

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2016 12:00pm – 1:30pm
Kent County Admin Office – **Room 311**
300 Monroe Ave NW

Members/Alternates

Present:

Judge Patricia Gardner, Ron Caniff, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Kristen Gietzen, Scott Gilman, Lynn Heemstra, Adam London, Jacob Maas, Nancy Marshall, Jim Paparella, George Meek, Julie Ridenour, Savator Selden-Johnson, Michelle VanDyke, Patti Warmington, Michael Zoerhoff.

Members Absent:

William Forsyth, Sandra Ghosten-Jones, Cynthia Gladyness, Jack Greenfield, Diana Sieger, Teresa Neal

Guests:

Tracie Coffman, Kathy Freberg, Maureen Kirkwood, Scott Orr, Pam Parriott, Carol Paine-McGovern, Rebecca Rynbrandt, Darrell Singleton, George Tyndall, Annmarie Valdez, Matthew VanZetten, Terry Walsh, Steve Zwart.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Judge Gardner called the meeting to order. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

After a review of the February minutes, a motion to accept them was provided by George Meek, second by Lynne Ferrell – vote was UNANIMOUS.

2. Public Comment

There was none.

3. West Michigan Partnership for Children

Judge Gardner introduced the group and Steve Zwart began the update. He said the intent of the West Michigan Partnership for Children (WMPC) is better outcomes for children and families that are placed out-of-home in foster care by DHHS. Steve talked about the theology behind the WMPC.

George Tyndall talked about the work that has gone into developing the case rate for the WMPC. He said the key concept behind Performance-Based Contracting is moving

away from per diem, which incentivizes child welfare agencies for having kids in care. This work has been done around how to develop a case rate that pays for services and not incentivizing overly-long lengths of stay, but also not sending kids home too early and putting them in harm's way. A system that bridges those two concepts allows greater flexibility and creates a system that is pay-for-performance, creating better outcomes.

A big concern across the country is that agencies who have taken on pay-for-performance contracts have failed, due to the lack of science in determining the rate. A great deal of time, energy and resources have been put into developing an actuarially-based case rate for this system.

This system is also designed to provide flexibility for the unique needs of families.

Currently, there is general agreement on the structure and concept of the case rate which will soon go to the State Budget office.

Steve Zwart continued the update, speaking to the technology aspect of the WMPC. A number of the performance-based systems have lacked access to good data. The legislature allocated dollars to provide for startup of technology costs. A number of systems were evaluated and Mindshare, a data engine, was selected. It can receive uploads of data and provide information as needed. The Department of Technology, Management and Budget evaluated it for security and safety. The legal division evaluated it for security. Mindshare is compatible with other database systems too.

After purchase, it will be 6-8 weeks for the data technologists at Mindshare to receive the data and work with agencies to set up the system to do the protocols. There will be a data transfer and an evaluation of the data that will need to happen after to determine the data is good. Steve said they are looking toward an implementation of July 1st this year.

Jim Paparella continued with the update. He said the success of this initiative will depend on the skillsets, quality and structure of the lead agency. Kent County is unique in that we are creating a lead agency from scratch. We have achieved 501(c)3 status. They are working with a search firm for a CEO, currently in the application and early vetting status. The rest of the structure will fall into place once the CEO is selected. The Legislature allocated funds for the startup.

There is a lot of policy-writing that needs to take place. The agencies are working with the State and the County on this.

A number of personnel roles have been determined. The lead agency will have a master contract with the State and will sub-contract with the various providers.

The consortia is looking to retain legal counsel to assist with legalities and also working to put insurance and liability protection in place.

Terry Walsh talked about the funding that was brought together as a result of partnerships between local agencies and funders. He thanked Kent County for their supportive role in this process. He said we are still working on how to get this message to the broader community. Kent County was chosen to pilot this program due to our collaborative nature and philanthropic community. There is a boiler plate contract between the

consortium and DHHS that is being looked at by legal counsel now. The consortium will have sub-contracts with each of the five individual agencies that form the consortium.

George Tyndall said one of the key things they continue to work on is the Hold Harmless concept. Because the incentives are built into the case rate, there is no need for additional rewards and penalties. If the case rate turns out to be wrong, changes will be considered.

The State Title IV-E plan will have to be amended. The State is working with the consortium to facilitate it.

Steve Zwart asked for questions. When asked by Candace Cowling how this will look differently to the child, the biological parent and the foster parent, Steve said the child will now have the same caseworker. There are so many services available so the consortium will have a super clinical team with the ability to provide services at a moment's notice with real-time data. The WMPC will be responsible to provide capacity.

Matthew added that determination of care and flexibility of payment for Foster Care will reside with the WMPC, allowing for higher levels of payments for Foster Care parents, hoping to encourage them to take children they have concerns about. It will also be more flexible to allow for more respite and mental health services for the higher levels of children to avoid them going into a residential facility.

Judge Gardner commented that the judges will be happy to have the statistical data this system allows. The stats should also help us to see how to better implement Child Welfare in Kent County.

4. **Health Net CMS Grant**

Maureen Kirkwood began with the update. She said factors that determine what a healthy person is include: medical/clinical care, behaviors, genetics, poverty, housing, access to transportation and access to healthy food. The health care system is now taking a look at this and being held responsible for outcomes related to these things.

HealthNet is a non-profit developed as a part of a community planning process and part of the Community Health Needs Assessment. HealthNet is a bridge organization, the connector between clinical care and the network of community services that address the social determinants of health. They also help navigate the system.

The Accountable Health Communities Health Opportunity, a large grant coming from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services, is due May 18. The award would be issued the end of this year. The grant will begin in April 2017. This is a 5-year model and is a research project by CMS. They are trying to test to see if there is a systematic way to determine if people need help with the social determinants of health at clinical sites. If there is a universal screening that would funnel people into navigation to access those services, would it make a difference with health outcomes, cost of care and quality of health care?

The grant is designed to address housing instability, utility needs, food insecurity, interpersonal violence and transportation. The model provides for the funding to go to a

bridge organization, who would be responsible for partnering with clinical delivery sites; hospitals, primary care providers; behavioral health sites. Systematical screening for these social needs takes place at the clinical site and a referral system that is in place points them to the service.

The other piece seeks to align the community around this issue. A lot of the alignment work is already happening in our community, so this is a way to add momentum to these efforts.

Matthew stated there is a big issue with recapturing the funds that are saved.

5. **Nomination Committee Report**

Julie Ridenour and Patti Warmington provided their recommendations for the KCFCCC Executive Committee, with Adam London as chair and Cynthia Gladyness as vice-chair. Other members of the committee include, Judge Gardner, Scott Gilman, Candace Cowling, Diana Sieger, Lynne Ferrell, Julie Ridenour and Patti Warmington.

Michelle VanDyke made the motion to approve this roster, second was provided by George Meek. Motion carried.

6. **Updates**

a) **YCDC Presentation Followup** – Matthew began, saying that at Amber Ericson’s recent update on this project, there were questions raised in regards to sustainability, work and moving forward. Following the meeting, the Executive committee put together a memo to Lynn Heemstra, Jody Peterson from Grand Valley’s CRI and Jack Greenfield, chair of the ELO, thanking them for their work and suggesting they work with K-Connect and its data committee to start looking at some of the big picture issues about the work and its relevance. Issues include moving the data beyond the city of Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids Public Schools to include Kentwood, Wyoming and other non-profit afterschool programs in the community. The warehouse and how they look at the Juvenile Justice findings were focused on the Grand Rapids Police Department. This data needs to include Wyoming, Kentwood and the Kent County Sheriff Department to get a whole picture. A Grand Rapids resident may get involved in a situation in another city. How do we think about this data in light of the other data systems we are creating? How can we layer the data to determine where we need to intervene earlier and differently? Matthew said we asked the ELO to work with the KConnect Data Committee to talk about where our community’s data warehouse is and what other sets of data we need to access in the near future. How can we expand the use of YCDC beyond Grand Rapids? This has been a big effort to get something operational. The next step is figuring out how to expand it and bring the right partners together.

b) **Lakeshore Regional Partners/network180 Update** – The State required the LRP to have a plan of correction, which was submitted. Meanwhile, in the Governor’s budget, Section 298 proposed that all management of PiHP functions and services be moved to the Medicaid Health Plan. It caused some confusion across the State, even some of the leadership in Lansing didn’t know it was going to be in the governor’s budget. Some of our members, Scott Gilman, Wayman Britt, Commissioner Dave

Bulkowski and Phil Weaver (a parent) were added to the Governor's Work Group.

Scott said he attended a meeting of the work group and there was a huge uproar at that meeting from some who voiced concerns over privatization of the public system. He stepped forward and called together a work group that includes about 122 members. This might give us the opportunity to come forward with some sort of a pilot project for Kent County. Matthew interjected that this has been a good thing for us because we have been able to build a lot of strong relationships with our current legislative leaders. They are very interested in helping us implement the things we have been talking about locally and getting us the flexibility to make that happen.

- c) **KConnect/ENTF Joint Meeting** – Matthew mentioned that Friday, May 13 at 8:30 AM, at the Eberhard Center, there will be a joint meeting of KConnect and ENTF to outline where they have been over the last year and where they are going. This will be an important stakeholder update. The meeting will conclude by Noon.

7. **Miscellaneous**

- a) **George Meek** - He mentioned Michael Young's funeral was the largest funeral they have ever had in Rockford.
- b) **Savator Selden-Johnson** – She introduced her new District Manager, Scott Orr. He is a child welfare professional, joining DHHS about a month ago.
- c) **Lynn Heemstra** – She mentioned an upcoming event, the American Youth Policy Forum and the Wallace Foundation will be coming to Grand Rapids on June 1, highlighting the work being done here.
- d) **Jacob Maas** – On May 10 they will have an event at DeVos Place with KentISD exposing youth to high demand occupations in Health Care, IT, Construction and Manufacturing. Employers are focused on highlighting careers, not their companies. Over 9,000 students will attend this year.
- e) **Pam Parriott** – She introduced her new staff person, Anissa Eddie. She is a process-facilitator working with the Early Childhood, Equity and Inclusion and Community Engagement Workgroups.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at the Kent County Administration Building, Room 311.