

# CFSR Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2023

**Attendance:** Katie Igo (CD), JoDene Bogart (CD), Julie Starr (CD), Angie Swarnes (CD), Kyle Kendrick (CD), Leanne Reese (MO CASA), Janet Braker (MACF), Teresa Hayner (Good Shepard Children and Family Services), Jamie Pinney (Foster Parent/Therapist), Heather Hendley (Capacity Building Center), Casey Figgins (OSCA), Lisa Ivy (Office of Childhood/DESE), Cla Stearns (DMH)

## **Team Charter Exercise:**

- First established in 2011 no updates since. Look at membership of committee as well. Did some exercises last year on what this committee should look like and what would make it a more functional group. Intentional about membership. Still recruiting.
- Still missing judicial voice (judge or JO), frontline staff voice needed.
- Jamboard exercise-Review current team charter.
  - Changes-remove ACF requirement, make it more personal to MO-use MO language, collaborating with families and youth is important (good to have more input from them), has this group really been an advisory resource? (what does this look like functionally?), representation from K-12 school-DESE,
  - Resonated-Safety, permanency and well-being language is important to keep in there, we do not work in isolation, community based services piece is important
- Team Charter mission changes
  - Add “long lasting connections” to apply to youth and children in out of home care.
- Responsibilities changes or additions
  - Bullet 4 seems out of place
  - Should the word strategy be in there somewhere? “help come up with strategies to work with CD to meet CFSR expectations”
  - Communicate to partners that this is a CW improvement plan, not just a CD improvement plan

## **CFSR Explanation of process**

- In Round 4 currently. In the assessment process. Statewide assessment-due end of May 2023. Includes onsite review-case level reviews, interviews with participants. Week of July 24, 2023. Stakeholder and partner interviews with federal partners. Organized by groups of people-judicial group, parent, youth, foster parents, staff groups, service provider group.
- Once assessment pieces happens Children's Bureau provides a final report. Should be end of August/beginning of September 2023. Cross cutting themes used to develop PIP. That becomes the driving force of all change for the next couple of years.
- Open to feedback (survey or word document) written drafts covering systemic factors.

## **Statewide Assessment (SWA):**

- Feedback on Statewide Assessment Event
  - Jamie Pinney-CD background was helpful and enjoyed hearing updates
  - Kyle Kendrick-Enjoyed hearing successes, seeing people write down ideas from other areas, seeing different perspectives from different areas.
  - Janet Braker-Great to have a seat at the table. Collaboration was nice. Talk with certain people a lot but the larger group was good to have to discuss issues and problem solve. Start to have conversations on a larger scale was good. Know where we are before review happens.
  - Lisa Ivy- Resource session. How familiar are you with our Office of Childhood? Very little knowledge of knowing about resource. Sharing what was out there was informative. Excited about sharing what Office of Childhood can do.
  - Casey Figgins-Overall theme collaboration and cooperation, people want to see more of this. Saw people exchanging contact information and ideas. More in depth conversations to continue would be good. See how we can develop services across other areas that some areas benefit from. Great to see foster parents connecting and talking about support groups. Parent support group availability-opportunity moving forward?
  - Heather Hendley-highlighted opportunities for CD and the courts to collaborate. Provide consistency across the state in how cases are managed.

## **Case Review Data:**

- Round 4 tool began being used in September 2022
- Tool is divided into safety, permanency, and well-being
- Review of PP with data from Round 4 thus far presented
- Janet Braker asked about how data is provided to contractors

- Jamboard activity
  - Strengths
    - Educational reviews were good
    - Safety items were fairly strong
    - Stability of placement was strong
    - Placement with siblings strong
    - Kinship placements were good
  - Concerns
    - Permanency achievement number was concerning
    - Parent visits and services to parents (parent engagement)
    - Worker contact with children and families (engagement)
    - Parental involvement with case planning (engagement)
    - Services to parents
  - Follow-up for areas needing improvement from this group
    - Specific training recommendations to help improve all family support team members in encouraging parental and child involvement in case planning
    - Seems there might be opportunity for referral to DMH services for parents, substance use, mental health, assistance when developmental disabilities could help
    - Take specific items back to small groups within the representatives' area and troubleshoot with them and bring this information back to the larger group
    - Parent engagement is a large part
    - Communicate the need for early involvement of families and children with mental health support services to prevent parents from asking custody to be taken
    - Share learnings when we focus improvement within own agencies
    - Pick an area, focus on it, and learn from successes to replicate
    - How to give parents engagement with the system vs. just CD. What can they engage with prior to CD involvement that would provide assistance for their family?

### **Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR)**

- Submitted to the Children's Bureau
- Outlines Title IV-B funding
- Areas of needs and strengths identified
- Formal request for funding for the next year
- Stakeholder involvement is expected

- In the past this group had reviewed certain sections and community partners contribute by describing any collaborations between agencies and CD
- What should it look like moving forward?
  - Some members did not know if they have helped in the past
  - How the agency works with other agencies that get federal funding has been a focus
  - CASA has submitted a statement in the past
  - Link to sign up to review sections of the statewide assessment is in the agenda

**Poll Everywhere Questions:**

***Are partner groups routinely involved in consultation with the Children’s Division to identify system concerns at the state level?***

- No 50%
- I’m not sure 50%
- Word routinely affects the answers

***Are partner groups routinely involved in consultation with the Children’s Division to identify system concerns at the local level?***

- Yes 33%
- I’m not sure 67%

***How could ongoing consultation with partner groups be improved?***

- Getting people to the table or on the WebEx is hard. So many people are involved in numerous improvement strategies it is overwhelming. Have to get consultation to start occurring first.
- Funding available to encourage involvement. (FCI-lunch)
- Focusing on topic or subsection might help. Some feel strongly about certain issues. Figure out what to take back to their group and provide feedback.
- Foster parent advisory groups? There is one-unknown where they share their information.

**Next Steps:**

- Sending link to sign up genius to identify sections to review.
- 10-14 day turnaround for feedback
- Next meeting will be June 2023.
- Think about case review data that was discussed today and talk to your groups and bring feedback next time. Focus on parent engagement feedback and input.