

CPW Decategorization Board Meeting Minutes

Location: Linking Families and Communities Conf. Room

Date: October 20th, 2011

Time: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Attendees: Luann Burgers, Tom Southard, Kyle Welander, Charles Clayton, Elizabeth Stanek and Andrea Harrison

Minutes

Due to unforeseen circumstances quorum was not achieved at the meeting. The group decided to discuss agenda items and reconvene the next day, October 21st at 1:30 pm, through teleconference to make necessary decisions. Harrison asked to add two items to the discussion. Those items were additional funding decisions and an amendment to the Youth Diversion Contract with AFES.

Harrison led the group through discussion of the agenda items beginning with an update of changes made to the budget since the last meeting. The only change reflected the decision by the Board at the October 5th meeting to take the funding for the AMP Contract out of the FY12 Allocation instead of Line Item #4 of the Child Welfare Transfer dated June, 2011. The change leaves \$5,937.80 left to use from Line Item #4 and reduces the amount of the Boards unrestricted money to \$21,749.16.

Clayton presented a proposal on behalf of the BSC Committee for use of BSC funds. The CPW Board currently has \$10,000.00 set aside for BSC objectives as designated in the Child Welfare Transfer dated June, 2011. The following items were outlined and discussed:

1. Cultural hygiene kits – request \$1,500.00 for continuation of project started last year. Money will be used to refurbish items in kits given out to shelters/foster families and prepare new kits to be given out though the year. The plan is to also buy books and small tote bags. The tote bags will enable them to make up smaller kits more suited to a specific child or age group placed in foster care. Southard asked what type of books will be purchased. Clayton said they will be books or series featuring minority characters and/or written by minority authors and will be age appropriate.
2. Family Support Program – request \$4,000.00 to work with minority families to provide support for them and the institution they are working with (i.e. schools, JCOs, DHS, etc.) during involvement. To be a liaison between the families and institutions to promote healthy, positive relationships and success in goals. Clayton stressed sometimes families are overwhelmed and intimidated at meetings and don't understand the language being used. His goal is to work with both sides to give insight on the situation and help them understand expectations. The group talked about payment, how the program would work and release of information. Southard

The purpose of this collaboration shall be to create a partnership within the three named counties and school districts and between these entities and the State of Iowa in order to develop services which improve the quality of life for the children and families in Webster, Calhoun and Pocahontas Counties.

mentioned a similar current project in another area where a designated person talks with families about the JCO/court process which has had success. Southard and Burgers discussed putting together stats showing current rate of missed initial meetings to support need and compare for success in the future. Sustainability is often questionable. Stanek suggested looking at working with providers to educate staff on how to work with minorities in case funding is limited or cut. Clayton mentioned if the program is successful but funding is cut they would look for ways to continue. Welander stated this has not been through the BSC Committee yet and suggested it should be taken to their meeting and brought back to the Decat Board. The group agreed.

3. Parent Training – request \$1,000.00 to \$3,000.00 to bring in instructors to “Train the Trainers” to provide Effective Black Parenting classes for minority parents in the area as well as materials for the class. The class would be 2 hours, 1 night a week, for 14 weeks with food and childcare provided. Referrals are typically by JCOs, DHS or schools. Southard asked what would make the parents go. Clayton said in the Waterloo area parents are usually offered by the referral source. For example, if parents attend JCOs may offer informal instead of formal involvement or DHS may close a case upon completion of the class. Also having area ministry involved helps families see the class is a benefit and not a hindrance. The group discussed the cost of the class for participants. Stanek questioned if the local DHS and JCOs would be willing to provide kickbacks to the families. Southard said he thought the JCOs would be interested. Burgers asked if this could be ordered by the Court. Clayton said he talked to judge McGlynn in the past and said he is interested and would consider it if he researched the class and felt it was appropriate.

Southard explained the situation concerning carryover of JCS funds. He proposed using \$60,000.00 of the \$100,000.00 currently unallocated but set aside in the budget for JCS programs to support the tracking and monitoring contract for services in Calhoun, Pocahontas and Webster counties. The CPW Board will not need to have a separate contract. The funding will be utilized through the current established contract handled by Southard's office and drawn down using the appropriate line item. \$40,000.00 will be left unallocated at this time. Southard continued by informing the Board at the rate of use the contract with Rabiners for service in the CPW area is predicted to have approximately \$23,000.00 left over at year end. Added to the unallocated funds, a total of \$63,000.00 FY10 carryover may be unused at year end. They are proposing to use as much of the FY10 carryover as possible before it is lost and replacing the funds next year with FY11 carryover which will then be on a 2 year budget with the ability to be kept an additional year.

Harrison reminded the group of the decision of the Board to include the Clinical Case Consultation funds identified in the Child Welfare Transfer of June 2011, Line Item #4, in the Individualized Services Contract. It was later noted the funds were to be kept on hold separately for a Service Area Wide Contract, but a dollar number was never established. Harrison told the group she was notified 10% (\$3,600.00) of the total of Line Item #4 was expected to be available for the Service Area Wide Contract and would have to be removed from the Individualized Services Contract. The group talked about how the service might be provided.

Harrison informed the group she contracted the Waterloo Service Area in response to a follow up item to ask what options they had for utilizing the funds in Line Item #4. There were no suggestions given was told to have the liaison, Welander, inquire if clarification on the restrictions in the letter was needed. When Harrison asked if the Allen Memorial Hospital request for funding the Child Protection Center was an acceptable use, the contact said she didn't think it was but to have Welander verify. Welander said other areas are having the same difficulties utilizing the funds and some are looking at respite care. The group discussed the use of the funding for respite care and what it might be in our area. Foster care needs were also discussed. Clayton said he didn't realize the need for respite and foster care was so big in our area. He asked if it would be worth it to open AFES during the weekend to provide respite care. The group discussed what he would need to provide service. Clayton will look into the possibility.

Harrison told the group she would propose to designate saving the remaining \$21,749.16 of the FY12 allocation for carryover into FY13. The only funding guaranteed to carryover is the line item allocation from the previous year.

Harrison informed the group she was contacted about a change needed in the Youth Diversion Contract with AFES when the last Amendment was sent in and approved. The purpose of the contract states "to help deter delinquents in the school system from having law enforcement called and charges pressed on them" but the Contract does not specify a timeframe of how long the clients are expected to stay without having charges pressed. Harrison discussed this with Clayton prior to the meeting. Clayton said they have always used the school year when they were referred as a timeframe. This has been the practice and basis for their statistics. Harrison will propose to add the timeframe to the contract through an amendment.

There was no further discussion.

The meeting was concluded at 2:30 pm.

Follow-up Items

1. Send out notes on the meeting for everyone to have for reference during the teleconference on Friday October 21, 2011. *Completed 10/21/11*

Next Meeting

Date: Friday October 21, 2011

Time: 1:30 pm by teleconference