

DATA TEST/HIGH PERFORMANCE

WebEx – See Invite

By Phone: 312-535-8110, Access # 1774928747#

January 28, at 9:30am – 12:00 pm

Minutes

I. Attendance/Roll Call

Completed

II. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved with minor correction.

III. Announcement / New Co-Chair Introduction

Ms. Mary Ann Berg was introduced as the new Co-chair of CWAC Data Test.

IV. Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

a. 906s / UPAs

Responsibility for sending out UPA's shifted to Elliott Watson back in January as Jill Tichenor retired. When this transition took place, individuals that were previously a part of the email stream were left off. This has since been resolved. Continued efforts are being made to ensure that UPA's are going out timely and to the right person. Additionally, efforts are also being made to ensure immediate connection with the assigned Independent Assessor and removal of any barriers to complete the assessment by the required 30 day timeline.

b. Monthly Clinical Staffing / Child & Family Team Meetings

There was a lengthy discussion regarding Children and Family teams.

The group had a discussion around Child and Family Team Meeting (CFTM) not happening on a monthly basis. When Child and Family teams do occur, it was noted that all requirements are not always met. Angela noted that Procedures clearly outline expectations for CFTMs, and that stakeholders are directed to Procedures 301.100 and 315.

It was suggested that there needs to be a clear understanding as to who takes lead in facilitating the CFTM. Angela confirmed that Procedures outlines that the Permanency Caseworker is responsible for facilitating and

documenting CFTMs in SACWIS. Larger system barriers to implementation of CFTMs were noted. The committee was reminded that there is a CFTM Strategic Planning Committee that is having conversations around the identification of the barriers, and strategies to adequately address them.

c. QRTP Denials

Matthew Skarbek, Program Director for the Division of Clinical Services with Northern Illinois University, oversees the Independent Assessors. He confirmed that there were three denials for QRTP services. Lawrence Hall, One Hope United, and Pavilion all experienced situations where the QRTP was denied by the Independent Assessor. Since October 1, when the Department went Live with Family First, 73 youth were assessed and 3 were denied.

It was noted that when the Independent Assessor gets a sense that the QRTP admission may be denied, the Assessor will try to reach out to the QRTP and/or Permanency Teams to get a better understanding of the rationale for QRTP treatment. Once there is a denial, the expectation is for the youth to be discharged within 30 days.

d. QRTP Re-assessments / Young Child Programs

It was shared that we are approaching the time for our young children to be re-assessed, and Providers are encouraged to be proactive around the youth stabilization and support needed to keep them stable in a home setting.

e. Cultural / Practice Shifts

Providers shared their experience in shifting the culture/practice within their agency. It has been a little challenging for some providers due to staff shortage.

There is a renewed focus around our Phase II youth, primarily around:

- Youth with identified step-down resource of HMR, HMP, HFK
- Youth that have completed treatment yet, have no step-down resource
- Youth in QRTP – need to look at their LOS and readiness to step-down.

There was a question as to the continued use of the term 'Phase II' since its association with the Residential Transition Discharge Protocol has been retired with the transition to FFPSA. It was noted that the terminology will eventually fade away as we become more familiar with and fully implement Family First; however, currently, that is how the Department is able to identify youth in the latter part of treatment.

It was discussion of the involvement of Youth Care Coordinators at the staffings. It was noted that YouthCare Coordinators are not always at the table during the staffing. Additionally, some providers also noted difficulty with billing YouthCare. Youth Care had previously agreed to participate at the CWAC High End meeting. There will need to be follow up.

Next Meeting: February 25, 2022 (WebEx)