



Regional Service Council Region # 2

Meeting Date: Friday, March 14, 2025 – 9:00 a.m. CST
Meeting Location: Porter County DCS

Meeting Minutes

I. Meeting Called to Order: Regional Service Council meeting was called to order by RM Brian Brown. New people to the meeting were Alycia McCallum from Promising Futures and Dave Kristofski from Josiah White's.

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

3. February 14th, 2025, Minutes: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes. Crystal Giacolona gave a motion to accept the February 14th minutes as written which was seconded by Caryn Timmons, minutes were accepted and passed.

4. Community Partners – Geminus: Brittany Caraballo discussed the Community Partners report:

Open Referrals – 100

New Enrollments – 65

Discharges – 69

DCS County Referrals – Total of 45

- Benton/Newton – 7
- Jasper – 6
- LaPorte – 19
- Porter – 10
- Pulaski – 0
- Starke – 3

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 20

- Benton/Newton – 2
- Jasper – 3
- LaPorte – 6
- Porter – 6
- Pulaski – 2
- Starke – 1

Non DCS Referral Sources: Total of 20

- Self – 12
- Community – 1
- Family Resource Center – 2
- Medical - 1
- School – 3

- My Healthy Baby – 1
- Flexible Funds
 - Request – 14
 - Approved – 14
 - ✓ Rent – 2
 - ✓ Beds – 6
 - ✓ Water – 1
 - ✓ NIPSCO – 5
- There were 1 CFTM requests. One in LaPorte County and not able to enroll due to an open DCS case.
- No safe sleep requests.
- Overview of the successes and attended/upcoming events.
 - ✓ Child Abuse Vigil, LaPorte City Hall on April 16th from 5 to 7 p.m.
 - ✓ Easter Event, Advancing Christ's Kingdom Ministries in LaPorte on April 18th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 - ✓ Safety Carnival, Eastern Pulaski Elementary School on April 5th from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.
 - ✓ Safety Carnival, Knox Community Middle School Gym on April 12th from 11a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

- ✓ Total attending the center:
 - Total Families - 41
 - Adults - 70
 - Children - 75
 - New Families -15
 - Returning Families - 26
- ✓ Total tours given - 0
- ✓ Computer usage - 4
- ✓ Outside (the region) referrals - 2
- ✓ Co-Locating Services – 37
- ✓ Surveys Completed - 19
- ✓ Overview of community connections & collaborations, outreach & highlights, events & groups and Susy's Store items dispensed.

5. Services – Dion Smith: Dion stated they are finishing up the proposal process and will get the information out to providers as soon as it is complete. The process was complete but due to new leadership, changes were made and scores had to be redone. Hopefully they will be released soon.

6. Finance – Joni Tusing: Joni went over the financial report for February (3rd quarter):

- Budget Target is 67% (\$16,715,885), Region 2 actual 90%.
 - ✓ Benton: 66%
 - ✓ Jasper: 107%
 - ✓ LaPorte: 80%
 - ✓ Newton: 86%
 - ✓ Porter: 113%
 - ✓ Pulaski: 72%

- ✓ Starke: 94%
- Budget Target for Quarter 3 (Jan-March): 66% (\$4,095,392), Region 2 actual 88%
 - ✓ Benton: 61%
 - ✓ Jasper: 106%
 - ✓ LaPorte: 76%
 - ✓ Newton: 100%
 - ✓ Porter: 110%
 - ✓ Pulaski: 61%
 - ✓ Starke: 107%
- Expenditures were \$1,724,924 (YTD: \$15,067,290 - UP 44%, \$4,585,048)
- In-Home was \$2,476,578: UP 46% (\$782,320)
- Out-of-Home was \$12,590,712: UP 43% (\$3,802,729)
- County expenditures:
 - Benton - \$32,258 (YTD \$403,879: UP 14%-\$49,745)
 - Jasper - \$150,011 (YTD \$1,401,487: UP 89%-\$659,977)
 - LaPorte - \$763,824 (YTD \$6,724,861 UP 23%-\$1,254,210)
 - Newton - \$74,990 (YTD \$503,254 UP 36%-\$131,696)
 - Porter - \$537,757 (YTD \$4,593,550 UP 85%-\$2,106,212)
 - Pulaski - \$41,646 (YTD \$496,206 UP 1%-\$4,898)
 - Starke - \$124,438 (YTD \$944,052 UP 67%-\$378,309)

7. Region 2 Outcomes: RM Brown discussed the outcomes of the region explaining how the region is doing in each category. Discussion about what needs to be worked on and how the region focuses on each element.

8. Open Discussion, Questions: Krystal Pollard discussed the difference between truancy and educational neglect. Krystal would like to see more community outreach to work with families on mental health helping to prevent families from entering the system. Amanda Satterfield stated they have partnered with Family Advocates and created a foster parent support group. She has fliers available for interested parties. RM Brown thanked Amanda for starting the group which will help them. Amanda also stated they have a local implementation team which meets every quarterly to discuss which services are available around the community so they are not duplicating services.

9. Next RSC Meeting: The next meeting will be held April 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. central time at the Porter County DCS office or virtually on teams.

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