

MINUTES
 PROVIDER ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: July 21, 2015	Meeting Time: 1:03 p.m.
Location: Pressley Ridge 25 N. Caroline Street Baltimore, MD 21231	Meeting Adjourned: 2:45 p.m.

Participants:

Member	Present	Absent	Member	Present	Absent
Paul Brylske, Kennedy Krieger Institute	X		Kevin Drumheller, ARC Northern Chesapeake	X	
Carrie Knebel, CONCERN	X		Coni Grant, Pressley Ridge	X	
Darlene Dockins, MENTOR	X		Walter McNeil, Challengers Independent Living, Inc.	X	
Kevin Keegan, Catholic Charities	X		Mark Mittelman, New Pathways	X	
Zachery Dingle Jumoke, Inc.	X		Norman Richard, Martin Pollack Project	X	
Ralph Hertges, Brook Lane Health Services, Inc.		X	Joe Leshko, Arrow Project, Inc.		X

Steve Howe, Children's Guild	X		Chloe Perez, Hearts and Homes for Youth	X	
Michele Wyman, Good Shepherd Services	X				
Guest/Other Organizations Participants					
Darlene Ham, DHR	X		Gregory James, Deputy Secretary of Operations, DHR	X	
Lynn Wisner, DHR		X	Tennille Thomas, DHR	X	
Shannon McRae, DHR	X		Anita Wilkins, DHR	X	
Joel Lightfoot, ARC NCR	X		Mark Lardner, DHR	X	
Jennifer McGlothlin-Renault, Arrow Child and Family Ministries	X		Maisha Davis, Arrow Project, Inc.	X	
Tricia , Building Families	X		Donna McCarter, Neighbor to Family	X	
Nellie Power, The ARC	X		Laura Mueller, Win Family	X	
Damon Thompson, Pressley Ridge	X		Courtney Wiggins, United States Fellowship, Inc.	X	
Laurie Anne Spagnola, Board of Child Care	X		Anthony Wilson, Woodbourne	X	
Bridget Roth, The ARC Baltimore	X		Lauren Greenwald, Good Shepherd Services	X	
Roberta Rinker, National Center for Children and Families	X		Michael Layne, Foundations for Home and Community	X	

Jan Pinkney, Sarah's House	X		Steven Lavella, AHC BWS	X	
Maxine Johnson-Strong, FHC	X		Ralph Belk, National Center for Children and Families	X	

Welcome

Darlene Ham called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. She then welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were given by the PAC members and guests. The May 2015 meeting minutes were approved. The minutes will be made available to the Council members as accepted. The Deputy Secretary of Operations, Gregory James was in attendance at today's meeting.

DHR Staffing Updates

SSA Acting Chief of Staff, Anita Wilkins, gave the following updates regarding changes to DHR as well as SSA staff:

- Tracey Paliath, Deputy Secretary for Programs, DHR
- Steven Youngblood, Director of Foster Care, SSA
- Debbie Ramelmeier is no longer the Executive Director of SSA
- Jill Taylor no longer works for the Social Services Administration
- Shanda Crowder no longer works for the Social Services Administration. Please direct all correspondence to Anita Wilkins.

Deputy Secretary James provided clarity regarding Debbie Ramelmeier that she is now working with the Citizen's Review Board.

Contracts and Monitoring Updates

Tennille Thomas reported the following:

- 39 CPA contracts went to the Board of Public Works. The contracts were not initially approved, but with the help of all of the providers, the contracts were approved on July 16, 2015.
- No MBE Goals for FY 2016 contracts
- MBE Goals will be added for FY 2017. Percentages will be calculated and negotiated for each individual agency.

Deputy Secretary James thanked the providers for their cooperation during the period of gaining a solution for the CPA contract approval. He also stated that a new evaluation was factored in regarding utilization and that a modification will be completed before going to the Board of Public Works.

SCYFIS Shut Down Update

Deputy Secretary James reported that as of last week, SCYFIS is no longer in operation. He also stated the following:

- What we were getting from the system was not balancing out to the cost of maintaining the system.
- Information put into SCYFIS after July 15, 2015 will not be able to be retrieved.
- Points assigned for CANS will be recalculated
- DHR will keep the provider community updated regarding mechanisms put into place such as a Resource Directory on DHR's website to replace certain functions that SCYFIS was used for such as matching children with families and locating providers.

***Please see attached letter from DHR to Maryland Child Placement Agency and Residential Child Care Providers**

Mr. Walter McNeil posed a question regarding the "Hot List" and clerical errors being a factor in keeping a provider on the "Hot List" and how this adversely affects providers placed on the list during certain times during the quarter.

Kevin Keegan will draft a letter to DHR on behalf of the PAC regarding this concern.

Placement Re-tooling (Difficult to Place Children) Discussion

Anita Wilkins reported the following:

- A meeting was held on June 25, 2015 where the profiles of out-of-state children who had been deemed difficult to place were shared with the providers who attended.
- Discussions will occur over the next few months.
- What can providers offer regarding taking some of the children that are difficult to place?
- Ms. Wilkins encouraged the PAC members to contact her if they are interested in participating in the discussions.

Rate Setting Discussion

Deputy Secretary James reported:

- We are at the start of trying to develop a new rate setting mechanism by early Fall 2015.
- Input from the providers will be solicited during this process.

IV-E Waiver Updates

Anita Wilkins reported on behalf of Linda Carter, DHR/SSA:

- CANS-F implementation went live on July 1 for In-Home services; this marks the beginning of the Waiver period for Maryland.
- Trauma Strategic Plan submitted to Steering Committee (by Trauma workgroup); to be reviewed by Advisory Council later this month.

- Concept Paper process right now for LDSSs – asking LDSSs to submit ideas for evidence-based practices/promising practices to be implemented locally; papers due August 7, decisions on funding to be made in September; implementation of new EBPs for a cross-section of LDSSs to begin in January.
- Planning on conducting a similar RFP process for providers for services to help address continuity-of-care issues and prevent reentries.

The next meeting regarding collaboration on the concept papers is on August 13, 2015 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at DHR on the 10th floor.

The Safe Interaction with Law Enforcement

Ms. Courtney R. Wiggins from Oak Hill House gave a presentation to the PAC regarding a Law Enforcement Interaction Module including seven safety tips that are useful for foster care youth.

***Please see the attached Law Enforcement Interaction Module**

Wrap Up / Next Meeting / Date and Location

Steve Howe from The Children’s Guild agreed to host the next PAC meeting.

Date:

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Location:

The Children’s Guild
6802 McClean Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21234
*Behind St. Thomas More Church
410-444-3800

Kevin Drumheller motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m.; the motion was seconded to adjourn the meeting by Mark Mittelman.