**Residential & ESC Provider Call**

**2.2.23**

**2/2/23 2 pm – 2:50 pm**

Crystal Byrne, Assistant Deputy Director of Child Welfare Services began the meeting introducing herself and reporting to the team that some people had come to the meeting in person as the meeting was being held at Pierceton Woods Academy in Pierceton, Indiana. Crystal stated that DCS would like to offer in person meetings at different facilities so that agencies can get to know one another better and see what programs are being offered throughout the state. Crystal asked that if any facility would like to host the meeting in March or April to contact her.

Crystal introduced Joe Gough, Director of Operations at Pierceton Woods and asked him to briefly describe their services. Pierceton Woods Academy is a 48-bed facility in Pierceton, IN serving youth with Sexually harmful behaviors and/or substance abuse. The agency offers a wide variety of vocational services including a workshop, gardening, food service and bee keeping. Spencer Home Group Home is in Ft. Wayne, IN. Spencer home is a 10-bed group home providing mental health treatment and independent living skills training.

**State Psychiatric Hospital Dr. Miller (NDI)**

* Neuro diagnostic institute was previously LaRue Carter.
* The center serves youth 13 years and over. There is a girl and a boy’s unit.
* All youth under 13 years old would be placed at the State hospital in Evansville.
* Recreational therapy and occupational therapy are recent additions to the treatment team.
* NDI is resolution orientated. NDI attempts to complete all youth assessments within 90 days and get the youth stabilized in efforts for the youth to step down to a less restrictive environment**.**
* The biggest hurdle NDI has identified for youth not being able to step down to a less restrictive environment is that many residential treatment centers request that the youth have two months of non-aggressive or self-harm behaviors.

**Residential Licensing: Rick Steigerwalt**

* Ashlee Prewitt began as the Residential Program Manager in December 2022. Ashlee introduced herself and gave her history working with Residential facilities.
* Rick Steigerwalt stated that the goal is to have at least 50% of an agency’s residential audit completed in person but that the unit is striving to do as much in person audits as possible.
* Residential Licensing is currently hiring (5) positions – Clinical consultant, LCPA program manager and (3) residential licensing specialist positions. (1) residential licensing specialist is starting on February 6, 2023 and will be working in the southern part of Indiana.
* There are going to be realignments for residential licensing specialist caseloads so your agency might be hearing from your current residential licensing specialist introducing you to a new residential licensing specialist.

**Foster Care Licensing & Kinship: Gretchen Grier**

Black History Month Essay Contest – can be completed by any youth placed in out of home care including residential, foster care and kinship care.

* THEME: “Black Resilience”
* Open to all children in elementary, middle and high school
* Monetary prize and plaque awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners
* Questions: Gretchen.grier@dcs.in.gov

February 18, 2023, there will be a Black History month event. Andrea Morehead and her father will be the guest of honor. Andrea wrote a book about an albino child that overcame bullying. Books will be available for the youth. Residential facilities should reach out if they would like a book for the agency library

**2023 High Acuity Needs of Youth & Families**

* DCS instituted the Urgent Discharge Notification Form & Data May 2022 through the Service Hub. DCS wanted to have a central system to understand why youth have been discharged and what their needs are including what type of facility may be more appropriate for their treatment needs. DCS is tracking this information.
* May 2022 there were 9 urgent discharges
* June 2022 there were 8 urger discharges
* July 2022 there were 8 urgent discharges
* August 2022 there were 15 urgent discharges
* September 2022 there were 11 urgent discharges
* October 2022 there were 17 urgent discharges
* November, 23022 there were 15 urgent discharges
* December 2022 there were 13 urgent discharges
* January 2023 there were 11 urgent discharges.

29% were urgent discharges from PSF agencies

48% were urgent discharges from CCI agencies

23% were urgent discharges from group homes

The data was also broken down by region that the youth’s DCS case is open.

* Escalated Treatment Needs Joint Staffing’s are being managed by the integrated
* care team.

LCPA staffing: Integrated Care Team (Kim Henry & Lyon Mercaent-Koons) will be having weekly meetings with the youth’s current provider, case manager and foster care agencies in hopes to find an appropriate placement quicker.

* High Acuity Treatment Bed Availability will be tracked through the DCS

Services Hub. Andrea Hoffman is working with the strategic solutions team to gather information about private secure facilities that have bed openings for high acuity youth.

PSF agencies should expect to receive something from Andrea asking specific questions about the PSF program information.

**Residential Licensing: Crystal Byrne/ David Reed**

* Residential Visit Form Provider Feedback Meeting: February & March – Residential Team has developed a residential visit form for the unannounced quarterly visits. DCS will be sharing the forms with providers for feedback.
* Residential Contract Negotiations: March 31, 2023, More information to come. DCS has been working with IAARCA on this.