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Description automatically generated **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, February 10, 2023 – 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. RM Brown asked for new attendees which Amanda Satterfield introduced herself from Geminus Community Partners. RM Brown welcomed her to the group. RSC members present: RM Brown, Brian Broek, Marc Brown, Angelina Brouillette, Sharon Mathew, Crystal Bradley, Shawna Smith, Brandi Spear and Sarah Fink.

**3**. **January** **13th, 2023, Minutes**: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes, Brian Broek made a motion to accept the January 13th minutes as written and was seconded by Sharon Matthew, minutes passed.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Kristen announced the Bidders Symposium coming up on March 24th, 9:00 – 11:00 at the Embers Venue located in Rensselaer. Kristin discussed the Community Partners report for January.

Open Referrals – 117

New Enrollments – 78

Discharges – 94

DCS County Referrals – Total of 40

* Benton/Newton – 1
* Jasper – 4
* LaPorte – 16
* Porter – 11
* Pulaski – 3
* Starke – 5

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 38

* Benton/Newton – 0
* Jasper – 4
* LaPorte – 12
* Porter – 18
* Pulaski – 0
* Starke – 4
* RM Brown talked about how wonderful it is the community is making referrals instead of just DCS. It is at almost a 50-50 split. We are going in the correct direction.
* Flexible Funds
* Request – 16
* Approved – 16
* There were 2 CFTM request from Porter County. Four safe sleep requests, two from Porter County and two from LaPorte County.
* Kristin went over the meetings/events she attended.
* Concerns: Increase in available therapists by providers for clients’ mental issues. Dramatically rising costs of furniture which causes a downward shift in the number of families CP can help, and local families being able to find affordable housing.
* CP is fully staffed at this time.
* Kristin went over the CP Newsletter.

**5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion stated if you have a CMHC, contracts are coming up for signatures and you will be getting an email soon. Milliman agency reviewed the rates for providers and constructed a rate scale. It is not completed at this time, but rates should be changing by July 1st. Service Hub is coming to the region which will consist of providers updating their information daily. Dion will be sending a letter out explaining the process. This will benefit everyone to have real time information for referrals. Region 2 Family Preservation has had 410 cases over the last 90 days and currently have 293; 820 children over the last 90 days and currently have 602. This data reflects the program is working. Dion also has removal rates which show those providers that are having successful outcomes verse those that are not able to meet the needs of the families served. The region will be requesting more use of paraprofessional services and the new rate will be very close to the bachelor level home-based casework rate at this time.

**6.** **Finance – Joni Tusing:** Joni was absent, RM Brown went over finances for January:

* Budget target is 58.44%, region is at 53.64%
* Expenditures were $907,794 (YTD is $6,356,137, down $777,694)
* In-Home is down 27.33% and Out-of-Home is down 5.58%
* Discussed each county expenses:
  + Benton - $51,244 (YTD up 69%)
  + Jasper - $77,178 (YTD down 2.8%)
  + LaPorte - $422,707 (YTD up 2.72%)
  + Newton - $32,101 (YTD down 54.8%)
  + Porter - $181,810 (YTD down 19%)
  + Pulaski - $28,260 (YTD down 25.6%)
  + Starke - $114,494 (YTD down 26%)
* RM Brown discussed reduction of in-home care and the shift of the money to the preventative services. $687,000 has been slotted for the region’s development of Family Resource Center in Region 2. It is unknown at this time what that will look like but will be brought up to the council for discussion/approval.

**7. Region 2 Child and Family Outcomes:** RM Brown discussed the PI Overview and how Region 2 is leading the state in many categories. This information shows preventative services through Community Partners and other community agencies can provide adequate support to families instead of the need of formal involvement.

**8. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:** No questions or discussion.

**9. Next RSC Meeting:** The next regular RSC meeting will be held virtually on March 10th, at 9:00 a.m. central time.

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