



**FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH CHILDREN'S SERVICES for
AT-RISK CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES**



May 19, 2023

Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT)

Location

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Gloria Addo-Ayensu, Michael Axler, Michael Becketts, Annie Henderson, Dana Jones, Joe Klemmer, Chris Leonard, Dawn Schaefer, Rebecca Sharp, Matt Thompson, Lloyd Tucker, Lynn Thomlinson (for Daryl Washington),

Absent: Staci Alexander, Michelle Boyd, Richard Leichtweis, Lesley Abashian, Deb Evans

HMF Attendees: Peter Steinberg

CSA Management Team Attendees: Kelly Conn-Reda, Barbara Martinez, Jessica Jackson, Tim Elcesser, Kamonya Omatete, Mary Jo Davis, Desiree Roberts, LaVurne Williams,

Stakeholders and CSA Program Staff Present: Janet Bessmer, Laura Haggerty-Lacalle, Kristina Kallini, Jamie Mysorewala, Tiffany Robinson, Lisa Morton, Jeanne Veraska, Samira Hotochin, Sarah Young

1. **MINUTES:** Approve minutes of April 28, 2023, meeting. *Motion to approve made by Annie Henderson; seconded by Joe Klemmer; all members agree, motion carries.*

2. **ITEMS:**

• **Administrative Items:**

Item A – 1: Eliminate Parental Contribution Annual Re-Assessment – Presented by Janet Bessmer. In an effort to streamline the administrative requirements for funding, reduce time to service, and prevent funding gaps, CSA is requesting to eliminate the annual reassessments for parental contributions. Recommendation is that families would complete the initial parental contribution assessment which would be valid for the lifespan of the case. If circumstances change a reassessment may be completed. Michael Becketts commented that this could be a disadvantage to families that may receive a decrease in payment due to changes in their circumstances. Janet Bessmer commented that CSA team could develop a way to notify families that they can complete a reassessment at any time should their financial circumstances change. *Motion to approve made by Lloyd Tucker; seconded by Michael Becketts; all members agree, motion carries.*

Item A – 2: Approve FY 24 CPMT Meeting Calendar – Presented by Janet Bessmer. Members of the CPMT were asked to approve the purposed calendar for FY24. The new policy states that 25% of meetings per year can be virtual. CPMT is permitted to hold two virtual meetings each calendar year. Proposed virtual meeting dates are reflected in the meeting calendar. *Motion to approve made by Joe Klemmer; seconded by Annie Henderson; all members agree, motion carries.*

Item A – 3: Proposal for Expansion of Case Support to FCPS SW – Presented by Mary Jo Davis, Kelly

Approved: August 25, 2023

Conn-Reda, and Janet Bessmer. Since the pandemic more families are presenting with intense mental health and behavioral needs. To meet the needs of these families FCPS is requesting that case support be expanded to include FCPS. Chris Leonard asked why more positions were not requested. Mary Jo Davis stated that based on the data it seemed three positions seemed like a good start, but more positions would be beneficial. Michael Becketts asked if the request is to increase capacity or volume. Mary Jo Davis and Kelly Conn-Reda responded that for FCPS it's more to increase volume, whereas the Multi Agency Services (MAS) would use case support to build capacity. Members agreed to amend the proposal to provide five case support positions rather than three. *Motion to approve made by Matt Thompson; seconded by Michael Becketts; all members agree, motion carries.*

- **CSA CONTRACT ITEMS:**

Item C – 1: CPMT Contract Information – Presented by Barbara Martinez. There has been one new child specific contract approved since the last CPMT meeting. Currently there are a total of thirteen youth in out of state facilities.

- **CSA INFORMATION ITEMS:**

Item I – 1: Budget report – Presented by Desiree Roberts. The cost of private day has increased compared to pre pandemic. Kelly Conn-Reda stated that there is a lack of providers due to the policy that FCPS no longer places students in facilities that use certain types of restraints/seclusion. Chris Leonard asked if this policy is similar across northern VA. Kelly Conn-Reda responded that FCPS is currently the only school system with this policy. RTC costs have increased, and three providers have driven the increase. It is expected that RTC costs will continue to increase.

Item I – 2: CSA Coordinator's Report – Follow up to April CPMT Discussion – Presented by Janet Bessmer. A summary of current trends and issues in service delivery was presented in an effort to improve communication, engagement, and oversight of the CSA program. CSA is working on community outreach and marketing. CSA staff are working on reviewing the notes from the facilitated CPMT meeting (in April) and will be sharing those comments with the CPMT.

Item I – 3: Community-based Provider Capacity Report– Presented by Laura Haggerty-Lacalle. CSA program provided a capacity analysis after learning that two home-based providers were closing/suspending their services. This will significantly impact case managers and families. Michael Becketts asked if there is a way to support increased capacity. Janet Bessmer commented that we will need to begin contacting other providers in the area. Jessica Jackson commented that it is challenging to find providers with availability that also are a good fit for the family.

- **CPMT Parent Representative Items** – Joe Klemmer commented that the Art Show that the Youth Advisory Board hosted was incredible. Peter Steinberg commented that there are various ways they plan to display the art/projects that were at the show.
- **Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church Items** – Falls Church has had an issue when youth are a victim of a crime. There is a gap in services since their residences receive court services from Arlington County and mental health services are provided by Fairfax County. Currently the plan is to have a meeting with all county partners to come up with a solution. Lynn Thomlinson/CSB offered to assist the city with this issue.
- **NOVACO – Private Provider Items** – none
- **Public Comment** – none
- **Staff Comment** – Last meeting for Lynn Thomlinson as she will be retiring.

Next Meeting: June 23, 1:00 – 3:00pm (Government Center, Room 120-C)

Adjourn 2:20pm: Motion to adjourn by Michael Becketts, seconded by Matt Thompson; all members agree, motion carries.