

Richland County Youth and Family Council Meeting
February 6th, 2025
1:30 p.m.
Richland County Children Services/Microsoft TEAMS

The following members were:

Present: Jodie Perry, Joe Devany, Darrell Banks, Kevin Kimmel, Michele Giess, Tara Lautzenhiser, Dan Varn, Kevin VanMeter, Hannah Crouch

Absent: Lisa Benson, Lori Bedson, Meghan Wheeler, Sherry Branham-Fonner, Wendy Thompson, Tiffany Ellenberger, Stan Jefferson

Administrative Staff Present: Toby Borders, Michelle Miller

Present via Microsoft TEAMS: Aurelio Diaz, Jessica Caughlan, Michelle Johnson, Julie Litt, Jackie Williams, Wendy Thompson, Miles Parsons, Terry Carter, Kelly Pack, Shauna Shell

Guests: Stevanie Brown, Anne Vermillion, Rico Woods, Allison Ross, Brian Hunt, Marissa Daniels, Sharonda Wilson, Jean Taddie, Olysse Walter, Tracy Franko, Ashley Leadingham, Joshua Tolliver, Patricia Dollisch, Catherine Rischar, Jenette Smith

1. Call to Order & Introductions

President Dan Varn called the meeting to order at 1:36 PM and began introductions. A quorum was established with 8 voting members in attendance.

2. Approval of January 9th, Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (January 9th, 2025) was made by Joe D and seconded by Kevin K. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

3. Council Reports/*Early Intervention*

Julie provided the SFY25 Service Coordination Report. This report gets completed twice per year by the Early Intervention Contract Manager and presented to the full council. Julie asked the members if they had any questions regarding the report.

4. Treasurer's Report

Toby shared with the board that the executive finance committee approved another 3-year proposal with Julian and Grube to provide financial services to YFC. The Proposal did go up from \$2,200 to \$2,400 for the year. Toby reviewed the financial report with Council members. Toby briefly reviewed the budget sheet (first page of the report) with the members and called their attention to the second page which includes the detailed transactions. Toby informed the members that due to the county closing in December, many invoices came in last minute. Next month's meeting will show October, November and December as quarter 2, and January will be on it's own.

Kevin V. made a motion to approve the financial report. Tara seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

5. Directors Report

We are currently serving 30 youth birth through 21 in Service Coordination. As a reminder, these are the youth that are funded by our state funding. We have approved about \$29,000 in funding for these youth so far in SFY25 between respite funding, social/recreational activities, structured activities to improve family

functioning and transportation. We have 48,000 to use over the fiscal year so we are sitting comfortably with that number while also making sure we support the needs of youth and families as needs arise. We are also still very busy supporting youth under the SFSC grant or with other funding sources.

As a reminder, our SFY26 RFP went live February 3rd.

Update from the state: They will no longer be requiring the OCBF application. Instead, they are replacing that form with an “annual membership form” that will now be due in June. Michelle will provide the new form to the council for approval once it is made available.

NEW MSY funding applications will now be online only. As of February 15, no paper applications will be accepted. If a youth is currently being served under MSY funding, we will keep those youth on the paper forms. We just had an approval for an MSY application in which we were able to get a youth placed. This was a big endeavor, but we were able to get it completed quickly with the support of community agencies.

Michelle shared with the council to mark their calendars for: 2nd annual Parent Education Resource fair at the carrousel May 4th, 11-2. This event is a collaboration between NAMI and RCYFC. We are planning to also have some Kindergarten information at this event. If you would like to have a table at this event, please reach out directly. Aging out of foster care community panel: May 9th, 11am at OSU Mansfield Eisenhower Hall. May 17th we are having a Trauma informed training for childcare providers at DLX. Nationwide Children’s is providing the training, the providers will also be celebrated with a meal and incentive for coming. This event is meant to provide the training, but also celebrate our Richland County Childcare providers.

6. BYLaws Revision:

Dan shared the Bylaws as they currently stand. It was suggested that due to new staff from mandated partner agencies can start at any given time, that we update some of the verbiage in the bylaws to allow council to run smoothly. Dan made the suggestion we strike the following to Article 7.1 “The following rotation shall apply” and update it to: “The following mandated partners are eligible to be elected to an office”. It was also suggested that we take out 2 of the “family representative” listed under Article 7 and just leave 1.

The motion to approve these changes to the bylaws was made by Kevin K. Michele G seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

- 7. Family Representative Vacancy:** A motion was made by Joe Devany for Stevanie Brown to fill our vacancy for our 3rd family representative. Seconded by Darrell. There was no discussion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

8. PREP:

Catherine Rischar with Richland County Public Health joined the meeting to share with members about the PREP program available for families in Richland County. There are several parts of the PREP program. Making Proud Choices for youth and also Beyond Birds and Bees for adults and caregivers to learn how to discuss difficult topics with youth. Catherine mentioned if anyone is interested in the one-day training (in person and virtual options) to reach out to her. The program has been designed to serve youth 14-21. Catherine provided members of the council with a folder with her contact information and more information on the program for those interested in any of the training offered.

9. Help Me Grow-Outreach

Marissa Runo shared with the full council that she handles the eastern region for Help Me Grow Outreach. She joined our meeting in hopes to connect with other agencies and increase her number of presentations in

the community. She stated the programs she supports serve pregnant moms and youth birth to 3. She stated if anyone would like more information she can be reached at: mruno@mvrkog.org

10. Updates/Announcements

Aurelio shared about the Expressions Poetry event this evening at OSU-Mansfield. Teens will have the opportunity to share art and poetry. The event will be held from 6-8pm and is open to the community. Aurelio also shared about an open mic event taking place at 3rd cup of Tea, February 7th at 5pm and this event is also open to the community.

Wendy shared that the Prenatal-5 committee will be meeting February 18th instead of the 17th due to the holiday. The meeting will be held at 10:00 at OSU-Mansfield.

Shauna shared that the managed care plans are working with doulas. Doula services can now be covered by Medicaid if they have the proper certifications, which has been a little challenging because the certifications were not needed previously. For more information on this newly offered service, please go the Medicaid website.

Tracy with Head Start shared that registration for infants, toddlers and preschools will begin in March.

Ashley shared that CHAP is currently narrowing down their presenters for their March lunch and learn.

Joe shared that they just submitted their grant for next year (July 1). He also shared that they are fully staffed, and fully enrolled at all the Head Start centers.

Darrell shared about the updates at the county building. Restrooms on every other floor. Parking can be difficult.

Joshua with the Village Network shared that they hired an IHBT. If anyone is in need of these services, reach out the Joshua.

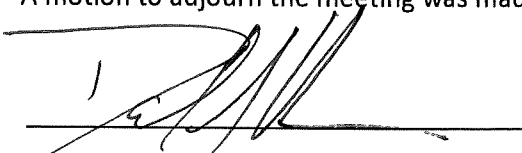
Jean shared that next week is Ohio loves transit week. Tuesday will be free fare day with contests and giveaways.

Dan shared that the Big Red Bookshelf will be having their big event at the carrousel, February 17th. All families are welcome. Free, unlimited rides. Books and cookies. Fun for the whole family. Mansfield City schools students will be reading books to the younger kids.

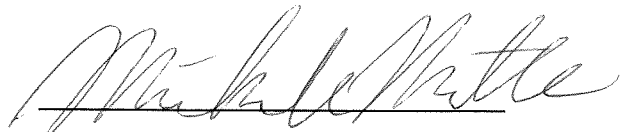
Michele shared that March is national disability awareness month. Richland Newhope has a lot of activities going on for the month and will be sharing the events with the community. She also shared that Leadership Unlimited is starting a new class in September. Scholarships are available to attend. For more information reach out to Michele or the Chamber.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michele and seconded by Kevin V.



Dan Varn, Council President



Michelle Miller, Executive Director