

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

August 25, 2023

(Meeting Rescheduled - No Quorum in June or July)

Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT)

Location

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: , Michael Axler, Michael Becketts, Terri Edmunds-Heard, Deb Evans, Annie Henderson, Dana Jones, Joe Klemmer, Dawn Schaefer, Rebecca Sharp, Lloyd Tucker, Daryl Washington

Absent: Gloria Addo-Ayensu Lesley Abashian, Staci Alexander, Richard Leichtweis, Chris Leonard, Matt Thompson,

HMF Attendees:

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

Stakeholders and CSA Program Staff Present: Janet Bessmer, Laura Haggerty-Lacalle, Samira Hotochin, Morton, Jeanne Veraska, Sarah Young

1. **MINUTES:** Approve minutes of May 19, 2023, meeting. *Motion to approve made by Annie Henderson; seconded by Joe Klemmer; all members agree, motion carries. Daryl Washington abstained.*

2. **ITEMS:**

- **Administrative Items:**

Item A – 1 Approve FAPT Representatives – Presented by Sarah Young. Request to approve nomination of new FAPT member. *Motion to approve made by Daryl Washington; seconded by Annie Henderson; all members agree, motion carries.*

Item A – 2: Recommend Re-appointment of CPMT Parent Representatives to BOS – Presented by Janet Bessmer. CPMT members were asked to approve the re-appointment of our current CPMT parent representatives, Annie Henderson, Joe Klemmer and Staci Jones Alexander, to the Board of Supervisors. *Motion to approve made by Dana Jones; seconded by Rebecca Sharp; all members agree, motion carries.*

- **CSA CONTRACT ITEMS:**

Item C – 1: Out of State Placement Report – Presented by Barbara Martinez. CSA Management Team approved eight Child Specific Requests for out of state placements since the last CPMT meeting. This report illustrates how difficult it is to find in-state facilities.

Item C – 2: Update on FY 24 Contract Rate Increases – Presented by Barbara Martinez. Contract rates typically increase each year, however, due to COVID-19 and the high rate of inflation, contract rates continue to increase. Any rate increase under 5% can be review by CSA management Team. Over 5% increase requires additional review. The FY24 State budget has not been finalized yet therefore there has been a delay in processing private day school (more info will be presented in Item I-1) and therapeutic foster care rates. The CSA Management Team has approved DPMM’s request to extend the current contracts by one year due to the harmony replacement process. Providers will receive an extension contract through June 2025 rather than completing new contract to reduce impact on workforce. Reapplication will begin July 2024.

- **CSA INFORMATION ITEMS:**

Item I – 1: Update on Private Day Rate Setting -Presented by Janet Bessmer, Barbara Martinez, and Kelly Conn Reda. There is a now a limit on what the state will match. State will only match up to 2% increase from last year’s rate. This starts in August when the school year begins. The additional cost beyond the approved increase will be covered by FCPS. Michael Becketts commented that the new budget was sent to the governor’s office today so hopefully this be resolved soon. Dawn Schaefer commented that this was the big topic at the division director’s meeting today. Rebecca Sharp mentioned that although the FCCPS is smaller the increase will impact their school budget as well.

Item I – 2: CSA Budget Report Presented by Desiree Roberts. RTC cost is up 26% due to increase in placements. Private day school cost increased by 5% but less children are being served. Dawn Schaefer stated that the past few years there was ESSRA funds (provided due to COVID) to assist youth with community-based services while they were on a waitlist. This funding is no longer available. Michael Becketts asked what happens when placement cannot be found for youth. Kelly Conn-Reda stated it depends on the situation. Rebecca Sharp commented that FCCPS have been experiencing the same waitlist issues for providers. IEP teams have been forced to make decisions based on lack of providers. Kamonya Omatete commented that there has been a significant increase in youth served by foster care compared to FY22.

Item I – 3: Discussion CPMT Strategic Planning: Follow up to April Dialog – Presented by Janet Bessmer. CSA program is requesting feedback on CPMT Strategic Plan. Proposal includes four areas of focus to structure future CPMT meetings. Michael Becketts suggested aligning this strategic plan to One Fairfax Plan and school plans. Joe Klemmer asked about how these plans will be implemented. Daryl Washington asked to expand on language regarding service provider gaps. The plan will be revised to implement the suggestions and presented in next meeting.

Item I – 4: CSA Coordinator’s Report – Presented by Janet Bessmer. Issues include case management and provider capacity, as well as outreach and communication. CSA has been working on reviewing/updating the policy manual, preparing for upcoming audit in FY25, and preparing for implementation of a new management system. Furthermore, a CSA training plan has been developed for FY24 and a new online parent inquiry form and consent is now available online.

Item I – 5: Residential Entry and FAPT Report Q 3 and Q 4 – Presented by Sarah Young and Jeanne Veraska. 50% more youth in RTC compared to last year at the same time. Increase in youth being placed due to substance abuse.

Item I – 6: Results of Service Gap Survey – Presented by Laura Haggery- Lacalle. In June 2023 a Gap and Needs Community Survey was distributed. CSA recommends approving the survey results to submit to OCS. Michael Becketts asked if there will be a deeper analysis on the results. Janet Bessmer

responded that currently CSA is not planning on working on a deeper analysis.

- **CPMT Parent Representative Items** – none
- **Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church Items** – none
- **NOVACO – Private Provider Items** – none
- **Public Comment** – none
- **Staff Comment** – Daryl Washington shared that CSB has submitted a proposal to expand case support for underserved areas which will be presented to the Board of Supervisors. They are also working on other proposals such as opening an RTC and expanding youth medication assistance treatment program.

Next Meeting: *September 22, 2023, 1:00 – 3:00pm (Government Center, Room 120-C)*

Adjourn 2:17pm: *Motion to adjourn by Deb Evans, seconded by Dawn Schaefer; all members agree, motion carries.*