

OPEN MEETING - MINUTES
Waukesha County Health and Human Services
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting
Children and Family Services Advisory Committee (CAFSAC)
April 15, 2021

Present CAFSAC Members: Colleen Allen, Laura Cherone, Sarah Matson, Maura McMahon, Raquel Mehring, Luke Pinion, Renee Ramirez, Mary Sweeney, Jessica Trauth, Dua Vang-Ramirez, Karen Villarreal (Vice Chair)

Absent CAFSAC Members: Kristin Agenten, Rob Jadrnicek, Darlene Johnson, Lindsay Just, Mary Adele Revoy (Chair)

HHS Board Liaison: Bob Menefee

HHS Staff Liaisons: Kathy Mullooly, Ron Pupp

Guests: Sara Barron, Danielle Birdeau, Nicole Breu, Jessica Hannaman, Amanda Huber, Vickie Smith, Erin Zellmer

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Villarreal called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Cherone arrived at 8:32 a.m. Trauth arrived at 8:33 a.m.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes

Motion: Allen moved, second by Ramirez, to approve CAFSAC minutes of March 18, 2021.
Motion passed without a negative vote.

3. Committee Business

a. Continue Discussion of Agenda Items for 2021

Trauth from The Women's Center (TWC) to present in May.

b. Recruiting a Consumer Representative Member

There has been no progress obtaining a Consumer Representative for the committee yet.

4. Follow-Up from Critical Needs Presentation for Children and Families in Waukesha County

The Critical Needs Presentation went well with not many additional questions from the Board. Villarreal discussed the data results collected from the follow-up survey that was sent out after the presentation to the Board. The survey received responses from eight agencies in response to more specific details of what types of PPE was needed for their organizations.

5. Children with Special Needs (CSN) Waiver Updates – Erin Zellmer, Interim Children with Special Needs Supervisor

Zellmer displayed and reviewed a PowerPoint presentation titled "Children's Long-Term Support Program (CLTS Waiver)."

Some of the definitions of "special need" for eligibility include:

- Having proof of diagnosis for developmental disability, physical disability, or mental health
- How independent is the child as far as functional things such as dressing themselves and being toilet trained?
- There is a struggle to determine eligibility based solely on mental health because it is harder to define.

The Parental Payment Limit (PPL) fee is the monthly fee that a family could have to pay for the services. The family is asked to submit their tax returns to HHS Fiscal Division to determine what the fee will be. Based on the size of the family, annual household income, and any additional medical expenses (up to \$3,000), the service plan shows what the maximum they would be required to pay, up to 41% of the total plan. Exceptions can be made, but the calculated fee is typically accurate. The families can decline to send in their tax returns but then it is an automatic 41% of the total plan for their fees.

Additional information can be located at:

- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/waivermanual/index.htm>
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/functionalscreen/index.htm>
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/children/index.htm>

6. Family First Updates – Vickie Smith, Interim Child and Family Services Manager

The 2022 legislative budget from the Governor has proposed additional funding, approximately \$22 million, to go to Child Welfare and Youth Justice. The majority of these funds are for enhancements and to roll out the Family First initiatives. Family First is federal legislation that requires the Child Welfare system to focus on in-home safety plans and use least restrictive settings to be able to care for children. This legislation changes many of the requirements for residential treatment facilities moving forward, including the services they are required to provide, as well as what after care is required to provide after the child leaves the facility.

Targeted Safety Services is funding currently being used to try to keep the child in the home with safety plans.

In the coming months, the focus for Child and Family Services is to look at budget implications, determine the budgets and how to use the funds.

7. Committee and Organization Updates

a. HHS Board Liaison

The next Board meeting is on April 22 with the County Executive.

b. Schools

Pinion announced that two new Board Members will be starting at the School District of Waukesha (SDW) in a couple of weeks. The SDW has a lot of work to do this summer as they will be discussing what school will look like next year. Currently, the COVID case numbers are looking good compared to what other states are reporting as well as what the reports were months back.

c. HHS Staff Liaison

Mullooly gave an overview of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). The ARPA provides additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19.

Attendees discussed the ARPA and some suggestions for general ongoing needs of the community included:

- Funding for seeking out new caregivers from the community due to the websites where job openings are posted requiring payment
- Training for caregivers who work with youth that have significant care needs such as medical or behavioral
- Re-training or helping families secure new employment opportunities

i. COVID-19 Updates

There were no additional COVID-19 updates.

8. Agency Updates/Announcements

Barron from Broadscope compiled a list of camps for families who have children with special needs that will be sent out to the Committee.

Trauth announced that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and there is a luncheon for this on April 28. Podcasts are live and can be found at: <https://twcwaukesha.org/>. TWC has been providing in-person services but will also be returning to in-person group sessions soon. If interested in getting involved in the county-wide domestic/sexual violence Coordinated Community Response Team, contact Trauth at 262-522-3830 or jtrauth@twcwaukesha.org.

Family Service is actively recruiting 3-4 candidates for school and clinical psychotherapist positions.

9. Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Trauth from TWC to present on updates from Sexual Abuse Awareness month.

10. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

11. Adjourn

Motion: Ramirez moved, second by Pinion, to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jessica Hannaman.

Minutes were approved on May 20, 2021.