

October first is when the SMHK plan began which also included TFC and Residential. Rehabilitation coverage began October 1, 2022. The Care Managers are working to be part of

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more conversations and apart of meetings to ensure that TFC and Residential placements are appropriate and least restrictive. Resource Families and Case Management teams will be updated regarding the Care Managers role and where the can support the needs of the children. They will be meeting regarding residential needs weekly and looking at the needs. They are still in conversation around adoptive parent resources and the gap of residential care knowledge, the care manager team will walk alongside the adoptive family. Will provide families with resources and help locating the best provider and walking through the assessment processes with DMH. Regarding TFC, they are working through those processes. They are still working out contract and payment issues. They are working out things like after care respite and home visits. Those things are funded differently. The residential payment specialists are assisting with correcting some of the payment error issues.

1:10 pm

Redesign, Change Innovations

Melissa

Change Innovations is an agency that is working with the Children's Division to determine what changes can be made to build a better approach to the work to help simplify processes. There are a lot of ideas out and they will meet again. Change Innovations will help the Division identify and work through the needed changes. Some examples of ideas include: looking at moving to virtual visits every other visit for licensing. This visits would remain quarterly visits. Does not prevent in person visits or additional visits when necessary. There may be a virtual option quarterly. If there are safety concerns an in person visit should occur. Virtual visits shouldn't occur until after the 1st year of licensure. They are also looking at respite. And creating a foster/respite track

2023 Meeting Dates

Tuesday, March 7th

Tuesday, June 6th

Tuesday, September 5th

Tuesday, December 5th