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Description automatically generated **Regional Service Council**

**Region # 2**

**Meeting Date**: Friday, March 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 there were none. RSC members present: RM Brown, Brian Broek, Marc Brown, Angelina Brouillette, Sharon Mathew, and Sarah Fink.

**3**. **February** **10th, 2023, Minutes**: RM Brown asked for additions or corrections to the minutes, Angelina Brouillette made a motion to accept the February 10th minutes as written and was seconded by Sharon Matthew, minutes passed.

**4. Community Partners – Geminus:** Nicholas Neal discussed upcoming events for April’s Child Abuse Prevention month and Easter. Nickolas 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 – 144

New Enrollments – 99

Discharges – 72

DCS County Referrals – Total of 54

* Benton/Newton – 3
* Jasper – 3
* LaPorte – 21
* Porter – 26
* Pulaski – 0
* Starke – 1

Non DCS Referrals -Total of 45

* Benton/Newton – 1
* Jasper – 4
* LaPorte – 24
* Porter – 11
* Pulaski – 3
* Starke – 2
* Flexible Funds
* Request – 19
* Approved – 19
* There was 1 CFTM request from LaPorte County. Two safe sleep requests, both from LaPorte County.
* Kristin went over the meetings/events Community Partners 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.
* Kristin went over the March Community Partners Newsletter.
* RM Brown commented on how busy the next 6 weeks are going to be.

**5.Services – Dion Smith:** Dion went over the new Service Hub which will be rolled out on April 3rd. Dion thanked those providers that have already entered information in the hub. If any provider hasn’t received any information concerning the Service Hub, please contact Dion.

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

* Budget target is 66.67%, region is at 62.43%
* Expenditures were $973,995 (YTD is $7,396,936, down 6.99%-$555,542)
* In-Home is down 23.01% ($434,163), Out-of-Home is down 2% ($121,379)
* Discussed each county expenses:
  + Benton - $26,954 (YTD $318,479: up 74.5%-$136,047)
  + Jasper - $77,253 (YTD $665,372: down 4.1%-$28,764)
  + LaPorte - $466,308 (YTD $3,305,023 up 10.8%-$322,211)
  + Newton - $43,149 (YTD $226,783 down 49.4%-$221,701)
  + Porter - $219,882 (YTD $1,553,445 down 16%-$296,022)
  + Pulaski - $35,263 (YTD $310,060 down 26%-$108,936)
  + Starke - $105,186 (YTD $1,017,775 down 26%-$358,377)
* Joni mentioned the totals do not include the new adoption services.
* RM discussed back payments that will be coming up and will affect the budget.

**7. Region 2 Child and Family Outcomes:** RM Brown discussed the PI Overview and how the region is stabilizing on their caseloads. RM Brown talked about what effects the data such as placement of the children, repeat maltreatment, and core issues with each case. There is new data coming out that will release information telling us if we need to make corrections on services. We will be discussing this in the future. RM Brown discussed a community center in LaPorte.

**8. Open Discussion, Questions, Information, Good Things Happening:** Sara Fink questioned if there was a measuring tool in place for now for the success of services in the community which RM Brown explained how they are documented and measured either through DCS or Community Partners. RM Brown showed the form with the new data information, but it is in the early stages.

RM Brown explained the money for the Community Center is specifically for LaPorte but hopefully will be expanded in the future to other counties in the region. More information on the Center will be brought before the council. RM Brown asked if anyone see or knows of gaps in services, please bring it to his attention.

**9. Next RSC Meeting:** The next regular RSC meeting will be held virtually on April 14th, at 9:00 a.m. central time.

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