

**Child Welfare Partners Committee (CWPC)**  
**Meeting Notes**  
March 14, 2024  
In Person/Zoom Meeting

**Members in attendance:** Kristie Oliver, Chris Koeplin, Janee Harvey, Jana Rhodes, Natalie Clapp, Linda Dettmann, Mary Beth O'Neill, Emily Blomme, Nicki Enderle

**Members not in attendance:** Lori Frick, Chad Jensen, Mylene Wanatee

**Guest:** Steve Sherman

**Summary of Meeting:**

**Residential Intercept Meetings**

The goal of these meetings is to help move kids from shelter but also give QRTP and PMIC providers a space to learn about the youth. The group could use similar information from the QRTP Exchange. They would meet 2-3 times a week for ½ hour to an hour. The meetings would be helpful for shelter staff to have a better timeframe on when the youth will be leaving. Many of the youth sitting in shelter are waiting on PMIC beds. These meetings would help to have additional conversation on youth who may be presenting very poorly on paper.

Next Steps:

- Chris K. in coordination with the provider community will put together a proposal/tentative schedule to be sent to HHS in 2 weeks.
- HHS will handle the logistics of setting up the meetings.
- Jana Rhodes will make a recommendation on which HHS staff should be included in the meetings (ie. SWCM, SWCM Supervisor, SW4).

**CPS External Town Halls**

Janee shared that Director Garcia would like HHS CPS leadership to hold monthly external Town Halls. They will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday every month in the evening. The first one is scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup>. Janee will be co-leading with Lori Frick. The expectation is that SAMs and SWAs will also be involved. The Town Halls will be recorded and posted online. The goal is to increase bi-directional communication. The Town Halls will be an hour in length with 45 minutes of presentation, leaving 15 minutes for Q&A.

**CWPC Membership**

CWPC membership was discussed. The committee is looking at expanding and possibly bringing in someone from Medicaid. The topic was tabled until next month. Providers and HHS will bring forth their ideas at the next meeting.

**SafeCare as a stand-alone service**

Janee discussed that the utilization of SafeCare services is very low. HHS is looking at how we can increase referrals. If it is a stand-alone service, HHS will be able to draw down more IV-E dollars and pay provider staff more for the service. HHS is also looking at offering it as a preventative service. FCS providers would like to have a facilitated conversation with Kristin Konchalski, Interim Bureau Chief and Sara Buis, FCS Program Manager.

**Data related to HHS/JCS bed needs for FY 25**

Janee shared that there has been no conversation about reducing the number of beds. HHS would like to know what it would take to get more female beds. There was discussion around whether girls cost more to care for and should female beds be paid at a higher rate.

**Lavendar Bunnies**

HHS has received a large donation of stuffed lavender bunnies for foster children. Child Welfare Providers will be picking up the bunnies from the Hoover building for distribution to kids in foster care on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, April 12, 2024 -1:00 PM- 3:00 PM via Zoom