

DCS Region 5 Regional Services Council Minutes

Friday, October 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Location: 250 Main Street, Suite 301, Lafayette, IN 47901

or

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 284 179 598 893

Passcode: PZbeG3

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indiana@m.webex.com

Video Conference ID: 115 130 608 6

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Or call in (audio only)

[+1 317-552-1674,446750008#](tel:+13175521674446750008) United States, Indianapolis

Phone Conference ID: 446 750 008#

Members Present: Angela Guimond, Hillary Laughner, Ambyr Wade Brooks, Judge Stephanie Campbell, Hope Dodson, Brooke Brown, Caitlin Jackson

Members Absent: Penny Neal, Jennifer Samuels, Roxanne Holt, Rachel Gallichan, Judge Faith Graham, Debbie Brenneman

Others Present: Iwona Morretino, Lois Logan-Beard, Sarah Lewis (NYAP), Jackie Marshall (Bauer), Holly Baker (MHA)

1. Welcome

a. News from Region 5

i. Today is Harmony Jensen's (Tippecanoe County LOD) first RSC meeting.

b. Changes in RSC membership

i. Still in need of a few members as outlined in statute.

1. Members needed in the roles of Foster Parent, Prosecutor, Judge

2. Budget Review (Lois Logan-Beard)

a. Review of SFY 2025 so far

i. Target at the time of the budget review was 25% and Region 5 is at 30.21%

ii. Lois provided a breakdown of individual county totals.

iii. No questions or statements from group members.

3. Bauer—Community Partners Report

a. Review of financials (provided to members via email)

i. There is a new fiscal team at Bauer.

- ii. Seeing an uptick on referrals from Medical Providers (12 in September alone) in the Region which is a positive sign that CP is known as a resource to families.
 - iii. Bauer remains compliant in the service standards for the CP program.
- b. Other news:
 - i. Family Resource Center is coming up on its first anniversary.
 - ii. Truck or Treat event at the FRC on 10/30/2025 from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
 - iii. Staff has been impacted by leave.

4. Service Updates (Iwona Morretino)

- a. RFP is open for Community Based Services as of 9/30/2024 through 12/11/2024.
 - i. Pre-proposal conference scheduled for 10/22/2024 at 1 p.m. for providers to attend.
 - 1. A link for the virtual meeting can be found on the DCS website.
 - ii. Current contracts will expire on 6/30/2025
- b. RFP for Community Partners is currently being scored.
- c. Intensive Foster Care Services—FYI
 - i. Set to begin on 11/1/2024 to support children who have behavioral or mental health needs that have created barriers with placement stability.
 - ii. Region 5 providers will be The Villages, NYAP, and Omni.
 - iii. Sarah Lewis spoke on behalf of NYAP and will provide information regarding their services to be shared with the RSC members.

5. Practice data for the Region

- a. A glance at Q1, Q2, and Q3 2024 data provided to the group via email and discussed in the meeting.
- b. Updated data dashboards available to the public on the DCS website at <https://www.in.gov/dcs/reports-and-statistics/data-dashboard/>
- c. Additional Practice Indicator Reports can be found at <https://www.in.gov/dcs/reports-and-statistics/practice-indicator-reports>

6. Schedule for 2025 RSC meetings

- a. If we keep the same schedule as we have in the past, the dates for 2025 would be 1/10/2025, 4/11/2025, 7/18/2025, and 10/10/2025.
- b. Do those dates work for everyone? Is 9 a.m. still a good time to meet?

7. Good of the order

- a. Reminder! Provider meeting to follow this RSC at 10 a.m. via Teams.
- b. Holly Barker at MHA gave an update on the MST program that will be available to a few counties in Region 5.
 - i. They are currently in the hiring process for workers.

8. Adjournment