 **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, November 12 2021 – 9:00 a.m. CST

**Meeting Location**: Virtual Meeting

**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Meeting Called to Order**: Regional Service Council meeting was called to order by Regional Manager, Brian Brown.

**2. Introductions:** RM Brown welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting. Beth Hazen introduced herself as Choices Indiana Executive Director. RSC members present: RM Brian Brown, Magistrate Jonathan Forker, Marc Brown, Angelina Brouillette, Brian Broek, Brandi Spear, Meghan Finn and Sarah Fink.

**3**. **October 8, 2021 Minutes**: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes, none were made. Brian Broek made a motion to accept the October 8h minutes as written and was seconded by Sarah Fink, minutes passed.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Nicholas announced they are fully staffed and have seen an uprise in cases from all counties in the region. Nicholas talked about the upcoming events for the holiday season and having to retrain his staff on how to use funds correctly. Kristin Smith discussed the Manager Report for Region 2:

DCS County Referrals – Total of 48

* Benton/Newton – 3
* Jasper – 3
* LaPorte – 22
* Porter – 17
* Pulaski – 1
* Starke – 2

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 34

Closures - 72

Flexible Funds

* Request – 12
* Approved – 12
* Denied – 0
* There was four CFTM requests: All in Porter County which resulted in all four families successfully completed and enrolled.
* Success story from Benton County
* There is concern for the need of flex funds due to spike in new Covid cases and the Covid Variant.

Kristin discussed Community Partners are giving presentations at school teaching the school system of how Community Partners Services and how they are available for help. Kristin told of the past events and how successful they were. There are flyers that will be shared for the upcoming holiday events. Kristin also went over the Community Partner’s newsletter.

**5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion discussed the new Family Preservation Services Hub and showed how it operates. Dion encouraged providers to keep their information for the app updated at least weekly to help Family Case Managers to perform their jobs faster and easier. Dion answered questions from providers on the new app.

**6.** **Finance – Joni Tusing:** Joni was unavailable, RM Brown went over the financial report:

* Budget target is 35.22%, region is at 31.07%
* Expenditures YTD is $4,198,369 which is up 3.11% ($126,762) from last year
* In-Home is up 149% (up $633,669) and Out-of-Home is down 14% (down $506,906) from last year
* Discussed each county expenses

**7. Region 2 Child and Family Outcomes:** RM Brown discussed the PI Overview showing the regional data and how we are above our data for 2020. RM Brown gave credit to providers and Community Partner with the great communication with DCS and working together. The CFTM quality data was not available at the time of the meeting. RM Brown explained how the cases will be getting more difficult as we work with families that need court intervention.

**8. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:** RM Brown talked about how difficult it is when a major incident occurs as it did recently in the region. It is a difficult time for not only DCS but the providers also. He asked if you were involved, not to hesitate to reach out to your supports or him for guidance.

**9. Next RSC Meeting:** The next RSC meeting will be held virtually on December 10th, at 9:00 a.m. central time. RM Brown will not be available for the meeting, but a regional LOD will conduct the meeting.

**10.** **Adjournment:** RM Brown thanked everyone for their time and adjourned the meeting.