

# **Community Resource Center Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 24, 2025

Attendance:			
Members			
☐Amy Arnt-Buzzard	⊠Jayne Gibson	⊠Jessica Jungroth	⊠Zerina Said
⊠Suzanne Arntson	⊠Marlena Hanson	☐Jessica Little	☐ Wahbon Spears
⊠Kanisha Bliss	□Lee Her	⊠Julie Neitzel Carr	⊠Molly Scroeder
⊠Jennifer Compeau	☐Jeff Horton	☐ Felicia Orozco	⊠Catherine Wright
Staff	⊠Sherri Killins	Guests	
⊠Hafsa Abdi	Stewert	⊠Abra Pollock	
⊠Heather Reynolds	⊠Megan Waltz	⊠Shamso Dhayow	

**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.
- 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
  - o 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
- O 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

- O How do we make it all work together?
- O How can we utilize the stories from the MN StoryCollective to better inform our work?
- What are the sustainable funding plans?
- O How can we best support grantees who are newer to the work?
- O 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

Create a FAQ?

Making it all work together-lots of listening, adapting and pivoting.

Offer virtual office hours?

Sustainable funding plan-wonder about PSOP funding

Step up work shops

Create a mentor system to support new arantees

RE: MN story collective, maybe we can have a push to gather at least 50-100 stories from folks accessing services with Grantees (and can provide resources to grantees so they know how to auther those)

How do we make it work all together - it is essential that we make cross sector data sharing agreements easier and more workable for communities. No one entity can do it alone

Story collective would be cool to print large posters with photos and stories to line a hallway and give a sense of community.

Networking opportunities

sub groups, etc.

Why is it hard for systems to listenbecause they were created without asking the people and they weren't initially created for the people the really need them

Creating a state network for resource centers. Rural vs urban initiatives might have their own specific landing pages,

New grantees - networking, having them connect with successful

organizations/providers/centers to learn from their mistakes Sustainable funding plan - what is the long term plan for the state (wider - which includes a bit in more communities or deeper - continued funding until a community is well established)

Create sessions on specific topics and bring in grantees or others to share their work.

cross-sector data sharing agreements -- whoever wrote this, I agree too!

Sustainable funding-that is the BIG question. Many problem face funding issues already so they likely have anxiety surrounding it, so the more are kept in the loop and given data they can use

Hard for orgs to implement what they hear - too busy trying to meet requirements that have absolutely nothing to do with what youth and families really need because they were created without input

Deep dive into state, federal and local funding streams and collectively identify opportunities to leverage various funding streams. Also how might business communities join this work.

can use

wonder how this may connect with potential plans of moving intake for child protection to the state.

## 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?
  - 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?
  - 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 perspectivedoes 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

Phase 3: Analysis and Reporting

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data
- · Develop findings and recommendations

Phase 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 todays meeting, what is one or two words that summarize your thoughts?

16 responses



1 to