



Ohio Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Leadership Committee June 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Voting Members			
Name	Agency	Present	Not Present
Anderson, Karen	Cuyahoga County PCSA		X
Bergefurd, Angie	Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (OhioMHAS)	X	
Caldwell, Nicole	Guernsey County PCSA	X	
Carpenter, Carla	ODJFS, Deputy Director OFC	X	
Clark, Donna	Seeds 4 Life	X	
Collier-Jones, Dr. Ollie	Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition (OGKC)	X	
Darrington, China	Parent		X
Davis, Amanda	Foster Care Alumni	X	
Edelblute, David	Children and Families Section, Supreme Court of Ohio	X	
Flick, Melissa	South Central Ohio Job and Family Services	X	
Garbe, Megan	Foster Caregiver		X
Gilbert, Julie	Butler County PCSA	X	
Good, Jewell	Montgomery County PCSA	X	
Harding, Jodi	Lighthouse Youth Services	X	
Harvey, Nancy	Community Teaching Homes	X	
Hauck, Kimberly	Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)	X	
Jones, Sarah	Ohio Department of Medicaid	X	
Jordan, Penny	Kinship Caregiver	X	
Kresic, Matt	Homes for Kids,	X	
LaTourette, Sarah	Ohio Family and Children First	X	
Lill, A J	Erie County PCSA	X	
Marconi, Sharon	National Youth Advocate Program	X	
Mecum, Mark	Ohio Children's Alliance	X	
Reilly, Sean	UMCH Family Services		X
Rutherford, Tina	Franklin County Children Services		X
Sausser, Angela	Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO)	X	
Spears, Jeff	Ohio Department of Youth Services		X
Turner, Wendi	Foster and Kinship Parent	X	
Weir, Moira	Ohio JFS Director's Association (OJFSDA)	X	
Weitzel, Tim	Lorain County Domestic Relations Court	X	
Zawisza, Katie	Lutheran Homes Society, Inc. (Genacross)	X (by phone)	

Non-Voting Members: Kristi Burre, ODJFS; Chelsea Cordonnier, Children's Initiatives; Shannon Deinhart, OhioKAN; Lakeisha Hilton, ODJFS; Ellen Holt, ODJFS; Karen McGormley, ODJFS; Tequilla Washington, ODJFS; Crystal Williams, ODJFS; Lindsay Williams, ODJFS; Sue Williams, ODJFS; Lucy Gobble, ODJFS; Kari Akins, ODJFS; Renee Lupi (scribe)

Guests: Kristy Blazer DeVries, SAFY of Ohio; Pam Carter, Bureau of County Financial and Technical Assistance; Grace Kolliesuah, Ohio MHAS; Tara Shook, ODJFS; Don Warner, Oesterlen; Melissa Bacon OCALI; Elisha Cangelosi-FCCS Clinical Director; Jackie McCray, Cuyahoga DCFS;; Dawn Puster, Youth Villages .

I. Welcome, Introduction, & Review of May Meeting Minutes

- A. Welcome and Introductions: Carla welcomed new member Jodi Harding.
- Review/Approval of May Meeting minutes. Discussion of attendance but decided no changes were needed. Motion to approve and seconded. Vote carried.

II. Overall Committee Updates

A. Federal/State Updates

- Federal guidance - State must implement both the prevention and QRTP sections of the act to claim IV-E funds. States can submit programs they feel are supported. HHS additional information forthcoming.
- Kinship Support Services submitted ProtectOhio to the California clearinghouse. Review process complete over last year. ProtectOhio kinship intervention named as a promising intervention.

B. Executive Committee Updates

1. Kristi Burre gave an update on the newly formed Executive Committee made up of cabinet-level leadership to create cross-departmental collaboration. Kristi and Director Hall have incorporated this into the [leadership charter](#). Director Hall will chair the group of directors from ODJFS, DODD, ODM, DYS, ODE, LeeAnne Cornyn, OHMHAS, etc. The first meeting was held on May 28th. The goal of this committee is to improve communication, ensure all state departments are on the same page, provide real time executive-level input to the FFPSA Leadership Advisory Committee. This is a platform for child welfare reform.
2. All the Directors attended the May 28th meeting and ODJFS gave a high-level overview of FFPSA to make sure all agencies were on the same page. Director Hall gave an introduction and emphasized that collaboration is key. The group will meet bi-monthly which equates to about 3 more times this year. They will also have a subcommittee of the Executive Committee available specifically for FFPSA. The next meeting will be held on Friday, July 12, 2019 and will focus on QRTP. Crystal Williams is coordinating the discussion points for this meeting with the QRTP Workgroup leads to ensure they have the appropriate preliminary discussions to prepare to for this meeting. The QRTP subcommittee will meet in person on July 9th to solidify the workgroup's recommendations to inform the July 12th Executive Meeting discussion. Prevention Services and trauma informed care came up in the discussion and the group is open and interested in having a higher-level agreement on guiding principles across systems. This committee focuses on Family First and a broader perspective of child welfare transformation. The committee will pay attention to work being done with ODM and other entities and

will determine what types of alignment will be needed across agencies. The committee will also keep in mind ways to cost share or maximize funding.

3. QRTP subcommittee will provide guidance for the Executive Committee discussion and the goal is for ODJFS to walk away with any feedback for the Leadership Committee after their next meeting. Kristi Burre is working to expedite some of these key pieces.
4. Nancy Harvey emphasized upfront communication regarding any hardline opinions from the executive committee in order to avoid workgroup and subcommittee member frustrations if something is vetoed.

C. Kinship / Adoption Navigator Program Overview

1. Karen McGormley and Shannon Deinhart presented about FFSPA requirements for Kinship Navigator. They hosted their second stakeholder meeting and will have a third meeting on July 22 to present the program framework and plans for implementation. They will then have townhalls to gather any additional feedback. These are currently being scheduled.
2. HB 14 passed the House and Senate where it currently stands to be funded at \$3.5M.
3. Carla went to the meeting. Impressed by body of knowledge. Many perspectives in the room. Very good work.

D. Model Licensing Standards

1. Tara presented on the status of the workgroup's efforts to make a recommendation on which standards Ohio will align with. Timeframes:
 - a. *July 11* - two statewide webinars to spread the word about the changes.
 - b. *July 15* - Clearance for two weeks. Then answer the comments.
 - c. *July 30* - Deliver a procedure letter. Will have to go to CSI and a BIA will have to be done.
 - d. *December* - Final filed.
 - e. *March 1* - Effective date. Current foster parents some of the standards will not apply, must be done by end of their next certification period to align with the rule. (2-4 years).
2. The Model Standards Workgroup voted to align with everything. The workgroup consisted of PCSAO, OCA, county stakeholders, agencies, foster parents, and ODJFS staff from licensing and policy.
 - a. Key Discussion Points for Decisions

- i. *Immunizations* – The group decided to align for all children/youth in foster care and those other children/youth in their home. They will need to have all vaccines required by schools. ODE allows an exception for medical reasons, religious, and conscience. We decided to align with the model by only allowing an exception for medical reasons. There will be a need to give families time to catch up and become compliant. The group discussed the possibility of having a doctor sign off on the medical form. Whooping cough is required for all infants age birth to 18 months and other adults in the home. Flu shot is required for all household members annually unless there is a medical reason. Again, this is federal medical professionals recommending these standards. Plus, families would have 2-4 years to implement the changes to existing foster families. There is the question of who will pay for the additional immunizations? Children are covered but unsure about adults. If they have insurance many cover these. Flu shot seems to be the most controversial one.
 - ii. *Criminal records checks* - The group decided not to align since this standard is not aligned with CAPTA standards. This will loosen Ohio standards a little but will still have current rehab standards/language. Applicants only to be fingerprinted. We require all adults in the home to have them.
 - iii. *Swimming pools* - Decided to align.
 - iv. *Smoking* - Assurance signed they will not smoke in homes, car, or in presence of child. There is no discussion of vaping in the current language and this will definitely need to be addressed.
 - v. *Normalcy* - Adding an assurance statement they are doing this. It is already required to be done.
 - vi. *Co-sleeping* - Not allowed with infants.
 - vii. *Capacity* - Ohio 5 which falls within no more than 6. Currently, this is also in statute. Exceptions - sibling already placed, meaningful relationships, teens in care with a baby, and if child has a severe disability and has special training to deal with that type of disability (1 additional child only).
- b. All votes were in favor of aligning with the national models with the one exception - Criminal Record checks.
 - c. Additional training for implementation? OCWTP- This is already happening with Assessors. Increase recognition of the changes and more guidance on application. Perception if they meet requirements we should license them after a critical assessment.

- E. Tiered-Treatment Foster Care- Angela /Kristi - IHS, Casey and others involved in the group. In the first meeting, there was a presentation on research of what other states have done. There was also discussion on problem questions and how to resolve them. Karen McGormley is the new Project Manager solely for redesigning tiered-foster care. There is prioritization on family-based care interventions and ensure children are in the least restrictive, appropriate settings based on their needs. There is also an emphasis on kin once the decision is made to remove a child. There is a lack of treatment foster homes. Champs group national is in Ohio. Brandy Slaughter is the Project Manager with Mark's group OCA. Separate work but being done side by side.

III. Subcommittee Monthly Report Out

- B. Additional workgroup updates
1. Communications: This workgroup has also developed talking points for individuals looking to speak about family first. These are one-pagers. Also entering information in to the webpage. Internal workgroup communications-shared drive up and running. Wendi added that the parent/family group feedback was too much jargon. So, they changed the language. The communication is bi-directional. It is still in draft on the shared drive. Amanda will be doing 3 focus groups with the youth in care. They start next month.
- C. Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP) Subcommittee - Lakeisha and Mark presented updates for the 6 workgroups
1. *Agency readiness* - There was discussion within the group about OMHAS history requiring certification and accreditation for those agencies and supporting them with implementation. Also, reaching "deemed" status. There is an expressed need to publish information on QRTP accreditation, timeline, deemed status and to organize this in an easy to understand matter. Send a communication out licensed by ODJFS or OHMHAS.
 2. *Accreditation* - CARF and COA interviewed. New excel database list of all group homes in Ohio and whether or not they are accredited and by whom, whether or not they are licensed or not and by whom, and IV-E cost ceilings. This will be emailed out to all the workgroups and published on the FFPSA website.
 3. *Treatment Model* Workgroup updates on trauma informed Models –They decided to use the SAMSHA definition of trauma informed care as the one they will use in the workgroup and to influence future decisions. Voted to accept it and not re-write one. Larger QRTP subcommittee also voted to accept it.
 - This definition would be used to come up with domains and models. Then recommendations for which models we want to use in Ohio. FFPSA does not require states to agree upon which evidence-based trauma informed care

models. Motion to adopt SAMSHA definition of TIC- Matt-Julie second.
Vote- unanimous.

4. *Licensing & contracting workgroup*- This would eventually require changes in state legislation. Phase in period may be needed for the changes required by FFPSA.
5. *Level of care workgroup* – Assessing the role of the “qualified assessor”. Discussion around possibly having FCFC be the agency to do that. Also discussion around a possible Federal Waiver to allow PCSA to be in that role or possibly a MCO. Also exploring submit federal waiver so that they would not need an independent agency to do the assessing.
6. *Court Oversight* - The Court Oversight Workgroup assessing need for legislative changes and required hearing for QRTP approval and associated policies.

D. Prevention Subcommittee

- a. Clearinghouse-released. They are still reviewing MMT, Healthy Families America, and Motivational Interviewing.
- b. The Feds are not going to be able to review all programs fast enough so they are going to allow states funding for programs not yet sanctioned by the clearinghouse. But states will have to demonstrate certain criteria based on a letter from Commissioner Milner.
- c. In Home Parenting Workgroup - Updating fidelity sheets. Comparison of in home parenting and federal requirements, and considerations list. Lindsay-these three programs are being used within HMG.
 - i. Matt gave an overview of HFA (most well-funded- all but 2 counties have it available, HMG 0-3 and OCTF covers 3-5 year olds -partner with ODH.
 - ii. Lindsay gave an overview of Parents as Teachers. The focus is young children. Training out of state and must go there to do it.
 - iii. Wendi give an overview of Nurse family partnerships - Low income, first time mothers. Only in 4 counties but a lot of data on this one. It has been heavily researched. Must start in the 28th week-tight time lines. Reduction in smoking and hypertension, infant mortality, close births. Expensive program. RN level-Case Managers. Capacity an issue with this one. Goes 0-2 years old. Pregnant teens may be our only overlap.
- d. Deeper level conversations need to be had but are we going in a direction where we would deny other EBP's that are in the clearinghouse? Part of the answer in the letter from ACYF. There was addition discussion around not limiting programs but

bringing more in as needed. When looking at service array, what are needs of Ohio's families? There is a need for both those in and out of clearinghouse.

- e. The Mental Health workgroup discussed mapping of the location of EBPS related to mental health. This is what Sean was able to get from each of the developers. Providers stated they had staff that are not on the list. It may be that they are trained in a model but not certified. Etc. DYS used MST in their JJ work. Years to build up that practice. VH-JJ grant targeting counties that sent the most kids to DYS. Wide spread of no county availability.
 - i. The EBP Map may not be needed because it may only show the program's headquarters and not where the service is being provided. OH start is being done nationally. Plans to expand to 60 some counties from 30 some. Also family drug dependency courts. Supreme court would also advocate for this and we used to be nationally recognize for these.
- f. There was discussion around fidelity and the fact that this research done by Prevention workgroups is a starting point. But we as a state still need to show criteria and fidelity standards. Trauma informed approach is not part of prevention services criteria. Federal requirement sheet-changed with most recent Program Instructions.
 - i. Is this a county run or state run federally reimbursable service?
 - ii. If on the list how to move forward?
 - iii. If we have other EBP's how do we get them approved both interim and final CCH approval.
 - iv. Are we going to elect to move forward with IV-E prevention services? Vote-Carla motion Marc second. Others-yes. Unanimous vote.

IV. Adjournment of Session

A. Summary from the Day, Reflections, Overall Action Steps & Closing

B. NOVEMBER 25, DECEMBER 16, JANUARY 15 PROPOSED DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.