

**FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL  
STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 4, 2021

**PRESENT:**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Deb Cordell           | GC Family & Children First                             |
| Terry Graves-Strieter | GC Educational Service Center                          |
| Pamela Hamer          | GC Public Health Department – Help Me Grow             |
| Sandy Brubaker        | GC Juvenile Court                                      |
| Melissa Howell        | GC Public Health Department                            |
| Brent Lewis           | GC Family & Children First                             |
| Debbie Matheson       | Family Violence Prevention Center                      |
| Greta Mayer           | GC Mental Health Recovery Board                        |
| Tom Otto              | TCN Behavioral Health                                  |
| Beth Rubin            | GC Department of Job & Family Services                 |
| Rebecca Cantrell      | GC United Way of Greater Dayton Area, Director         |
| John LaRock           | GC Board of Developmental Disabilities, Superintendent |
| Amanda Castro         | GC Educational Services Center                         |

Ms. Matheson called the meeting to order at 9:14 A.M.

**REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 2020**

Minutes for the December 2020 Steering Committee were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Howell and seconded by Ms. Mayer. The motion passed without exception.

**REVIEW/APPROVAL OF DECEMBER PROGRAM REPORT**

Mr. Lewis reviewed the December program report. He reported that we currently have 17 families open for Service Coordination. This represents 35 children. Residential numbers are down. We currently have 4 youth in residential placement. Ms. Baughn completed yearly statistics last week and this showed that we served more families and youth total than we did in 2019. The number of meetings held was down significantly, but the amount of time staff worked individually with families significantly increased. Our families have required increased supports from the agency during the pandemic.

A motion was made by Ms. Rubin and seconded by Ms. Cantrell. The motion passed without exception.

**REVIEW/APPROVAL OF FISCAL REPORTS**

Ms. Cordell reported that this report is reflective of numbers through November. We should be at 92% of expenses. Family Stability is very close to that with 82% expenses and 85% revenue. We received \$6440.00 for the first quarter FCSS Service Coordination. Expenses are down slightly due to a position vacancy, which is filled as of today. Expenses should come more in line.

With Shared Youth Placements the revenue is very high due to MSY funds. This is reflective of 90 days funding provided in advance.

For Help Me Grow expenses have been submitted in the amount of \$107,943.00 have been approved by DODD and we are expecting reimbursement at any time. This put us at 31% expenses thus far.

For FCSS at the end of November we had only expended \$8107.00. However, we have Service Coordination that needs to be billed and social activities that have been approved, but not yet paid. This is reflective of \$15,507.00 which is almost half of the allotted grant.

With Council Admin we are over with our revenues and under with expenses. We have had the Administrative Assistant position vacant since Ms. Arnold left. That position is now filled. We received the remainder of the \$10,000.00 grant for technology upgrades, Program management from Family Stability and Help Me Grow and \$15,750.00 annual OCBF grant.

A motion was made by Ms. Graves-Strieter and seconded by Ms. Brubaker. The motion passed without exception.

### COMMITTEE/PROGRAM REPORTS

Mr. Lewis reported that the Drug Free Coalition held elections for leadership positions. Amy Pulver is now the chair of the coalition. The Steering Committee for Collective Impact continues to meet. MHRB developed an MOU that we are currently reviewing. United Way is looking to expand the Collective Impact projects being developed and implemented in Greene County. There will be more information provided on that at February's meeting. The next Steering Committee meeting for Collective Impact is scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Ms. Hamer reported that E3C will be meeting the fourth Thursday of this month. In regards to Early Intervention, we received a report for County Determinations. Greene County is meeting all requirements for the last state fiscal year. This is based on a number of indicators that are looked at throughout the year, including, family survey, federal compliance indicators and child outcomes, which reflect 12 to 15 items. Ms. Hamer reported that they have been down a Service Coordinator since the beginning of October. They just posted for a second time for the position and that came down last week, with several promising candidates. Ms. Howell and Mr. Lewis both acknowledged the successful report and the quality services Ms. Hamer and her team continue to provide.

### ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION/AGENCY REPORT OUT

Mr. LaRock reported that they are watching the state budget. They expect cuts, but are not sure how much or where. Mr. LaRock thanked Ms. Howell and her staff for their assistance in getting all congregate setting staff vaccinated last week. He reported they are in the process of renovating a new respite home in Xenia. There is a significant need for these services.

Ms. Rubin reported that they are currently working on an application for the Ohio Start Program through Children Services. This program will allow specialization of one Children Services caseworker to work with families who are dealing with substance abuse. This will also provide a peer mentor who will work with the family. Several counties in Ohio have piloted this program and had success. They are currently working with TCN on a possible partnership in this.

Ms. Mayer reported that behavioral health providers were included in vaccination group 1A across the state and thanked Ms. Howell in helping to get providers vaccinated. MHRB submitted a grant proposal to the state in November for the opioid response grant that includes stimulants. This would allow for an investment of over \$900,000.00, but they have not received notification from the state yet. Notice of awards were supposed to be released in early December, but the date keeps being pushed back. MHRB is moving forward with the initiative in January regardless. There was expansion into prevention with the grant and the ESC is one new partner in this initiative. Ms. Mayer reported that they are looking to conduct focus groups within the Greene County African American Church Association. They have held one focus group already and plan to hold more to discuss things such as service access and barriers to service. They are looking at what they can do as a board to better address the needs of the African American community.

Ms. Brubaker reported that Ms. Hensley is officially back in the courtroom and she is the full time representative for Juvenile Court on FCFC. The Court continues to provide many services and hearing virtually. They are utilizing carry over funding from Strengthening Families program to partner with Family Violence Prevention Center. This will provide programming for the youth.

Ms. Graves-Strieter reported that she is working with Ms. Howell to begin planning for the next round of vaccinations which will allow for educators to be vaccinated. Some behavioral health staff were able to obtain vaccination last week. For most programs at the ESC, programming is remote for the next two weeks to allow staff and students a time to quarantine following the holidays. Services will return to in person after MLK holiday.

Ms. Howell reported that Public Health is working to coordinate vaccinations. They started to receive vaccines on December 21<sup>st</sup> and to date have vaccinated 1200 people. She is reaching out to different groups and providers to access names of those that are eligible. They are currently only receiving about 300 doses per week, so access is very limited. They are still in tier 1A and will be talking with school superintendents today to talk about tier 1B. The Vaccinations have been very popular with individuals asking when they can receive their vaccine. Ms. Howell discussed recent changes in quarantine guidance for schools. They will be providing guidance on this to the superintendents today. She discussed the Community Health Improvement Plan and continued work Ms. Stevely is completing. She will be sending out a draft document of the plan and would like feedback. It will be going out in an email.

Ms. Castro discussed the ESC being involved in the federal disaster relief grant. She stated the Family Engagement Liaison has started and will be attending the Full Council meeting in February.

Ms. Cantrell reported that United Way is embarking on a program for racial equality across the three counties they serve. This will involve \$2500 grants for organizations making \$100,000.00 or less and will be about raising awareness and increasing communication on racial inequity. Ms. Cantrell reported that United Way was able to serve 459 youth through the Christmas program, which was a significant increase over previous years. In regards to Stronger Families, the focus areas of this program will be education and literacy for both the children and adults, financial planning, housing stability and goal setting. This will serve families that are at poverty line up to 250% of federal poverty line. United Way nationally is really focused on this initiative. This program will be in addition to essential services. UWGDA will be investing an additional \$100,000.00 into this program in Greene County.

Mr. Lewis reported that Ms. Hilderbrand will be moving from a part time position to a full time position within the agency. We have posted to fill her part time position. This will give us greater capacity within our Family Stability and Prevention Programs.

**OTHER ITEMS AT THE DISCRETION OF CHAIR/DIRECTOR**

There were no further items to discuss at this time.

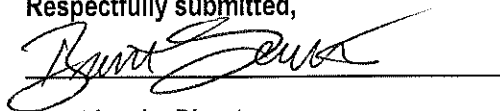
**The next meeting is Monday, February 1 following the Full Council Meeting**

**There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 A.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Date: 2/1/21



**Brent Lewis, Director  
Greene County Family & Children First**

## **February Family Stability Report**

**We currently have 20 families open for service coordination and 4 children open for residential placement.**

### **Prevention**

**We are starting two Active Parenting classes via Zoom during the week. One is in the afternoon and one in the evening.**