

GREENE COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
FCF, 158 E. Main Street, Xenia

MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2022 – 9:00AM

PRESENT:

Sandy Brubaker	GC Juvenile Court
Deb Cordell	GC Family & Children First
Renee Crossman	GC Family & Children First
Pam Hamer	GC Public Health Department – Help Me Grow
Melissa Howell	GC Public Health Department
John LaRock	GC Board of Developmental Disabilities
Brent Lewis	GC Family & Children First - Director
Deborah Matheson	Family Violence Prevention Center
Greta Mayer (CHAIR)	GC Mental Health & Recovery Board
Lillian McCree	GC Educational Service Center
Tom Otto	TCN Behavioral Health Care
Beth Rubin	GC Department of Job & Family Services

Ms. Mayer called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MARCH 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Mayer put forth a motion to recommend acceptance of the March Minutes. Motion was made by Mr. LaRock, and seconded by Ms. Rubin. This motion passed without exception.

REVIEW / APPROVAL OF FISCAL REPORTS

Family Stability: Ms. Cordell reported that expenses for February were all personnel related with a small amount going towards supplies. The reason our revenue will be higher for the next few months is due to receiving revenue from MHRB for February, the annual allocation from GC DODD of \$6500, along with the previous amount from Juvenile Court.

Shared Youth Placement: Ms. Cordell shared that the revenue is high with expenses low due to MSY dollars received for a child's placement. The reason expenses seem low is due to FCF having over \$51,000 allocated for February's placements, along with PASSS funding, which was invoiced in February but received in March 2022. FCF currently has a total of 6 children in placement, which is up from previous months. Out of these 6 children, 2 are MSY, 2 are PASSS funded and 2 SYF between JFS and MHRB.

Help Me Grow: Ms. Cordell proceeded to share that she received the invoices from October 2021 through February 2022 which have all been processed, approved, and payment of \$200,640 was received on Friday, April 1, 2022. Since this amount is over \$50,000 it will need the Commissioner's approval prior to processing.

The budget for the ARPA funds that Help Me Grow received needed to be redone, which Ms. Cordell took care of and submitted. In counsel with David Graham, a decision was made that since this is a 2-year grant for EI Services a new fund will need to be set up which will therefore need to be included on the Commissioner's agenda. This funding does not go to FCF, but rather to the Health Department and DD for technology purposes.

F.C.S.S.: The projected target expenses for February would be 67% and we are at 54% for expenses and 52% for revenue, which is good as we are spending evenly. In May and June expenses will be incurred for summer camps, and other activities. FCF has initiated using some of these funds for the siblings of the children in service

coordination so that they too can partake in various activities, such as YMCA passes, Swimming Lessons, Karate lessons, etc. This has already proven to be beneficial for these families.

Council Admin: Ms. Cordell mentioned that we are right where we should be on expenses, with revenue higher due to receiving the yearly Council Dues from everyone except for a couple of agencies. We are using the new percentages of 55% for Council Admin and 45% for County, and an update will be given in our upcoming May meeting.

Ms. Mayer put forth a motion to recommend acceptance of the Fiscal Reports. Motion was made by Ms. Brubaker, and seconded by Ms. Matheson. This motion passed without exception.

REVIEW / APPROVAL OF MARCH PROGRAM REPORT

Mr. Lewis reported that our referrals for Residential Services are high, and once again a wait list is in place for service coordination. Currently we have 20 families open for service coordination, 6 children in residential and another child seeking placement. Due to the Ranch of Opportunity being full, Ms. Baughn has been visiting other local facilities in order to service the needs of our community. We are continuing to utilize MSY and PASSS funding, though with the State taking over PASSS funding in the near future we are not sure how this will look moving forward.

Prevention:

Mr. Lewis reported that Parenting Classes continue to progress with good results. Our March/April sessions are ending with April/May's starting next week with enrollments almost at full capacity. Ms. Bass also started Parenting Classes at Family Promise last week.

A question was brought up from Ms. Mayer regarding the care given at the Ranch of Opportunity as previously they were under review. Mr. Lewis explained that Ms. Baughn is keeping a very close eye on those in Residential care there, plus Kalen (who has worked with TCN in the past) is currently working there in an Administrative position and is in close communication with us. Sometimes there are issues that develop with parents having unrealistic expectations in wanting to receive daily communications with the therapists, which is not possible. In light of this, Ms. Baughn is able to step in and give these updates to the parents, as well as personally check on each resident's personal situation and progress.

Ms. Mayer put forth a motion to recommend acceptance of the March Program Report. Motion was made by Ms. Howell, and seconded by Mr. LaRock. This motion passed without exception.

COMMITTEE / PROGRAM REPORTS

EARLY INTERVENTION

Ms. Hamer reported they had a busy month serving 72 families, which is up from 42 previously. Regarding personnel, they are currently interviewing for a Service Coordinator. Additionally, they completed their State Annual Performance Review, as well as their Federal Government Review.

Furthermore, their partners and collaborations with various agencies have also increased this past month. They are working with PATH (Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness) and have received referrals and connections through them for babies up to 6 months old. Just a note: These referrals do not need to come from the hospitals, therefore, if any agencies know of a mother who might be struggling with substance abuse or is in recovery please refer them to Ms. Hamer as they can receive Wraparound support.

Ms. Hamer also reported that they are partnering with STORK, which is a free prenatal education program designed to help prevent premature births, low weight babies, and infant mortality, by teaching women how to

have healthy pregnancies and caring for infants. Finally, this month they had Sarah, from Ohio START, do a presentation at the Early Childhood Meeting.

OHIO START PROGRAM

Ms. Rubin reported that Ohio START will begin shortly, and their financial paperwork with TCN is in place so they are able to proceed. The only thing they are waiting on is the hiring of the Family Peer Mentor. This person will be a TCN employee who is housed at Children Services and will work side-by-side the Ohio START Children Service Caseworkers. All Children Services and TCN Supervisors have participated in training and will also participate in an upcoming Summit.

ROUND TABLE - OTHER ITEMS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR / DIRECTOR:

Mr. LaRock from GC Developmental Disabilities reported they are gearing up for summer camps, and are going to change their procedures somewhat. Previously there was a gap between their two 4 or 6-week camps making it difficult for working parents. Therefore, they are looking for providers to fill this gap in-between these scheduled camps. They also received surveys back from various Day Cares in order to see what the biggest needs are and how they can better serve children with disabilities. The overall consensus came back that the personnel in these centers would appreciate Behavioral Training classes, so DODD will proceed with this service for them.

Ms. Rubin from GC Job & Family Services reported that April is Child Abuse Prevention month with Wear Blue Day on April 13th. If you would like to take a photo of your staff wearing blue then Ms. Rubin will include this in their Facebook posting as well as what they send to the newspaper. (See flyer)

JFS will not be hosting the Blue-Ribbon Breakfast this year, but will instead offer a smaller ceremony for the children and their families whose artwork was chosen for their calendar.

The State notified JFS that they have approved another year of the Wendy's Wonderful Kids Grant. For the past 9 years this special grant has allowed them to dedicate a caseworker, who specializes in adoption activities in order to help with in-depth investigation into the child's needs, desires, and what resources might be available for them. Cassey, one of their Caseworkers, has been doing this for the past few years and will continue in the roll this year. (see flyer)

Ms. Howell for the Health Department reported that everyone is back in the office. They are still working on their community health assessment which covers health improvement plans on obesity, substance abuse, and access to care.

Ms. Matheson from Family Violence Prevention Center reported that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and on April 5th it is "Wear Teal Day", which is dedicated to raising awareness for survivors. (See flyer) On Saturday, April 9th, they are hosting the Child Abuse Awareness 5k and Ms. Matheson acknowledged their thankfulness to DODD for their sponsorship of this event. On April 29th they are having their annual Spring Fling which will be in person at the GC Expo Center. (See flyer)

Ms. Matheson also reported on Family Violence Prevention Outreach Center: On Friday Mr. Huddleson announced that their project has been approved for land and a new building, along with a gifted house with additional land attached. Ms. Matheson mentioned that many times when people think of the Family Violence Prevention Center they think about the shelter, however they are not aware of all the other services that are provided. Last year the shelter alone helped 200 people, however, the additional services provided last year helped a total of 8500 people! Therefore, this additional space is greatly needed for proper messaging and service areas.

Ms. Brubaker from GC Juvenile Court reported that they have an art contest taking place with the Greene County Library from 5:30-7:30pm on April 21st called, "Our World through the eyes of a Child". Link: Student Art Contest with GCJC | Greene County Public Library (greenelibrary.info)

Ms. McCree from GC Educational Services reported that the Educational Stability Summit covering youth and foster care as well as kinship care placement will be taking place on April 6th and they have received over 600 registrants so far. This is exciting as the word is getting out. They are also going through a PPP Accreditation and Ms. McCree will be receiving additional training for her department.

The Foster Parenting Support Group takes place virtually twice a month, and Ms. McCree will send a link for more information regarding registration. This is a small support group, so everyone is welcome. Additionally, they have opened their List Serve so agencies can contact her so names can be put on this parenting schedule.

On a different note, Ms. McCree received a call from a Fairborn School Counselor who had a parent that was looking for childcare, but was struggling to find resources. Ms. McCree did some research and found on Facebook "Ohio Childcare Providers", which is an active page offering activities and childcare providers. This may be a resource other agencies can benefit from.

Lastly, Ms. McCree also received a call from the Cedarcliff Elementary school counselor as parents are struggling to find summer programs for middle schoolers. Mr. Lewis mentioned Ms. Baughn might be able to help her with information, as well as Parks and Trails has ongoing activities planned throughout the summer months.

Ms. Hamer from Help Me Grow updated everyone on their "Disconnect to Connect" Series. They finalized the first article for ages 0 – 6 that will be published in the May Parent Magazine, and as the first week in May is Children's Mental Health Week, this is all tying together. This Series is centered around reducing screen time and finding a balance, including background TV. Studies are showing that the constant amount of background TV that children ages 0 – 6 are exposed to is having a dramatic effect in a decrease in language skills, cognitive and executive functioning. (See Flyer for March Press Release) Background TV and noise is also very complex and small children are not able to process it, plus it surrounds them 40% of their waking time, basically from the time they get home from childcare till they go to bed.

Ms. Hamer acknowledged the Greene County Career Center as 2 students created their logo and printed materials and had it back to them within a week. If any Agencies need digital work done Ms. Hamer recommends contacting them as they did a great job, and at the same time it offers the students hands-on practice to prepare them for interviewing clients, and is a good experience for all.

Mr. Lewis reported for Ms. Cantrell on United Way who was unable to attend today's meeting: Both Mr. Lewis and Ms. Cantrell have had multiple calls with CAP (Community Action Partnership). Some leadership changes have taken place in the CAP Advisory Board with Jim Phipps no longer being Chair and Missy Cross, from Fairborn City Council, being voted in as 2022's Chair Person. Mr. Lewis has participated in several calls with current CAP leadership and will keep the committee advised of any information.

Mr. Lewis continued to update the Steering Council on the progress being made with Strong Family initiatives in Greene County, which is doing well. If anyone is not aware on how to make referrals to this program please let Mr. Lewis know as there are a lot of resources available for families to receive before they get to the crisis point. Additionally, it was through Strong Family's Initiative that FCF was able to get to the table with the CAP leadership. During their last Strong Family meeting they received 13 new referrals, and the goal is that as this program gains success it will keep families from needing to go to other agencies for crisis help.

Ohio Rise Project: Mr. Lewis explained that on Friday he was part of a large Conference call with Ohio Rise and other County FCF representatives. If Agencies are not aware, Ohio Rise is a "new" Wraparound initiative in Ohio

that is highly funded compared to what FCF offices throughout Ohio receive. They will be coming to Greene County to give a presentation to the Juvenile Court regarding their plans. Ohio Rise has broken the State into multiple regions, with our region having 13 counties. NYAP is our provider, (National Youth Advocate Program). Currently, Ohio Rise only has a Director with no staff, though they do have staff from ETNA, which is the overall State Provider for this program. They also informed everyone that they are going to assign service coordinators who will go into our communities and do Wraparound programs for Medicaid eligible families. Part of Ohio Rise will be identifying the gaps in services in a specific area. This is frustrating to FCF staff, because they are aware of the gaps, but there are not community providers to fill the gaps.

Ohio Rise will be for Medicaid eligible clients. These families will have the choice of working with Ohio Rise or continuing with FCF staff. Also, FCF will continue to serve non-Medicaid eligible families. Ohio Rise is supposed to begin on July 1st, 2022.

Ms. Brubaker asked if a representative from the Juvenile Court was on the Ohio Rise call? Mr. Lewis explained that this Ohio Rise call was for FCF Directors and was scheduled by a Director from another county.

Ms. Rubin mentioned that the Ohio Department of Medicaid is in the process of releasing Webinars designed for different groups; and thus far have been contacting the Provider Community. However, they have informed JFS that upcoming webinars will be for PCSA's, Juvenile Courts, and other entities, so that everyone will know the full landscape of what Ohio Rise entails. Additionally, Ms. Rubin explained that there will be a new Medicaid Waiver program developed with the initial capacity including only 1000 state wide. This new program still does not cover Residential Placements until Ohio can certify facilities as PRTF where the treatment received is covered completely by Medicaid and Federally Reimbursable. Ohio doesn't have any PRTF's at present, however, JFS is currently utilizing one in Tennessee with Medicaid paying for this client's stay. (See flyer – (PRTF) Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility)

Mr. Otto from TCN Behavioral Health Care reported that the setting up of their new building is almost completed. They are also in the process of building an On-Site Pharmacy. More information will be sent out regarding their public announcement for their Open House. They are also finishing up on various applications for funding and grants for various boards.

Ms. Mayer from MHRB reported that their in-person Black Experience #2 Event in Springfield went very well with 25 people in attendance on a Saturday. There was good interactive discussions and they utilized local and state-wide facilitators, as well as Hope Spot Institute of Ohio as presenters. Additionally, there was good representation from Greene County and Central State, along with a couple of physicians, and students. These Central State students invited MHRB to facilitate further discussions on campus as some of the youth feel that while on campus they are in a bubble with services readily available, but it's not the case when they leave campus.

Ms. Mayer also had a discussion with Director Chris from Ohio Mental Health regarding workforce investment of dollars for new hires, especially along the lines of how to access funding from the State when it comes available so all can benefit.

Ms. Mayer mentioned The Hope Spot will be hosting a Grief Conference called "2022 Grief Conference" with guest speaker Dr. Alan Wolfelt. (See Attachment) Mr. Wolfelt is from Colorado and is a leader on the subject of grief and complicated grief. This Conference will be held for the Community on Tuesday April 26th at 6:30-8:30pm at Hillside Chapel in Beavercreek. Then on Wednesday, April 27th, there will be an advanced Conference with training for staff and professionals at Sinclair Community College from 8:00am to 4:00pm. These can be attended either in-person or virtually. There is a cost so refer to the flyer and/or link below regarding additional information. (Link: Beavercreek - Understanding Your Grief: Free Community Night

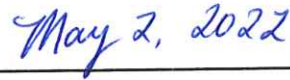
Registration, Tue, Apr 26, 2022 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite AND Sinclair Community College - When Grief is Complicated: Professionals Day Tickets, Wed, Apr 27, 2022 at 8:00 AM | Eventbrite

With no further business Ms. Mayer adjourned the meeting at 9:52am. The next Steering Council Meeting will be on: **Monday, May 2nd, 2022, at GC ESC, 360 E. Enon Road, Yellow Springs, OH, starting at 10:00am following the FC meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,



Renee Crossman, Admin. Support
Greene County Family and Children First Council



Approved Date: