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Description automatically generated **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, July 14, 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 LOD Crystal Bradley.

**2. Introductions:** LOD Bradley welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting. RSC members present: Crystal Bradley, Chris Buyer, Meghan Finn, Angelina Brouillette, and Sarah Fink.

**3**. **June** **9th, 2023, Minutes**: LOD Bradley asked for additions or corrections to the minutes. There was a motion which was then seconded to accept the June 9th minutes. Sarah Fink asked later for Regina Cross name to be added in the June 9th minutes for attendance.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Kristin Smith discussed Newton County backpack event that was held on the 12th which was very successful despite the rain. The Grantee luncheon will be held on July 27th at the Aberdeen. Ribbon cutting will be held on August 7th for the new Family Resource Center located at 1230 State Road 2 in LaPorte. Kristin went over the Community Partners report:

Open Referrals – 132

New Enrollments – 74

Discharges – 83

DCS County Referrals – Total of 46

* Benton/Newton – 2
* Jasper – 0
* LaPorte – 26
* Porter – 9
* Pulaski – 3
* Starke – 6

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 28

* Benton/Newton – 1
* Jasper – 0
* LaPorte – 10
* Porter – 9
* Pulaski – 2
* Starke – 6

Non DCS Referral Sources: Total of 28

* Self – 21
* Community – 4
* School – 2
* Faith-Based – 1

Flexible Funds

* Request – 19
* Approved – 19
* There were no CFTM requests and one safe sleep request from Porter County.
* Adding Bowen Center to Partner Agencies and Family Focus for homebased services throughout the region.
* The following events are coming up:
* Benton County Back to School – July 12th
* Grantee Acceptance Luncheon – July 27th
* Kristen went over Community Partners July newsletter.

**5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion went over the data for Family Preservation:

* Total cases: State – 10,711: Region 2 – 479
* In the last 90 days: State – 7,508: Region 2 – 338
* Total children: State – 21,538: Region 2 – 945
* In the last 90 days: State – 15,237: Region 2 – 680

Dion announced Family Preservation Friday which is an open forum with David Reed that is available to anyone including providers. Dion reminded providers their employee files must include proof of trainings for the specific modules that they work with, along with their attestation form. Supervision and background check should also be in their files. Rate changes did take place on July 1st, and suggested providers hire paraprofessionals to help meet the demands of referrals.

**6.** **Finance – Joni Tusing:** Joni went over finances for June:

* Budget target is 100%, region is at 100.94%
* Benton – 42.09%
* Jasper – 94.24%
* LaPorte – 122.90%
* Newton – 96.10%
* Porter – 93.65%
* Pulaski – 82.32%
* Starke – 62.87%
* Expenditures were $1,151,383 (YTD is $11,959,843, up 2.11%, $246,921)
* In-Home was $2,219,473: down 18.77% ($512,782)
* Out-of-Home was $9,740,370: up 8.46% ($759,703)
* Discussed each county expenses:
  + Benton - $28,783 (YTD $433,587: up 42.09%-$128,436)
  + Jasper - $74,673 (YTD $953,143: down 8.60%-$89,655)
  + LaPorte - $595,001 (YTD $5,985,103 up 23.25%-$1,129,000)
  + Newton - $51,774 (YTD $453,035 down 25.00%-$151,003)
  + Porter - $280,786 (YTD $2,550,746 down 6.18%-$167,920)
  + Pulaski - $57,816 (YTD $518,697 down 5.23%-$25,791)
  + Starke - $62,551 (YTD $1,065,531 down 37.07%-$627,753)

**7. Region 2 Child and Family Outcomes:** LOD Bradley went over the data for the region explaining how absence of repeat maltreatment is affecting the region. LOD Bradley while discussing Jasper County introduced Franklin Williams as the new LOD replacing Sharon Mathew. LOD Richey discussed Porter County’s data and they have dropped from 10 permanency workers down to four. LOD Bradley introduced Meghan Finn as a new supervisor in LaPorte County. Overall, the region is still doing well.

**8. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:** None

**9. Next RSC Meeting:** The next regular RSC meeting will be held in person and virtually on August 11th, at 9:00 a.m. at the Porter County office. Please join us in person if possible.

**10.** **Adjournment:** LOD Bradley adjourned the meeting.