

**GREENE COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST
STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES
158 E. Main Street, Xenia, Ohio 45385**

**MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2022**

PRESENT:

Sandy Brubaker	GC Juvenile Court
Deb Cordell	GC Family & Children First
Renee Crossman	GC Family & Children First
Melissa Howell	GC Public Health Department
John LaRock	GC Board of Developmental Disabilities
Brent Lewis	GC Family & Children First - Director
Debbie Matheson	Family Violence Prevention Center
Greta Mayer (CHAIR)	GC Mental Health & Recovery Board
Lana Penney	GC Children Services
Beth Rubin	GC Department of Job & Family Services

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

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER, 2021

Minutes for the December 3rd, 2021 Steering Committee were reviewed. Ms. Cordell brought to our attention that under "Council Admin" a typo was made as there is no "part-time vacancy" in this department. A change will be made in the Minutes to reflect this accordingly.

A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Ms. Rubin, and seconded by Mr. LaRock. The motion passed without exception.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2021 PROGRAM REPORT

Mr. Lewis reported that FCF currently has 26 families open for Service Coordination, with a waiting list in place. We are taking a look into the families we have serviced long-term in order to ensure progress is being made, that we are helping them to become self-sufficient, and that there is an end in site to services, in order to make room for new referrals and not create a scenario of dependency.

Parenting Classes are going very well. We currently expanded and will be starting classes with Her Story and DeCoach for both of their Residential Programs.

A motion to approve the Program Report was made by Ms. Howell and seconded by Mr. LaRock. The motion passed without exception.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE FISCAL REPORTS

Regarding Family Stability, Ms. Cordell reported we are very close to our revenue and our expenses are under due to not having our Part-Time position filled. We received our regular monthly allocation from MHRB and FCSS Grant for Service Coordination from July 1 through September 30th for \$4,666.

For Shared Youth Placement we are over the projected revenue due to the MSY funding we receive. Our expenses will always be lower due to delayed billing from the placement centers. However, we are right where we should be.

Help Me Grow as was mentioned last month Ms. Cordell submitted the invoices for July through September, however they were denied stating that Ms. Cordell was not included in on the budget, though she was. Ms. Cordell has been working with them on this in order to get these funds submitted for the 2021 calendar year. However, these funds were only received late in the afternoon on December 28th, and the County was already closed in order to balance their books and move forward with their Budget for 2022. Ms. Cordell will be submitting it now with offices opening back up.

Regarding F.C.S.S. Ms. Cordell reported we have expenses of \$1,921 for financial assistance to families, and over \$6500 for Service Coordination. As reported last month we received our 25% up-front State Revenue, and on the 28th of December we received reimbursement in the amount of \$7,056, which was for expenses submitted for July through October 2021. All that is remaining is reimbursement for November amounting to under \$1000.

Council Admin we are over in revenue and under in expenses due to the vacancy in the admin position for 4-1/2 months. For the month of November, we received our normal OCBF, (Occupational Capacity Building Fund), in the amount of \$15,750. An additional \$3,600 was given for General Admin from the MSY State Funds, which we use to supplement Mr. Lewis' salary and expenses. We received our 3rd and 4th quarter program management of \$8,750 for Family Stability.

It was mentioned by Ms. Howell that the OCBF amount has been the same since 2005, and she was wondering if this might be able to be increased in light of all the programs FCF is supporting. Mr. Lewis mentioned that it is in the discussion stages and is being advocated for and is hopeful for these changes. Previously Mr. Lewis mentioned to the Steering

Committee that there was data showing our value and the work we are doing, so this will be presented again in our favor.

A motion to approve the Fiscal Reports was made by Ms. Mathison, and seconded by Ms. Brubaker. The motion passed without exception.

COMMITTEE/PROGRAM REPORTS:

Help Me Grow – Mr. Lewis mentioned that in addition to what Ms. Cordell shared, we are still waiting on the budget adjustment report from Ms. Hamer so that we can submit the Grant Documents for 2022. Ms. Cordell has been working with the various consultants concerning this grant and though everything was previously filled out and submitted they keep requesting more details with various forms needing to be filled out.

*(Email addition): Ms. Hamer was not able to attend this meeting, however following is her update which she requested to be included in the Minutes:

Ms. Hamer: "Help Me Grow received the state family survey results. Greene County had one of the highest response rates in the state at 31.86%– beating the state response rate of 20.80%. Nevertheless, the survey response rates dropped in every area from the previous year. Parents were able to add written comments and the overall consensus was how in person services would be better for their families compared to virtual even though they understood why it was necessary. However, parents did include a lot of great positive responses such as the following:

The physical therapist and developments specialist confirmed my concerns and directed me to a medical Professional who respected their opinion. It was then taken seriously and my child was diagnosed with cancer.

Kaitlyn Gillum and Kim Sullivan have been fantastic. Really the whole crew. My child has been with Linda, Gina, and Bridgett. Doing the IFSP not only helps us touch base with everyone, it also helps our family see our child's progress. I know it's a small thing, but we really don't see it since we live it every day and it really is a blessing to be able to realize her progress.

I love how EI manages the transition to the school's preschool program, making it a smooth and easy process. I appreciate them being the liaison for it.

We have been incredibly happy with our EI experience. Our child has progressed and achieved set goals. We appreciate the hard work of our EI, Julie, and our service coordinator, Molly.

Ms. Hamer continued her report: Four Oaks is currently working on developing a formal process for requesting in person services when progress isn't being made via virtual services. Hopefully, this will be finalized by the 2nd week in January. For a copy of the survey or for any additional questions please feel free to contact EI Program Manager.

EI Referrals for December: 23

Public Awareness: no specific activities

Collaborations:

- Pam met with DJFS by participating in the Family Service Committee
- Reflective Supervision with the ESC Infant Mental Health Team

Grant Deliverables: Mid-Year Program Report due 1/21/22

Ohio START Program - Ms. Penney reported they have a Case Worker that is being trained and will be ready for their March 1st start date.

2022 BUDGET UPDATE - Ms. Cordell reported that we still do not have the budget finalized yet due to changes in personnel at the County, along with discussions on how we are to implement the new increase in salaries in our budget. Ms. Cordell has been working with Jennifer Calhoun, from the County, and now with the holidays behind us Ms. Cordell will be setting up an appointment in order to get clarification and finalization for the 2022 budget. This will be presented at the February 7th meeting.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION/AGENCY REPORT OUT:

Ms. Matheson from Family Violence Prevention Center reported they are currently fully staffed. During the holiday some of their staff got mild symptoms of COVID with others being more affected by it, so they adjusted their staff accordingly in order to accommodate their needs. They are also taking their Shelter Capacity from 25 back up to 32 as of today, so this will put them back at full capacity.

Ms. Brubaker from Greene County Juvenile Court reported that unfortunately they have seen an increase in youth probation cases since Thanksgiving. They are looking for a full time Mental Health Therapist for the detention facility for their New Beginnings program. In the past they partnered with ESC for a therapist, but with this increase they are seeing the need for a fulltime therapist.

Ms. Howell from GC Public Health Department reported they are very busy with the increase in COVID and Flu cases in Greene and Montgomery County hospitals, as well as in nursing homes. CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation from 10 days for people with COVID-19 to 5 days, if asymptomatic, followed by 5 days of wearing a mask

when around others. The Health Department is also encouraging Superintendents in the school districts to promote mask wearing. They are also seeing the importance of being flexible and understanding what their staff may be struggling with if they or someone in their family is sick. Some employees are incorporating tele-working plans once again in order to keep their personnel working from home while at the same time minimizing virus' in the office space. The best preventative is to continue to wear masks, social distance, wash hands, and do what you can to stay healthy.

OTHER ITEMS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR / DIRECTOR:

Approval for 2022 Meeting Dates: A motion to approve the Meeting Dates was made by Ms. Rubin, and seconded by Ms. Matheson. The motion passed without exception.

With no further questions or discussion points, the meeting was adjourned.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be conducted in person on:

Monday, February 7th, 2022, at 360 E. Enon Road, Yellow Springs, Ohio, starting at 10:00am immediately following the Full Council Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Renee Crossman Admin. Support
Greene County Family and Children First



Approved Date: