

Community Resource Center Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: March 24, 2025

Attendance:

Members

☐ Amy Arnt-Buzzard
☒ Suzanne Arntson
☒ Kanisha Bliss
☒ Jennifer Compeau

☒ Jayne Gibson
☒ Marlena Hanson
☐ Lee Her
☐ Jeff Horton

☒ Jessica Jungroth
☐ Jessica Little
☒ Julie Neitzel Carr
☐ Felicia Orozco

☒ Zerina Said
☐ Wahbon Spears
☒ Molly Scroeder
☒ Catherine Wright

Staff

☒ Hafsa Abdi
☒ Heather Reynolds

☒ Sherri Killins
Stewart
☒ Megan Waltz

Guests

☒ Abra Pollock
☒ Shamso Dhayow

☒ Abrahm Neuser

Location: Webex link

Purpose of the council:

To advise the commissioner of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families on the development, implementation, evaluation and ongoing governance of Community Resource Centers in Minnesota.

Duties of the council:

Duties include, but are not limited to, advising the commissioner on:

- The development and funding of a network of community resource centers
- The development of requests for proposals and grant award processes
- The development of program outcomes and accountability measures, and
- Ongoing governance and necessary support in the implementation of community resource centers.

Meeting objectives

1. Review and orient the council to its purpose, goals and objectives responsibilities, deliverables, and the timeline to ensure co design, implementation and monitoring, as per the legislation.
2. Build relationships amongst the council members to increase communication and support the sharing of individual values, experiences and interest to benefit the collective interest.
3. Reflect on key learnings and data from relationship-based services, programs and initiatives which seek to connect families to state, local and regional resources.
4. Discuss the characteristics and essential resources for coordination, planning and partnerships for collaboration that is responsive and contributes to families getting what they need for wellbeing of children, families, and communities.
5. Recommend potential measures of success for **culturally responsive, relationship-based service navigation** through programs, services or initiatives intended to benefit children, families, and communities.

Agenda with added Minutes

1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Agreements**

- A. Questions: What is your favorite way to relax, what is your favorite season, what is your favorite dessert?
- B. Review of meeting objectives, meeting agenda, meeting agreements.
- C. Show results from the Opening Mentimeter

2. Welcome

- A. Review: Community Resource Center Advisory Council Charter
- B. Question (Mentimeter): “What do you bring to the advisory council that you believe is unique?”

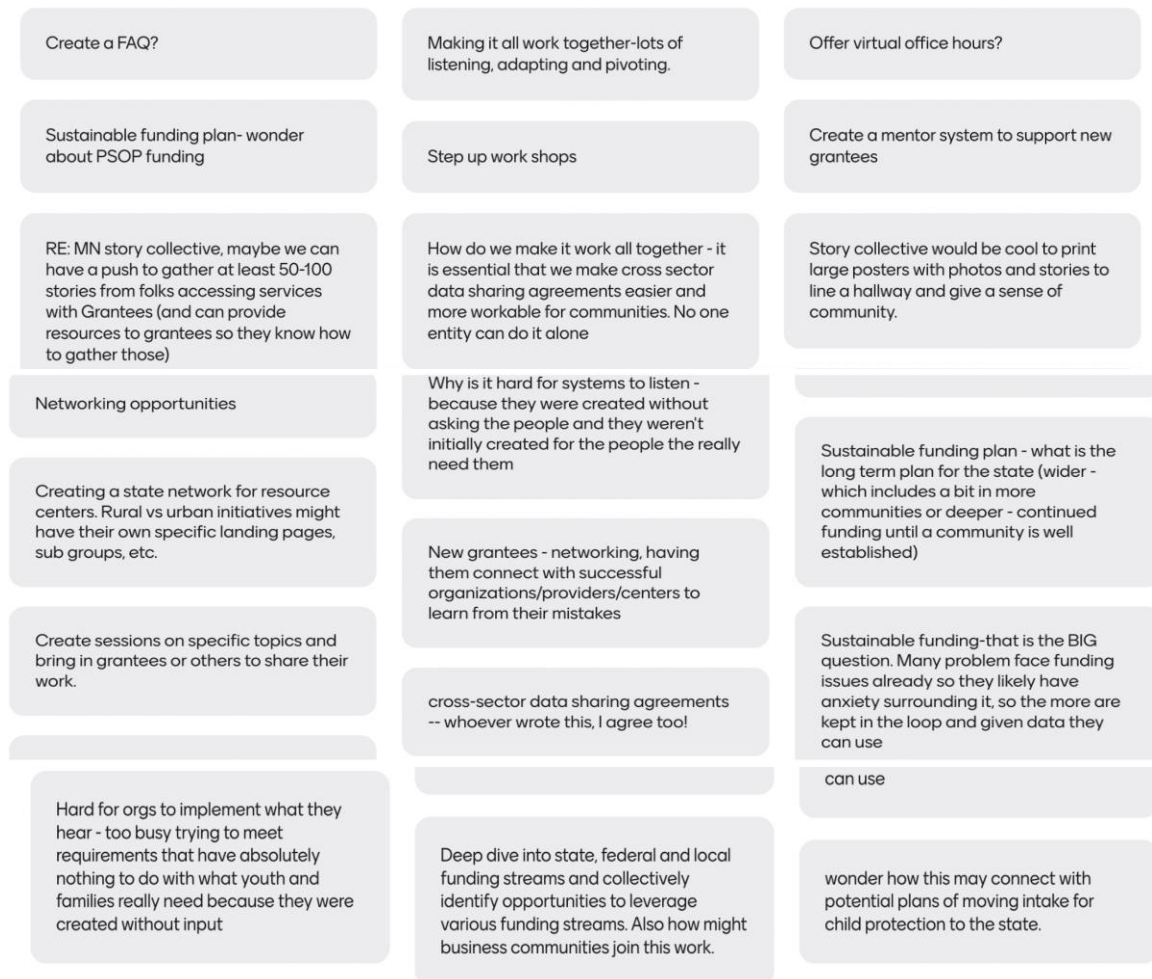
3. Review Grantee Meeting

- A. Objectives of grantee meeting
 - To build working relationships and establish common goals between grantees
 - To share information about access and benefits of multiple state tools designed to provide access to information for community programs staff and families to support connection to resources.
 - To share tailored approaches designed by communities to provide access to programs and services intended to support families in meeting their goals, aspirations, and basic needs.
- B. Activities at grantee meeting
 - Panel discussion
 - i. Parent- Kanisha Bliss, CRC Advisory Council
 - ii. Foster Kinship- Janet Salo, Lutheran Social Services (LSS)
 - iii. Full-Service Community Schools- Jackie Blagsvedt, MDE
 - iv. Hubs/Grant Design- December Brakefield, DCYF
 - Overview of Foster Kinship Model
 - What’s the water you’re in?
 - State Resources
 - i. Help Me Connect
 - ii. Mental Health Consultation
 - iii. Bridge to Benefits
 - iv. Engagement HQ (EHQ)
 - Minnesota StoryCollective
- C. Strengths of the Meeting
 - Storytelling & panels
 - Facilitation & organization
 - Supportive environment
 - Interacting components
- D. Emerging Questions
 - How do we make it all work together?
 - How can we utilize the stories from the MN StoryCollective to better inform our work?
 - What are the sustainable funding plans?
 - How can we best support grantees who are newer to the work?
 - Why is it so hard for systems to actively listen?
- E. Critical Question: What is the council's response to emerging questions from the survey?

- Mentimeter responses

How should the council respond to the emerging questions from the survey

21 responses



4. Review Visioning Process and Next Steps

- A. Review: Practical vision comparison with tasks from RFP to the asks from the visioning process
 - RFP Tasks: Provide culturally responsive, relationship-based service navigation to make it easier for families to get what they need and build strengths, develop and support a new or existing parent and family advisory council consisting of community members with lived expertise to advise the work of the grantee, provide peer networking and support activities, demonstrate community-based planning with multiple local partners and sustain partnerships between organizations and families to build capacity and support seamless service availability across the range of protective factors, support community engagement and feedback gathering to support program planning and continuous improvement to promote protective factors
 - Visioning: Responsive to community needs/community voice: Acknowledges both what communities have and what they need, holistic safety, trust, and belonging, ease of

access (to services), needs met: Connection and removing barriers, financial sustainability, partnerships and supportive civic infrastructure, quality and continuous improvement

- B. Review: Current practical vision draft that was created and how it was created/decided upon
- C. Critical Question (Padlet): Is there something missing from the practical vision- Does it include and/or represent the advisory council’s thinking of CRC’s?
 - o Responses
 - i. Yes, it looks good.
 - ii. I think it's great. It's not set in stone, is it? Can it change as we grow?
- D. Look over ‘logic model’/flow chart
 - o Do the outcomes we brainstormed last year still fit with the practical vision we’ve created?
 - i. Outcomes:

Family	Community	Systems
Family Connectedness	Community Engagement	Integrated Supports
Family Stability	Collaborative Leadership	Social Determinants of Health Increased
Parent Advocacy	Available Resources	Child Welfare Involvement Reduced

- E. Question: A logic model says ‘If x, then y”, so if practical vision a, b, c , etc, then the practical vision is achieved. Does anything need to be added or changed in order for the logic model to be... logical?
 - o Responses
 - i. I don’t see anything within the categories that highlight financial stability.
 - ii. There isn’t an outcome that would lead up to the financial stability piece.
 - iii. What does social determinants of health mean from a system's perspective- does that mean resources to promote SDH
 - iv. I think that family connectedness is important to become stable, if they were previously unstable. I think that it was important to keep my children with me and not have them in foster care.
 - v. Do we need to address fiscal sustainability and quality/continuous improvement?
 - vi. We know how SDoH need to be promoted, but if there aren’t any services behind it, then what are we talking about?
 - vii. If services that families need don’t exist where they live, they can’t even be referred to needed services.
 - viii. Is this the only group at the State looking at these systems building processes around Social Determinants of Health and also accessing resources?
 - ix. If services that families need don’t exist where they live, they can’t even be referred to needed services.
 - x. Is this the only group at the State looking at these systems building processes around Social Determinants of Health and also accessing resources?

5. Evaluation Scope

- A. How will the activities done today, in conjecture to the visioning process, help shape the evaluation framework?
- B. Today's activity -> Refined Vision -> Evaluation Framework
- C. Phases of development:
 - Phrase 1: Planning and Design
 - Develop evaluation framework and tools
 - Establish baseline metrics
 - Phrase 2: Implementation and Data Collection
 - Implement surveys, interviews, and focus groups
 - Engage CRC staff and families in storytelling
 - Phrase 3: Analysis and Reporting
 - Analyze quantitative and qualitative data
 - Develop findings and recommendations
 - Phrase 4: Disseminations and Continuous improvement
 - Share findings with stakeholders and the community
 - Implement feedback loops for continuous improvement
- D. There would be indicators for each category (family, community, system) to measure success and this process would be created with grantees. In order to collect this data, they will use mixed methods of data collection- primarily want to focus on storytelling to measure qualitative change.

6. Closing, Reflections, and Next Steps

- A. Next Steps
 - Action: Finish activity section for logic model
 - Action: Review outline and/or draft
 - Action: Follow up on grantee supports
- B. Reflections

Thinking about today's meeting, what is one or two words that summarize your thoughts?

16 responses

