

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2017 12:00pm – 1:30pm
Kent County Administration
Room 311

Members/Alternates

Present:

Melanie Beelen, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell,
Tracey Fountain, Judge Patti Gardner, Scott Gilman,
Jack Greenfield, Ron Koehler, Jacob Maas, George Meek,
Jim Paparella, Wende Randall, Julie Ridenour, Diana Sieger,
Michelle VanDyke, Matthew VanZetten, Patti Warmington,
Michael Zoerhoff.

Members Absent:

Wayman Britt, Ron Caniff, Chris Becker, Cynthia Gladyness,
Lynn Heemstra, Adam London, Yazeed Moore, Teresa Neal,
Jackie O'Connor, Savator Selden-Johnson.

Guests:

Veneese Chandler, Kristen Gietzen, Maureen Kirkwood,
Carol Paine-McGovern, Scott Orr, Leslie Pelkey,
Annemarie Valdez, Steve Zwart, Betty Zylstra.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Judge Gardner, past chair, called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

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

2. Public Comment

Scott Gilman gave a quick update on Section 298. He said emails and action alerts have been sent out relating to the privatization of the Mental Health system. Rep. VerHeulen worked with the Lt. Governor and a large work group, which made the recommendation that the public mental health system should not be privatized. After the submission of that report, the Michigan Association of Health Plans objected because they weren't at the table. They have gained the attention of Rep. Canfield, who has taken Rep VerHeulen's place as chair of the DCH Budget. The budget is in debate right now between the House and the Senate. Rep. Canfield wants one of the pilot projects, which is to be rolled out this year, to be a privatization model, which means the public mental

health system dollars would flow through a health plan.

Scott said our elected officials have been tremendous in working on this project, especially Rob VerHeulen. Stay tuned for updates.

3. West Michigan Partnership for Children Update

Steve Zwart announced that they have hired a CEO, Kristyn Peck. She is currently the Associate Director of Children's Services for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington DC. She has significant legislative experience, network management. She is an LMSW, not a child welfare specialist, but is very much a subject matter expert in immigration, the legislative processes and how to oversee the management of a large network. She has done a tremendous amount of collaboration, writing of position papers, white papers, given testimony in congress. Kristen has done international speaking at conferences, international travel to troubled parts of the world and done technical consulting. She has extensive background in international human trafficking. She holds impeccable references.

Kristen will begin on April 24. Her first order of business will be getting to know the five Foster Care agencies and then will begin hiring people.

The West Michigan Partnership for Children has new offices located at 215 Sheldon, across from Cherry Health.

In other news with the WMPC, the data sharing agreement is at the privacy group within MDHHS, which is the last step to secure its signature.

Steve Yager will be retiring on the 28th of April. His replacement is Herman McCall. Steve said they will try to get him here to meet members of the group.

Finally, the Case Rate issue. Public Consulting Group is the actuarial firm working on the case rate and utilizing FY2016 information to update the case rate. They will be meeting with WMPC in May to present its revised figures. At this point, it seems as though the Governor's Office is supporting the rate as well as the State Budget office. They expect a first case rate payment on October 1st.

4. Child Welfare Advisory Committee

Matthew VanZetten began the update, stating a draft of the Child Welfare Advisory Committee was provided back in November. The Committee will be an advisory board to the Department of Health and Human Services and West Michigan Partnership for Children about the implementation of the project and the outcomes in the out-of-home work and the in-home work. They will review outcomes, look at progress and report back to the Coordinating Council and to the community with recommendations for improvement.

Based on the feedback from November, some edits were done. The Values from the Coordinating Council's Our Children, Our Future Standards were included. The charge of the committee will be grounded in these values.

The appointments will now include two judges, instead of one. The community representative will now include four people.

The nomination committee will be responsible for vetting the process and seating the membership. Hopefully training for this committee will take place this summer.

A motion to approve the Child Welfare Advisory Committee as presented was provided by Scott Gilman, 2nd provided by Diana Sieger, Jim Paparella abstained from the vote due to his membership on the WMPC Board, the vote was UNANIMOUS.

5. Child Care Fund Update

Matthew VanZetten gave an overview of the Child Care Fund issue where the State was questioning reimbursement of certain payments made using these funds. In working with the State Legislators, this issue was worked out and it also resulted in rewriting of the Child Care Fund Handbook.

This workgroup has been working diligently on the rewrite, but there have been some unresolved issues in the handbook that Senator MacGregor will be submitting legislation on. This relates to relative licensing of homes and payments for those things. Due to the West Michigan Partnership for Children, these issues will not affect Kent County.

One issue that will affect Kent County is on the Juvenile Justice, Mental Health and Child Welfare side. The issue is that the State has written into the Child Welfare Handbook that they will not pay for services that are funded by another source. Mental Health services are all funded by the qualified health plans through Medicaid. They won't fund housing due to other funding available. They are not budging on this one. Parent Support Partners is the other program the State will not fund because it is funded by Medicaid. Medicaid can't support all of those costs. Senator MacGregor is working to get legislation that would trump that.

After discussing this in the next Executive Committee, there may need to be some action taken to assist in getting this passed. The Medicaid budget that Network180 has access to will not cover these costs. These critical services are key in keeping children out of the WMPC because the outcomes are better if we can keep kids in their family and the community.

6. Health Net/CMS Grant Update

Matthew introduced the CMS grant and asked Maureen Kirkwood to provide a brief overview.

Maureen shared that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded funds to HealthNet by way of the Accountable Health Communities Grant. HealthNet is the only agency in Michigan funded; and over a five year period will receive, a total of \$4.51 million.

The funds are designated to formalize a system to connect clinical care with the social determinants of health (i.e., conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning

and quality-of-life outcomes and risks). These things are known to have a greater impact on the health of individuals and families than clinical care. Right now, there is no system connecting hospitals, primary care clinics, specialty clinics, dental offices and clinical care delivery sites to our network of community services we have in Kent County. The goal is to determine if this program will reduce inappropriate hospitalizations and emergency department use by Medicaid and Medicare recipients. Maureen said the downside is there may not be enough community services to address the need.

HealthNet will act as the bridge organization between the clinical delivery sites and the network of community services. The social determinant of health domains (the areas CMS requires screening) are housing, food insecurity, transportation, utility assistance and interpersonal violence. The clinical partners are Spectrum Health: Butterworth Emergency Department and Labor and Delivery, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital Emergency Department, Metro Health Uof M, Metro Health Emergency Department and Labor and Delivery. Partners also include Cherry Health network of primary care clinics and four additional mental health providers: Family Outreach, Salvation Army Turning Point, Catholic Charities and Arbor Circle. These partners have committed that all Medicare and Medicaid recipients that come into their services will receive screenings for the social determinants of health. None of the money can be used for services, only for screening, referral to HealthNet and staff making the connections to services. The grant specifically excludes payment of services.

Matthew commented that there may be enough dollars in the various government systems to provide the needed services, but it may be a matter of changing the policy on how they dollars are used to create flexibility.

Maureen added that the grant tasks us with doing a community alignment, like Matthew mentioned. She said United Way is a partner in this grant to update their 211 System more frequently than they currently are able. The entire 1st year is planning, so the screening will not start until May 1, 2018.

When asked what happens to the data, Maureen said CMS' web-based database will be used to enter individuals who will be screened and will be matched to the Federal Medicare database. The State Department of Health and Human Services had to also commit to data sharing because they have the Medicaid data.

7. **Miscellaneous**

a). Jack Greenfield – Arbor Circle did a landscape analysis regarding LGBTQ Homeless Youth. Documentation was mailed out to partners and a copy of the report is available. He said Arbor Circle continues to pursue this and look at some national consulting through True Colors, allowing for the tools to begin the next steps to raise awareness, look at data and identify a plan going forward. Also, on May 3rd Arbor Circle will honor Terry DeRuiter and Mary Alice Williams at the Fund Raiser Spring Dinner.

b). Jim Paparella – He mentioned DA Blodgett/St. John's turns 130 this year. He added they posted a celebration of same-sex adoption on their Facebook page and has only received positive feedback.

c). **Candace Cowling** – There is a showing of a documentary called *Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope* that will air on April 25 from 1:00-3:00 PM at Celebration Cinema North and is free. Candace said there is a lot of great work being done around trauma and trauma care. This topic is being brought to the public and more important, so is the topic of resiliency. Information will be sent out to members.

9. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m. The next meeting will take place on June 6, 2017, at the Kent County Administration Building, Room 311.