

Public Private Partnership Meeting Notes

October 13, 2017

Attendees

PPP members: Zophelia Mays (Youth Representative), Jean Shaw (CCL Associate Commissioner), Tina Amberboy (SCCC), Wayne Carson (ACH Child & Family Services), Katie Olse (TX Alliance), Michael Redden (New Horizons/Co-Chair), Glenn Scruggs (Giocosa), Robert Ellis (Pegasus), Tim Brown (Methodist Children's Home), Trevor Woodruff (DFPS), Kristene Blackstone (CPS Associate Commissioner/Co-Chair), Judge Melissa DeGerolami (CPC of South Central TX), Jenifer Jarriel (DePelchin), Dr. Kurt Senske (Upbring)

Other Attendees: Ellen Letts (CPS), Linda Garcia (OCOK), Wendy Bagwell (CPS), Claire Hall (CPS), Kaysie Taccetta (CPS), Kim Wittenstrom (CPS), Jennifer Whalen (CPS), Judy Pavone (CPS), Leah Peterson (CPS), Katherine Barillas (One Voice Texas), Marni Morgan (A World for Children), Jessica Follett (MWC), Rona Statman (Every Child), Knox Kimberly (Upbring), Sarah Crockett (TX CASA)

PPP Members Not in Attendance: Christine Gendron (TNOYS), Scott Lundy (Arrow), Judge Rob Hofman, Luanne Southern (Casey Family Programs), Andy Homer (TX CASA), Adrian Gaspar (Youth Representative), Roy Block (Texas Foster Family Association), Sharayah Stiggers (Parent Advocate)

Discussion

Hurricane Harvey – The response received from DFPS staff, agency providers, and stakeholders was and still is phenomenal. Over 400 children and young adults in CPS care had to evacuate as well as many agency case workers and staff. Almost all have returned home but all are safe.

DFPS will be sending out a survey in the next couple of weeks to communities affected, to ask what else is needed and how we can help.

Temporary Emergency Placement Program (TEP) – Texas Legislators appropriated funds to implement the TEP program in strategic areas across the state. The program makes available emergency short term placement for children and youth that would otherwise be housed overnight in State

Offices or hotels. DFPS has “no eject – no reject” type TEP contracts with four service providers across the state. These providers are paid a daily rate to “reserve” beds (total capacity across the state is 20) and accept any and all children referred to the facility by DFPS State Office unless the facility is full.

There is currently funding for a year but the program has already provided a great benefit to children, youth and DFPS staff. TEP has also provided insight into the service needs of the children and youth utilizing this service and the statewide gap in capacity to serve them.

New DFPS Structure - The 85th Legislative Session passed two major bills that impact the DFPS structure; HB5 and SB11.

HB 5 has made DFPS a standalone agency with continued administrative ties to HHSC. DFPS now reports directly to the Governor’s Office which gives a bit more flexibility to the agency and, at the same time, increased accountability.

SB11 impacted the structure of DFPS by; consolidating the investigation units of CPS and DFPS Licensing under one Investigations Division, and by creating a Contract and Data Support Division. The Contract and Data Support Divisions are under the Deputy Commissioner and are expected to strengthen communication, training and data support across the agency.

FCR Performance Data FY 2017 (Handout) – FCR fourth quarter performance data of the 3b SSCC was shared with the group.

Strengths

- Children placed in family foster homes – Outcome 5
- Sibling groups placed together - Outcome 3b
- Preparation for Adult Living (PAL), 18 year olds completing PAL – Outcome 4b

Needed Improvements

- Placement Stability - Two or fewer placements in 24 months – Outcome 2a. This measure is a 24 month measure calculated by Chapin Hall, results shared are for a 6-month period.

Discussion on Performance Data Changes

- DFPS is moving away from the use of PMET data when possible as the data is difficult to verify.

- The agency is moving toward the utilization of CANS data and case reads for Community Based Care (CBC) implementation.
- Stage III CBC performance will focus on positive permanency outcomes, a reduction in the length of stay in care and a reduction in recidivism.
- Performance measures are by nature competing with each other and are meant to work together holistically and encourage that each placement decision is made in the best interest of the child.

Input from the CBC - PPP Performance Measures Subcommittee

- The preparation for adulthood performance measure on youth obtaining a driver's license and personal identification card would be best split into individual performance measures. Change may be made for FY18.
- Removing the age criteria in both Outcome 6a and 6c - Children and youth participate in decisions that impact their lives. Previously set at 10 years of age. Change may be made in FY18.

Region 3b Update (Handout)

- ACH/OCOK has increased the development of therapeutic foster care homes by 30%. However, the need for therapeutic foster care has increased at a faster rate by about 34%.
- ACH/OCOK has increased local capacity of foster families by 20%.
- Safety has improved. The Praesidium aggregate safety audit scores have increased by 15% from FY15 to FY16.
- ACH/OCOK continues to look at data related to placement stability and the continued need of a residential treatment facility within the catchment area.
- A 10 bed RTC has just opened in 3b and another opportunity is under development for a 20-30 bed RTC in the future.

Community Based Care (CBC)

CBC Overview

- SB11 expands FCR to CBC, adds kinship care, case management and reunification services.
- CBC shifts DFPS' role to quality oversight of conservatorship services
- Legislation allows DFPS to begin identifying 8 new catchment areas, with implementation subject to appropriation.

- Staged Implementation remains a part of CBC implementation and is contingent on the SSCC's readiness and DFPS approval to progress to each stage of implementation.

CBC Implementation Timeline

- CBC Implementation Plan is being drafted and, once approved, will be posted on the DFPS public website once finalized.
- The ACH/SSCC contract has been renewed for 60 days in order to negotiate the terms and conditions that encompass the CBC requirements and funding.
- Anticipated transition of case management (Stage II) for ACH will be in spring/early summer 2018.
- Region 2 RFA is under development for anticipated release in October 2017.
- Anticipated Stage I go-live date in for Region 2 is September 2018 (after 6 month start-up period and readiness certification)
- CBC RFA for Bexar County anticipated released November 2017
- Anticipated Stage I go-live date for Bexar county is October 2018 (after 6 month start-up period and readiness certification)
- 2 additional catchment areas will be identified and RFA's released in FY19

CBC Implementation Planning

- The PPP would like to review the criteria for an SSCC catchment area designation.
- The addition of kinship care into the model may impact the catchment area determination.
- Identification of the next catchment areas needs to be as quick as possible as the community commitment and engagement takes a lot of time and needs to begin now.
- SB 11 allowed for communities to express a desire to become an SSCC and respond to an RFA, however the fair and legal mechanism for that communication needs to be determined.
- The PPP and the agency will look at the "protection" of capacity within an SSCC catchment areas and how to balance, keeping children close to home and the overall capacity needs of counties in close proximity to a catchment area, as well as overall statewide capacity needs.
- Process and outcome evaluation is required by legislation and will help guide the development of the CBC model. The RFA to contract for the evaluation is currently under development.

- Education and training for the courts on what CBC will look like is needed.
- Education and training for CBC on court protocols and due process requirements needed for the agency and SSCC staff.

PPP Subcommittee Workgroups

- Volunteer members have been assigned to one or more of the following workgroups.
- The Director of CBC, Ellen Letts, will set up the initial meeting and try to be at attendance at each meeting.
- Each workgroup will need to choose their Subcommittee Chair and set subsequent monthly meetings.
- IT Systems subcommittee needs to start meeting sooner than later.
- Cross membership on workgroups needs to be taken into account as meeting schedules are planned.
 - Fiscal Matters*
 - Performance Outcomes & Quality Case Management*
 - IT Systems
 - Continuity of Care and Process Evaluation
 - Cultural Change & Communication

*These two subcommittees have already begun meeting and the Continuity of Care subcommittee will begin meeting monthly in November.

Next Meeting: January 12, 2018

Suggestions for January Meeting

- Criteria for an SSCC catchment area determination
- Workgroup updates