

**Child Welfare Advisory Committee:  
System of Care (SOC) Subcommittee Minutes  
Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 1:00-2:30PM**

**Attendance**

X Keith Polan, co-chair DCFS Aly Moser, Kaleidoscope Bryana Payne, CHAIL Kristine Herman, HFS X Merry Beth Sheets, Hephzibah X Stephanie Barisch, CYFS, co-chair X Marc Fagan, YouthCare X Megan Kirk, Caritas X Jill Hayden, Sellers Dorsey X Matt Obert, Chaddock X Ashley Deckert, ICOY, co-chair X Nina Dixon, DCFS X Jason Keeler, Allendale	Nancy Hughes, VOAIL Dan Kotowski, Child Serve X Laura Keuver, Catholic Charities – Hector Rivera representing X Michelle Churchey-Mims, CBHA Kacy Anderson, ICOY Anika Todd, DCFS X Ashely Haselow, Allendale Jill Brantz, Kaleidoscope Alex McJimpsey, DCFS Desiree Silva, CYFS X Pat Ege, Cunningham
Guests:	

1. **Approve minutes from previous meeting** – Approved, Moved by Ashley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Ege
2. **Update and topics from CWAC and other Sub-committee meetings** – No larger CWAC meeting since this committee last met. SAFE model information sent out on the meeting invitation for this meeting.
3. **Update on Family First (FFPSA) through the system of care principles and community impact** – Dr. Mann is currently back with the department on a contractual basis.

None of the providers who were on the meeting decided to renew their contracts for the specialized Family First services.

4. **Update on YouthCare/Managed Care Organizations** – Pat Ege asked if any other providers have utilized Gary Pate or any other YouthCare trainers. Stephanie shared that CYFS had utilized Gary Pate for MI training and the feedback was very positive.
  - a. Nina Dixon – no updates, working to figure out the ABA challenges
  - b. Marc Fagan – working on challenges – older youth showing up at ED needing psychiatric inpatient and no placement opportunities; telehealth services for immediate advice as to level of care (e.g. prompt care v ED); conversation on roles with YouthCare and Pathways;
5. **1915i/Pathways to Success/NB Consent Decree**

- a. Keith Polan & Kristine Herman, HFS – Keith shared update that DCFS is having some additional conversations with HFS around Pathways and the impact of Pathways on the child welfare system. At this time, DCFS will be spending time to better identify what youth under DCFS' care would be eligible and explore more how that would work with DCFS systems. DCFS asked HFS to hold off on including DCFS youth in the Pathways roll out until they have a better understanding of the processes, the benefits, and where the challenges might be. Spring would be the earliest point, but more information will come later. This is specific to DCFS youth-in-care. Intact Family programs and other front-end programs connected to DCFS/child welfare services will likely still interact with Pathways in the beginning.  
Youthcare has been made aware of this delay, as well.  
Kristine was not able to join the meeting prior to the meeting concluding.  
Stephanie gave a brief update on Pathways implementation from the perspective of a CCSO.

## 6. Plans for future discussion

Adding to the group's charge a focus on exploring and potentially recommending how to build out the earlier parts of the system of care – prevention, early intervention, family resiliency, etc. Merry Beth brought up concerns about not wanting to abandon the conversation around the treatment resources that our YIC are currently lacking. Additional conversation around the workforce challenges and how it is impacting the services array available to our youth and families.

Agreement that the group will need to balance maintaining a focus on current resource challenges and areas that are coming imminently (Pathways) with newer areas of attention. It was shared with the group that our first thought was to explore Family Advocacy Centers, the services and supports that they currently offer, and if there may be an opportunity to look at how to utilize these resources better. Some providers shared that they are not aware of FACs or the services they offer. Keith offered to share information prior to our next meeting, so everyone would have some baseline knowledge. For the November meeting, we hope to have a guest speaker who is in charge of the FAC contract with DCFS.

7. **Other** – Matt Obert brought up the idea that other states are moving towards PRTFs, rather than QRTPs and asked if anyone knew about this. Stephanie reported that while DCFS has moved to QRTPs, while HFS will be moving towards PRTFs. Jason clarified that PRTFs are listed in the NB implementation plan. Ashley asked if there is an issue with PRTFs and Title IV-E reimbursement. Keith stated that he didn't believe that this was the case, but stated that he could look into it. Jason added that there are some Medicaid-billing implications for PRTFs and shared some of the variances in requirements (more medical, size of the unit, etc.) that are in place for PRTFs when compared to QRTPs.

## **8. Public Comments**

No members of the public joined the meeting.