



Regional Service Council Region # 2

Meeting Date: Friday, May 9, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. CST

Meeting Location: Virtual

Meeting Minutes

I. Meeting Called to Order: Regional Service Council meeting was called to order by RM Brian Brown.

2. Introductions - Welcome: RM Brown welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting. RSC members are present: Brian Brown, Chris Buyer, Brian Broek, Crystal Giacolona, Shawna Smith and Angelina Brouillette.

3. April 11th, 2025, Minutes: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes. Shawna Smith gave a motion to accept the April 11th minutes as written and was seconded by Brian Broek, minutes were accepted and passed.

4. Community Partners – Geminus: Nicholas Neal discussed getting the grants processed before the end of the month and Doug Thames will be replacing Brittany Caraballo. Nicholas announced Megan Florian will be taking over for Amanda Satterfield when Amanda transfers to oversee the Resource Center in Region 3. Amanda Satterfield discussed the Community Partners report:

Open Referrals – 97

New Enrollments – 65

Discharges – 80

DCS County Referrals – Total of 44

- Benton/Newton – 4
- Jasper – 5
- LaPorte – 17
- Porter – 17
- Pulaski – 0
- Starke – 1

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 21

- Benton/Newton – 3
- Jasper – 0
- LaPorte – 10
- Porter – 5
- Pulaski – 1
- Starke – 2

Non DCS Referral Sources: Total of 21

- Self – 14
- Community – 4
- Healthy Families – 1
- Helpline - 2

Flexible Funds

- Request – 11
- Approved – 11
 - ✓ Rent – 2
 - ✓ Beds – 4
 - ✓ Water – 1
 - ✓ NIPSCO – 2
 - ✓ REMC – 1
 - ✓ Extermination - 1
- There was one CFTM request from Porter County with the family enrolled.
- There were no safe sleep requests.
- Overview of the successes and past events. There are no upcoming events.

Amanda Satterfield discussed the LaPorte's Family Resource Center report:

- ✓ Total attending the center:
 - Total Families - 47
 - Adults - 75
 - Children - 95
 - New Families -17
 - Returning Families - 30
- ✓ Total tours given - 0
- ✓ Computer usage - 3
- ✓ Outside (the region) referrals - 0
- ✓ Co-Locating Services – 22
- ✓ Overview of community connections & collaborations, outreach & highlights, events & groups and Susy's Store items dispensed. There will be a gathering for foster parents with one CEU offered.
- ✓ Discussion on how to get the bus to make a stop in front of the Family Resource Center when traveling from Michigan City, Westville and LaPorte. Brian Broek offered to assist Megan with the task.

5. Services – Dion Smith: Dion discussed the proposals that were accepted by the state. Dion went over the data from the proposals and asked for a vote from the council to accept the proposals. RM Brown asked for a motion to accept the proposals which was given by Brian Broek. Crystal Giacolona seconded the motion, vote taken and passed. Dion stated he can work with providers with any questions or concerns.

6. Finance – Joni Tusing: Joni went over the financial report for April (4th quarter):

- Budget Target is 84% (\$16,715,885), Region 2 actual 112%.
 - ✓ Benton: 79%
 - ✓ Jasper: 138%
 - ✓ LaPorte: 99%
 - ✓ Newton: 110%
 - ✓ Porter: 139%
 - ✓ Pulaski: 90%
 - ✓ Starke: 113%
- Budget Target for Quarter 4 (April-June): 33% (\$4,095,392), Region 2 actual 40%

- ✓ Benton: 27%
- ✓ Jasper: 69%
- ✓ LaPorte: 34%
- ✓ Newton: 45%
- ✓ Porter: 47%
- ✓ Pulaski: 32%
- ✓ Starke: 33%
- Expenditures were \$1,638,333 (YTD: \$18,671,357 - UP 40%, \$5,251,765)
- In-Home was \$3,025,708: UP 40% (\$858,134)
- Out-of-Home was \$15,645,649: UP 39% (\$4,393,632)
- County expenditures:
 - Benton - \$40,516 (YTD \$480,749: UP 12%-\$52,435)
 - Jasper - \$220,203 (YTD \$1,800,529: UP 79%-\$796,827)
 - LaPorte - \$705,809 (YTD \$8,323,785 UP 20%-\$1,374,226)
 - Newton - \$65,185 (YTD \$646,480 UP 35%-\$166,785)
 - Porter - \$469,657 (YTD \$5,669,971 UP 78%-\$2,490,460)
 - Pulaski - \$54,801 (YTD \$619,550 UP 5%-\$29,590)
 - Starke - \$82,163 (YTD \$1,130,292 UP 43%-\$341,441)
- Joni explained the department is fully funded and is not running out of money, all providers will be paid.
- RM Brown clarified information about financial spending for the children. Everything is the same except for monitoring and documentation of expenditures.

7. Region 2 Outcomes: RM Brown discussed the available outcomes of the region compared to the state. Not all categories were available at the time of the meeting.

8. Open Discussion, Questions: No issues or barriers were discussed.

9. Next RSC Meeting: The next meeting will be held June 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. central time virtually on teams.

10. Adjournment: RM Brown thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting.