

Our Community. Our Kids
Monthly Provider Meeting
ACH Child & Family Services - Belltower Chapel
Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2014

Attendance 74 Attendees representing 24 agencies
Next meeting: Tuesday April 15
1:30 – 3pm
ACH Child & Family Services (Wichita campus)
Belltower Chapel

I. Welcome and Agenda Review

- Dr. Gary Buff opened the meeting and introduced Alan Schonborn, VP of Program Development for ACH

II. Update on Tarrant County MHMR In-Home Services for Foster Children – Alan Schonborn

- ACH has been working with Tarrant County MHMR to develop services specifically for foster youth ages 3 – 17
- Fast Track into all services (“wraparound”) - rehab, therapeutic, counseling, etc.
- Provides assessment model is the CANS
 - Will be used to determine service level
 - Will provide counseling services where needed
 - Will coordinate with location and timing of other services offered
 - Will use Trauma Informed Care as guide to assessments
 - Will enhance timing of other services offered, e.g. medical management (35 prescribers at MHMR many of which are bi-lingual)
 - Target is 1 week wait time to see psychiatrist.
 - Will provide skills training for foster parents as needed
 - Focus on being “all on the same team” so you will know who to call
 - There will be dedicated staff at MHMR for this program
- There will be three phases to development of this programming:
 - Step One: building protocols (in progress – 4 youth have been referred currently)
 - Step Two: integrate MHMR into Turning Point to help with discharge – no gaps in transition
 - Step Three: Move into OCOK network
 - CPA’s foster/adoption specialists will make referral through MHMR
 - Ongoing scheduling will be between CPA and MHMR not through ACH
 - Services can be delivered in the home as well as in the schools

III. Report on System Improvement Suggestions – Dr. Gary Buff

- Dr. Buff introduced Linda Garcia, Ph.D., Director of Communications for “our community. our kids.” who will be heading up the Quality Parenting Initiative for the SSCC
- From last Provider Meeting, there were 44 suggestions given as to areas of improvement for joint protocols with DFPS.
- April 18th – Joint Protocols are due to the state.

- Theme in protocol meetings with DFPS has been “Information.”
- Important outcomes:
 - Information Access:
 - We will have immediate access to all information in IMPACT with no restraint on CPA’s having this information. DFPS will be changing functionality of IMPACT to incorporate this.
 - A team approach has been requested so that subsequent moves will have wide participation and communication.
 - DFPS has agreed to having pre-placement meetings with an agreed upon invitation list for attendance and timely communication at every stage.
 - DFPS is setting up mechanisms to make this happen right away.
 - Service Planning:
 - Sometimes we will be responsible and sometimes CPS.
 - Court Dates: we will have a place on the court report to put information regarding the child we would like the court to see
 - Transitions:
 - Request was made to see the transition process start sooner.
 - Outcome: We will trigger the beginning of that process. “When do we want to be notified?”
 - SIL will be notified to set up a meeting with the youth about transition so that we can facilitate the youth’s desire for relocation and help kids be better prepared in general.
 - General:
 - At least 75% of items in the areas that were suggested have been agreed to in the new protocol.

IV. Improvement Suggestions Regarding Adoptions and Permanency– Dr. Buff

- Providers participated in round table discussion and presentation of ideas to the group. (See attached)

V. Network Provider Application – Dr. Buff

- Reviewed general information that will be required for the online Network Provider Application to contract with ACH
- Will be available on the OCOK website on Friday, March 21.

VI. Report on Quality Parenting Initiative Meeting: April 29th, 2014 – Dr. Buff

- Linda Garcia, Director of Communications – “our community. our kids.” will be developing an invitation which providers can send out to their foster parents

VII. April Meeting with Cook Children’s Hospital: Improving Medical Care of Foster Children – Dr. Wayne Carson (CEO, ACH Child and Family Services)

- Dr. Carson gave information about Dr. Jayme Coffman, child abuse specialist with Cook Children’s Hospital Emergency Department.
- Dr. Coffman is very passionate about kids in foster care and has Cook Children’s Hospital on board to work with us to help ensure these kids get the best medical care.

- Dr. Carson will report on the Cook's meeting at the April 15th Monthly Provider Meeting.

VIII. Report on ACH's Lend-a-Hand event: April 3rd, 2014 – Dr. Carson

- ACH will host its 4th annual Lend-a-Hand Luncheon at the Worthington Renaissance Hotel and Dr. Carson offered a "2 for 1" ticket for providers attending today's meeting if they reply by Friday, March 21st.

IX. Closing Remarks

- Dr. Carson asked the group for any feedback on the book, "To the End of June" which had been given previously to providers and closed the meeting reflecting on the book's impact: "We can do better."

Next monthly provider meeting will be: Tuesday, April 15 at 1:30 pm at ACH - Belltower Chapel.

Addendum:**Provider Suggestions Regarding Adoptions and Permanency 3.18.14**

1. Home studies for adoption vs. foster. One home study is not serving both. Bridge data and narrative and be consistent.
2. Documentation from DFPS for billing gets to all parties in a timely manner.
3. Universal system to transition children into adoption. Should be curriculum driven and culturally sensitive. What options can we offer about how to take the next step?
4. Treating foster parents who decide not to adopt with respect.
5. Streamlined, standardized and comprehensive way of training for adoptive parents.
6. Timely notification when a match is made. (2 weeks)
7. Make sure CPS workers are trained to understand the adoption process.
8. Timely broadcast of children available for adoption.
9. All CPS offices in the Catchment Area should use the same process in the local office for redaction of documents.
10. Having all available information in IMPACT and a hard copy at the same time.
11. Follow pre-placement visits process (don't rush or shortcut).
12. Keeping TARE updated. Communicate with CPA once a request is made.
13. Kinship placements: develop more of a process for kinship placement and fostering connections program.
14. Ensure that they meet minimum standards and bring us into the process earlier.
15. Kinship families to be informed of requirements to be a licensed foster home.
16. When broadcast announcements are sent out they are not notifying all CPA's.
17. How are we going to bill for adoptions regardless of where they come from?

Preparing for Permanency

1. No surprises. Lots of communication.
2. Give child more involvement in the service plan.
3. Being able to continue the connection with foster families and bio families.
4. Bio family to be involved earlier in the process.
5. TPR to be notified in a therapeutic setting, DFPS to coordinate with the CPA.
6. When permanency plan changes, automatic notification to the CPA's.
7. Get copy of family service plan from DFPS.
8. Regarding Circles of Support: realistic expectations which focus on the youth and should take place earlier (suggest age 13 or 14)
9. Documentation is incomplete.