



Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

Task Force:	Child Health & Safety		
Meeting Date:	9/25/2023	Meeting Time:	10:00 am – 12:00 pm ET
Minutes By:	Kate Schedel <i>MCH Program Director, IDOH</i>	Location:	Microsoft Teams

Committee Members		
Name:	Organization:	Attendance: (where x is present)
Kate Schedel: <i>co-chair</i>	IDOH	X
Sonya Rush: <i>co-chair</i>	DCS	
Angela Reid-Brown	ISC	
Jeffery Whittman	Prevent Child Abuse IN	X
Carey Michels	FSSA	X
Elizabeth Wahl	FSSA	
Mark Fairchild	Covering Kids & Families	
Rachael Fisher	Community Health Network	
Christina Commons	FSSA	
Maureen Greer	IPQIC	X
Brittany Winebar		
Angela Smith-Grossman	DCS	X
Deanna Szyndrowski	SCAN, Inc.	
Blane Cook	CISC	X
Shannon Schumacher	The Villages	
Jack Turman	Grassroots MCH Leaders	X
Ashley Mager	Grassroots MCH Leaders	
Stephany Knight	Youth Board Member	
Tammie Carter	LifeSmart Youth	X
Hannah Milner	Foster Success	X
Kristi Linson	IDOH	X
	CHIP	
Katie Goodwell	FSSA – First Steps	X
Sue McKinney	OECOSL	
Olivia Clark	IDOH	X
Sam Mundt	IDOH	X
Derika Parris	Goodwill CSI NFP	X
Willie Taylor	DCS	

Agenda & Notes

1. Welcome and Introduction by Kate Schedel
NOTE: Sonya Rush will be out until the end of the calendar year. Please let Kate/Blane know if you need anything.
2. Recap from September in-person meeting
3. New Strategic Objectives for Task Force: looking for new volunteers to lead each objective, please let us know if interested
 1. Increase community-based social and concrete support for families with children, including those being cared for informally by relatives. *(Previously 1.5 - Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising ways to support adults caring for vulnerable children. Angela Smith-Grossman and Shannon Schumacher)*
 - Angela Smith-Grossman willing to lead efforts.
 - Family Connections was brought under Family Supports umbrella – can help with kinship care.
 2. Increase housing stability for families with children. *(Previously 1.1 - Increase access to and use of community-based collaborative efforts that promote wellness in the first year of life, especially in the black communities. Jack Turman)*
 - Jack Turman will continue to lead this. Has a steering committee already in place around housing and has already presented it to the Commission. Will continue to present to them once data is available on updates with housing. Also able to share the Know Your Rights around Tenant Evictions and more.
 3. Recommend ways to increase the power and voice of children in state care. *(Previously 1.3 - Reduce the number of substantiated reports of abuse of children in state care. Stephaney Knight)*
 - Hannah Milner is interested and can help. Happy to learn and support and what that means. Will find someone with their Foster Success youth advisory board as well.
 - Angela Smith Grossman – also responsible for collaborative care. Happy to assist and collaborate.
 4. Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising models for promoting healthy teen relationships, preventing unplanned pregnancy, and reducing the sexual victimization of adolescents. *(Previously 1.4 - Identify and encourage adoption of effective and promising models for reducing the sexual victimization of adolescents. Brittany Winebar)*
 - Tammie Carter will lead strategic objective 5d.
 5. Increase access to early intervention for vulnerable young children. *(Previously 1.6 - Increase access to healthcare and developmental screens by decreasing the child uninsured rate. Mark Fairchild, Christina Commons, Kristi Linson)*
 - Kristi – would love to continue work on Developmental Screening with NASHP. Could also engage Rachel Foster with Medicaid.
 - Willie Taylor and Jeffrey
 6. **Eliminated – reduce incidence of child abuse and neglect in Indiana led by Sandy Runkle. Presenting to the Commission?**
 - Drika Parris – **don't get it quite yet. With NFP – has experience with Foster Success.**
4. Leads for each objective.
5. Scope and plan for each objective.
 1. How do TFs and committees report to the committee before final action is taken.
 2. Raise awareness?
6. Commission Updates: Mark Fairchild
 1. Next meeting 10/18

2. Dec 1 & 2 - YES Virtual Summit – registration information will be out soon.
3. Allie Leonards and Michael Owen – new youth
4. Can pay youth to serve on our TFs – will send out requirements
5. Let Blane if you need any assistance

7. Reminders:

1. Next Commission Meetings: 10/18, 12/20 (10am – 12pm, Government South)
2. Next Committee Meetings: 11/27 (10am – 12pm, virtual)

OTHER UPDATES:

- Angela Smith Grossman – September is National Kinship Month. DCS sponsors a lot of events for raising awareness and connecting kinship caregivers. We revamped Advisory Committee – transitioned this membership. Convened a large number of decision makers/policy makers as well. Another meeting on the books for November to set up goals. DCS has stipends for families (5000) in non-licensed but DCS cases. 53 million dollars. First checks issued a couple of weeks ago. Doesn't pay for families not in custody – how can we access those families and offer concrete support.
- Jack Turman - Housing Equity. Finished our first year of our HRSA Grant for Housing Equity. Two major interventions – healthy beginnings at home – we provide housing navigation services, 24 mo of rental assistance, and comprehensive case management. Enrolled in 1 or 2 trimester and work with them for two years. We have successfully enrolled 10 women and housed 8 of them. (CareSource, RDOOR, and Housing Rentals) – from 199 days to 25 days! Fair market value in last year rose \$300/month so rental assistance is taking a hit. Ohio is also doing this, and Ohio Housing Authority now prioritizes housing and has a budget for them. Trying to advocate with IHA for prioritizing pregnant moms. All housed moms are doing well. Second intervention is health justice intervention – community lawyering via Adam Mueller – Indiana Justice Project (know your rights campaign, strategic litigation, and legal advisory.) Email Jack if you want this presentation on housing rights to your communities. Represented 12 families in preventing eviction/changed rulings. Published two papers with Indiana Bar Association – eviction as trauma AND rulings on timing of evictions. Kate will send – thorough review consequences of evicting preg mom or mom with children.
- Kristi – Working with NASHP to increase developmental screening rate. Working with Immunizations and CHIRP to understand collaboration and knowledge to reduce duplication of screens. Data can be collected without duplication, but currently looking at best way to do this. Maureen – have been conducting a survey with stakeholders on how they screen. 250 responses so far – preliminary findings – people don't know how to screen, what tool to use, etc. Also, they are not following AAP periodicity screens at recommended times. In general, people are not screening for autism at 18 and 24 months. People are just not screening for autism. The good news, we can train people to do screening, increase reimbursement rate for screening. Hasn't done cross tab analysis but we will have a roadmap to increase the rate of screening and Kristi will figure out how to document this and track children long term. A week ago we did a statewide (7th annual) perinatal substance use conference. Ira Chaznoff was there to teach the group on impact of child development on substance use. Marijuana is most used in Indiana and shows the structural damage to the brain and impact of male fertility. Given movement towards legalization – still has a negative impact on developing fetus - how do we address that.
- Willie Taylor – Prevention Services at DCS. One of our goals was to create established Family Resource Centers throughout the state (FRC). We have existing ones with new launch in 9.15 in Wayne County. Collaborating with B&G Club and Church and really want to reduce stigma if you need something while raising a family. FRC looks less government-y. Showed photos of the space. Also, been working with organizations to increase parent participation and empowerment throughout DCS (PCAIN and HFI and Child Safety Programs) to empower parents and include parents in decision making and include in all aspects of programming. On 10/3 – will meet to go over this and plan to recruit and include parents. Link is at Strengthening Indiana Families to website. Are café dates available – best to get in touch with FRC.
- Hannah – Launching FS with DCS – ensuring Foster Youth Trust Fund (est. 2022) will offset cost of driving and insurance for youth in foster care 16 – 18. Launching fund on 10/1.
- IYAB Youth Health Summit plans

