

Kent County  
**Family & Children's**  
Coordinating Council



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KCFCCC Meeting Minutes  
September 5, 2017 12:00pm – 1:00pm  
Kent County Administration  
Room 311

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**Members/Alternates**

**Present:**

Melanie Beelen, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Judge Patti Gardner, Scott Gilman, Jack Greenfield, Lynn Heemstra, Ron Koehler, Adam London, Jacob Maas, George Meek, Jackie O'Connor, Jim Paparella, Diana Sieger, Savator Selden-Johnson, Michelle VanDyke, Matthew Van Zetten, Patti Warmington, Matthew Van Zetten, Michael Zoerhoff, Sandra Ghoston-Jones.

**Members Absent:**

Chris Becker, Ron Caniff, Tracey Fountain, Cynthia Gladyness, Yazeed Moore, Teresa Neal, Julie Ridenour.

**Guests:**

Veneese Chandler, Kristen Gietzen, Maureen Kirkwood, Carol Paine-McGovern, Pam Parriott, Kristyn Peck, Wende Randall, Betty Zylstra.

**1. Welcome & Call to Order**

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

After a review of the April minutes, a motion to accept them was provided by Judge Gardner, second by Diana Sieger – vote was UNANIMOUS.

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Physical Health/Behavioral Health Integration (PA298 Pilot)**

Scott Gilman provided an update to the Section 298 plan (Physical Health/Behavioral Health Integration) with a handout and presentation on the proposed Clinical and funding models, which creates a risk bearing model that shares risk and dollars among

the entities involved in the pilot (Network 180, Affinia Health Network, Mercy Health and Pine Rest).

The hypothesis for the 3-year pilot tests whether:

- Developing partnerships across sectors that provide for comprehensive and integrated services and leveraging existing strength in the system improves consumer health outcomes.
- Shifting risk and payment (i.e., managed care responsibilities) closer to the point of care improved value-based quality outcomes and reduce costs.

As a component of the new model, there is work being done in the creation of a behavioral health crisis center which will address the 12,000+ ER visits related to behavioral health crises. Probate Court and the Sheriff's Department report having similar numbers. The current systems/processes (emergency department, jail, access center) are inadequate to meet the growing need for crisis behavioral health services for adults and children.

The proposed center would allow for 23 hours stays and stabilization. Currently, Network 180 makes 150 referrals to local psychiatric units each month, each referral necessitates that a client wait several hours at each step of the process AND retell their "story" over and over—creating frustrations at all levels for everyone involved.

A question was raised regarding the process as it relates to children, large numbers of children are experiencing significant behavioral health challenges and are being taken to DeVos Children's Hospital ER from crisis placements due to exacerbation of symptoms. In an average month, 120 children receive services via the mobile crisis team who provide care in the child's residential setting (home or other).

When questioned about how the 23-hour stay will work and whether other longer term options will be available, Scott responded that there are a number of changes being considered to address the crisis in behavioral health, including meeting with the Prosecutor.

Scott explained the medical clearance process with Spectrum Health that will allow for a reduction in the steps required to receive/provide care. No prosecutor discussion has occurred specific to the center, though Scott does sit on the Mental Health Court committee, thus the prosecutor's office is aware of the pilot.

#### **4. West Michigan Partnership for Children**

Kristyn Peck provided an update on the WMPC. Hiring is complete, the agency will be fully staffed by September 18. The overall goal is to reduce the number of children in foster care, reunify families sooner and work to increase placements with family members when placements are necessary. She introduced the concept of enhanced foster care, which will improve the foster care placement experience by adding new components to the services provided. At this time, they are working through an issue

related to data available from MISACWIS, however, Kristyn reported that they are working collaboratively on a plan to get the data by October 1.

Bethany, Wellspring, Samaritas, Catholic Charities and D.A. Blodgett/St. Johns are the 5 partner agencies who are part of WMPC.

- Implementing performance based contracts using data analytics from Mindshare.
- For the 5-year pilot, Westat will be performing the evaluation.

A positive comment was made about the roll-out celebration event that was held on August 25, 2017. The skits performed at the event were positive and relayed a collaborative tone.

When asked about the top anticipated outcome improvements, Kristyn relayed:

1. Increased relative placements
2. Proximity of address of placement to home
3. Placements of sibling groups
4. Placement continuum
5. Caseworker capacity/retention
6. Supervisor capacity/retention
7. Decreased institutional placement
8. Impact on youth well-being

Matthew Van Zetten spoke about the information gathering trip to the Eckerd Foundation in Florida where they learned about the capabilities of Mindshare and how both providers and agencies are at their strongest when they are working together, rather than apart, on ways to improve long-term youth outcomes.

A question was raised about how foster families will experience or find out about this change. According to Kristyn, information about WMPC is best communicated by private agencies, because most WMPC work is being done behind the scenes, though it is hoped that families will have improved experiences due to increased support.

Matthew introduced Sandra Ghoston-Jones who is a consultant in the County Administrator's office while Matthew and Wayman have assumed the interim roles of Assistant County Administrator and County Administrator/Controller. Part of her responsibilities will be to provide staff support to the KCCFCC in Matthew's stead.

## **5. Miscellaneous**

Due to time constraints, there were no updates shared.

## **6. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday November 7, 2017, at the Kent County Administration Building, Room 311.