

Kent County Family & Children's Coordinating Council

KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2020 12:00pm – 1:00pm
Kent County Administration Building
Room 311

Members/Alternates

Present: Ron Caniff, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Judge Gardner, Sandra Ghoston-Jones, Kristen Gietzen, Maureen Kirkwood, Adam London, George Meek, Jackie O'Connor, Julie Ridenour, Savator Selden-Johnson, Diana Sieger, Scott Smith, Michelle VanDyke, Matthew VanZetten.

Members Absent: Melanie Beelen, Chris Becker, Tracey Fountain, Cynthia Gladyness, Lynn Heemstra, Jacob Maas, Jim Paparella, Kasie Pickart, Bill Ward.

Guests: Heather Boswell, Matt Channing, Jenn Headrick, Joseph Jonaitis, Karen Lezan, Carol Paine-McGovern, Kristyn Peck, Wende Randall, Annemarie Valdez.

1 Welcome & Call to Order

Adam London, Chair, called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

George Meek made a motion to accept the minutes from the January meeting, second was provided by Michelle VanDyke, vote was unanimous.

Judge Gardner made a motion to accept the agenda as written, 2nd was provided by George Meek – Vote was unanimous.

2. Public Comment

There was none.

3. Census Presentation – Joe Jonaitis from the U.S. Census Bureau provided the group with an update on what is happening in preparation for the upcoming census.

He provided a timeline of the process from notification of the census through the efforts to collect the data from each household.

Census day begins April 1, 2020 and data results will be released on April 1, 2021. After discussing the methods that will be used to collect the Census Data and the importance of counting as many people as possible, Joe offered to speak to other groups if there are others that should hear his presentation.

Matthew VanZetten mentioned that the County and City will be sending out information to the citizens soon.

4. Ready By 5 Presentation – AnneMarie Valdez and Heather Boswell provided an update on the Ready By 5 initiative, funded by the Early Childhood Millage.

The goals of the Millage are:

- Increase Early Learning Opportunities and Child Health
- Increase Cross Sector Collaboration
- Reduce Outcome Disparities

First Steps was chosen as the Fiduciary of the millage funds.

Heather Boswell went through the process and programs selected to be funded by this program.

6. Miscellaneous

- Jackie O'Connor shared that AAAM sent Census information to all of the partners to talk with Seniors who go to warmer climates for the winter that clarifies their residence for Census purposes.
- Ron Caniff asked Adam's input on the Coronavirus. Adam agreed to talk about it at the end of the meeting.
- Savator Selden-Johnson said that Centralized Intake at DHHS is undergoing a redesign. The department is doing redesign of CPS policy and practice. Looking for a reduction in the number of complaints, assignments, investigations and removals. She added they have collected 3-4 months of data from the Blind Removal pilot they are currently engaged in. The process removes racial and ethnic identity connected to a case to make an unbiased decision on removal.

DHHS is also looking into children who are lingering in residential care.

Additionally looking into issues with children facing maltreatment in care in out of home placement.

- Adam London – The consultants provided the 1st draft of the Mental Health Crisis System project. It was given to the Consensus Workgroup. The consultants will be coming to meet with the group next week to go through the report.

Adam is providing a copy of the report for the Council. He also has a link to the recorded presentation and is asking the group to provide him with their comments.

As an update to the coronavirus situation, Adam said there are meetings once or twice a day he is participating in with the Department of Health and Human Services and the CDC to get the latest updates. He explained that there is not a lot that is known about the coronaviruses, but that they are generally contained within the animal population, but find a way to mutate to become communicable within the human population. Adam shared that the virus doesn't seem to be mutating further, which is good news. He said if we isolate the sick and quarantine the exposed, based on the reproduction rate of the virus, it should die out in a couple of months.

7. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2020.