

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2014 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – **Room A & B**
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates

Present:

Kelly Arrendondo (Alternate for Savator Selden-Johnson), Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Patricia Gardner, Scott Gilman, Kristen Gietzen (Alternate for Jack Greenfield) Jack Greenfield, Lynn Heemstra, Gary Lemke, Adam London, Sharon Loughridge, Jacob Maas, Nancy Marshall, George Meek, Maureen Noe, Patti Warmington.

Members Absent:

Tom Czerwinski, William Forsyth, Cynthia Gladyness, Kevin Konarska, Teresa Neal, Julie Ridenour, Savator Selden-Johnson, Diana Sieger.

Guests:

Wayman Britt, Dynetta Clark, Tracie Coffman, Rebekah Fennell, Kathy Freberg, Angie King, Pam Parriott, Rebecca Rynbrandt, Matthew VanZetten, Allison Young.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Lynne Ferrell opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions were done. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

A motion was made by Jacob Maas to accept the minutes from the June 2 meeting. Support provided by Scott Gilman, MOTION CARRIED.

2. Public Comment

Lynne Ferrell offered her congratulations to the Kent County Health Department for the opening of the new South Clinic facility.

3. KCFCCC Planning

Matthew VanZetten provided an update, saying work has been done over the summer to prepare a scope of work which identifies the feedback from the Council survey. It is inclusive of much of the work that is being done in the community. This is in preparation for identifying next steps for the Coordinating Council is about.

Old documents have been reviewed and an historical workbook created to provide to members, potential members and a consultant who may be hired, giving an overview of the history of the Coordinating Council.

The scope of work was sent out ahead of time, giving members a chance to review it. He said the hope is to move forward with this scope of work, with the Council's approval. The next step would be funding sought, a consultant secured to assist in operationalizing this and making sure the voices are heard.

Matthew added that the Coordinating Council needs to complement the work that is already going on in the community, making sure we are not duplicating efforts.

Lynne Ferrell added that the Executive Committee has reviewed this.

Jacob Maas made a motion to approve this scope of work and move forward with the process. Second was provided by Gary Lemke. MOTION CARRIED.

4. **KConnect Next Steps**

Matthew welcomed Pam Parriott and Angie King from KConnect to provide an update. He added that KConnect is getting ready to start some rollout work. He said they have been meeting with the trustees of KConnect and are ready to share with the Coordinating Council where everything is headed.

Pam Parriott began her update by reminding everyone of KConnect's purpose and vision statement.

Angie King, one of KConnect's project managers, shared some data about the county. She mentioned that the County average MEAP 3rd Grade Reading Score is 65%, while the state average is 61%. The top three performing public school districts in the county for 3rd Grade reading are Lowell, East Grand Rapids and Byron Center. The bottom three schools in this same category are Grand Rapids, Godfrey Lee and Kelloggsville. She then reviewed the detailed information about various racial categories, and the percent of free/reduced lunch by school district. One could quickly see the correlation between race and poverty with academic performance. Angie shared similar data for 8th grade MEAP science and 8th grade MEAP math scores. She also noted the community wide challenges for all children in science performance.

KConnect's job is to help our community be passionate about this data and to provide a clear path for ALL Children in Kent County to achieve academic success and economic prosperity.

Pam talked about the work groups that are being put in place, including a Prenatal to 3rd Grade Workgroup, High School to Career Workgroup, Data Workgroup, Basic Needs Workgroup and an Equity/Targeted Universalism Workgroup. The workgroup co-chairs have been trained and onboarded. They are beginning to meet and shape their work by identifying additional individuals who will participate in the workgroups.

In September there will be a backbone convening. In October they will be forming the Accountability Partners Council and kicking off the workgroups.

In November Workgroups will begin monthly meetings and in December the Dashboard will be launched.

After discussion among the Council, regarding timelines and deliverables, Pam Parriott said that the timeline is not rigorous, but Lynne Ferrell added there is an urgency amongst the funders to see some deliverables.

5. Updates

A. Section 515/100% Purchase of Service Planning Update

Matthew began with a brief overview of the State's mandate regarding child welfare services and the shift to 100% Purchase of Service Community Based Care. He said we had been at 80-85% private agency-based with the remainder of cases served by the Department of Human Services.

In 2013, a plan was created and approved by the State, which has been in the implementation stages in the last year. The Department of Human Services has a contract with each of the private agencies now, allowing them to be fully reimbursed for each type of case the department that was previously handled and managed by DHS staff. Matthew congratulated all parties related to the shift because this is a significant system change and required a lot of hard work and sacrifices on everyone's part. Matthew added that this now allows for more accountability.

In the midst of this, after our community talking about wanting to create a care management entity between network180, DHS, the court and the County to serve the high need children with a case rate, the State DHS moved forward the idea that all children should be served by a case rate, not just those who are high risk-high need. This was documented in its Performance-Based Funding Report.

Kent County has been asked to lead the change effort by piloting it. Matthew said this has created questions such as how to manage a capitated case rate in a child welfare system; how is the rate set; how is it evaluated; what are the legislative changes needed to make it all happen; issues related to Medicaid funding. In sum, there are a lot of discussions occurring in the Child Welfare Arena.

The Senate and House have agreed to provide funding for technical assistance. We have hired a consultant, Beth Skidmore, who has worked with the Child Welfare League of

America, and has led some pay-for-performance models in other communities. She will help identify how to manage technology differently and how to establish a governance model in our community amongst the private providers.

The State has been working to provide all of its departments across the counties and private agencies with a practice model, Strengthening Our Families and Children (SOFAC), which is about teaming with families to look at their strengths in a more holistic way, getting more social capital and working with the families earlier. There will be a conversation with the DHS about the role responsibility of how it relates to a private consortia.

There are currently a lot of discussions taking place about many of the same kind of things that KConnect is addressing: facilitation of process, redesign toward best practices; and moving past being “nice” and having difficult conversations in the open in a professional manner.

Matthew said there will be monthly meetings with the consultant and hopefully by February there will be an implementation plan. Then, by October 1 of 2015, the private agency consortia will have bundled case rate, will be able to do better assessments on the front end, will not be stymied by the payment systems that DHS currently has and will be able provide the right services to children and families at the right time with ways that make sense.

Comments included being mindful of early intervention and the influx of new cases coming through the system in 2013, with promises that 2014 will be even higher amounts of new cases. Judge Gardner said she has been having conversations with Savator Selden-Johnson and the State DHS office, in addition to GVSU to do a study and get some data on 2013 and figure out why this is happening and potentially look at more prevention services to keep them from the court system.

B. PIHP/Healthy Michigan Update

Scott Gilman indicated he would be talking about Medicaid funding and General Fund reductions related to the Healthy Michigan implementation. As of January 1, Kent County was forced into a pre-paid inpatient health plan (PIHP) affiliation called Lakeshore Regional Partners (LRP). The money now has to be split up among five Community Mental Health (CMH) partners. Kent County represents 50% of the population. Ottawa, Muskegon, Allegan and West Michigan CMS are all in the regional affiliation, managed by a separate board of directors. The network180 board approved the budget of \$113 million for Medicaid, which is about \$4 million less than what they need. The PIHP has committed to close that gap of \$4 million, to come from risk reserve funds. The good news is that there will not be any catastrophic program reductions this year. The bad news is, a lot of the risk reserves are being used to keep everyone whole. That gives them this year to figure out amongst the five CMH’s on how they will reduce their overall costs.

Kent County’s cost per consumer is significantly less than others in the LRP, but those in

the PIHP need assistance to figure this out, or we will have a problem with 2016 budgets.

The State has made it clear that Kent County cannot get out of the PIHP, so we have to move forward.

As a result of Healthy Michigan implementation, the General Fund was cut significantly. In Fiscal Year 2013 network180 had a \$16 million State General Fund budget, and they are projecting it will go down about \$7 million. A little more than half of that amount is dedicated to people that go into State hospitals. There is very little flexible money. There has been a big controversy in the state on what that number should actually be. He added that Chair Koorndyk, Wayman and Matthew have gone to bat for network180, indicating that number is wrong. The State is now looking at a supplemental and taking it very seriously. Representatives Rob VerHeulen and Pete MacGregor have been helpful in pushing this forward as well.

6. Miscellaneous

- Lynn Heemstra mentioned their LEAD Program for youth 15-21 years of age, will be starting in October. It is the Youth Employment Civic Engagement Leadership Program at City Hall. Participants must be City residents to be eligible.

In addition, the To College Through College Initiative is underway, funded by the Lumina Foundation, focusing on the 2013-14 graduating class. The target is first generation college students, looking at barriers to them achieving a degree. Lynn said they have been working with KConnect and ACSET for this initiative. A press conference will be held on September 18 with local higher education presidents.

- Maureen Noe announced it is United Way Campaign Kickoff Week. On Friday, September 12, United Way's Day of Caring, 1,300 individuals are volunteering for 63 different projects. This is the best response ever. The kickoff is scheduled for 11:30-1:30 on that day at Heartside Park.

As an update, Maureen shared that through their Strategy Allocation Process, United Way has received 31 different concept papers that came through their innovation, collaboration filter. The papers are currently being reviewed. Some will be chosen to go through the design-thinking phase in January.

- Adam London mentioned the successful opening of the new South Clinic. It includes a dental clinic operated by Michigan Dental Clinics. They already have about 500 appointments scheduled. This is filling a huge need in the community. He asked the group to feel free to refer clients to the clinic. Midental.org is the website gives the information needed to contact the clinic.

Second, a group, California Newsreel is producing a documentary on Early Childhood Development, called "Raising America". He said the Health Department is working with partners to bring a sneak preview of the documentary to Celebration

Cinema. The date is not set yet. The goal will be to bring in policymakers, public and private, to the screening, using it as a springboard for conversation on how to incorporate health policies into what we are doing here in Kent County. A Save-the-Date flyer will be sent out once a date is firmed up.

- Candace Cowling shared that September 24, Dr. Manuel Pastoor will present at Wealthy Theatre in the evening. He is a dynamic speaker and author of “Just Growth”, focuses on equity in terms of economic development. The program begins at 5:30 PM.
- Jacob Maas said they moved their service center from Leonard and Ball to the Westside Complex. He also mentioned that ACSET revised their interlocal agreement, also known as the Articles of Incorporation in order to add Barry County. Their region will now encompass Kent, Allegan and Barry Counties.
- Gary Lemke mentioned he was hosting an Allergy-free Food Workshop today.
- George Meek thanked Matthew VanZetten for meeting with him and getting him up-to-date on the Council.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.