



Brevard Family Partnership

A Community Based Care Agency

Board Report



June 21, 2018

Valerie Holmes, Executive Director

Narrative Report

The University of South Florida was contracted by DCF to complete the evaluative study of Florida's Title IV-E Demonstration Waiver. Circuit 18 (Brevard and Seminole Counties) were selected to participate in the statewide assessment. The study is examining evidenced based practices and Wraparound is an area of focus. Focus groups have been scheduled for July 31 with a team of C.A.R.E.S. Care Coordinators and Family Allies Case Managers to share their perspectives on current child welfare practice, including system strengths and challenges. Melissa Johnson, Senior Social and Behavioral Researcher at the Department of Child and Family Studies will conduct the evaluation. Findings will be shared throughout the state.

Meetings were held in June to continue efforts toward the Family Unification Program (FUP) Housing Choice Voucher grant application. In preparation for submission of the grant, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was circulated throughout the network of providers. The MOU outlines the prioritization and referral process for FUP-eligible families and youth, integrating the Brevard Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care coordinated entry process; supporting the goals and standards of success of the program. An MOU has also been drafted with Community of Hope; BFP's newly formed partnership to increase housing resources for child welfare families.

A series of Birth Parent-Foster Parent Convening's was discussed and endorsed by the Foster Parent Advisory and Quality Parenting Initiative Steering Committee. David Brown, Florida QPI representative will be facilitating the convening's. The first convening took place at the Child Protection Summit last year and was very successful. This forum offers a great opportunity to hear from foster parents and birth parents to further strengthen and promote co-parenting efforts in the System of Care. This forum is designed to provide an intimate setting for birth families and foster families to collaborate and candidly discuss their journey in working together and with the child welfare system. BFP continues to focus on co-parenting efforts and to draw upon the wisdom, knowledge, and expertise of the attendees to gain new insights moving forward.

There are 250 registrations for the upcoming Annual Trauma Informed Care and Youth Summit consisting of cross system representation from the community of stakeholders. In addition to the keynote speakers, youth panel and community cafe, the Florida Coalition for Children Director of Youth and Community Services, Mike Williams, will present on the statewide initiative of One Voice Impact. The event will conclude with a recognition ceremony of the Brevard Youth Leadership Council. The new fiscal year's Youth Leadership Academy will focus on youth engagement to successfully strengthen the capacity of young people and their competencies to serve as leaders on the Brevard Youth Advisory Council (BYLC). This consists of effective leadership development, the authentic engagement of youth in the process of understanding their own history and development as well as learning the skills necessary to implement system change. The program objectives are to strategically increase the number of youth leaders on the BYLC, strengthen skills for existing and new youth to serve as effective leaders, and build the capacity of youth leaders to actively participate in youth-adult partnerships for policy and practice change.

The operating agreement for System of Care Technology Solutions, LLC Agreement has been received. Programmers are working on preparing to launch the beta testing of the Children's Wraparound Management System. The next Board meeting is scheduled to occur on 7/9/18.

Amendment 24 for Back of the Bill funding was executed on 6/5/18 with an effective date of 6/7/18. The directive from DCF regarding the recommended allocation for spending included covering the amount of any prior year deficits carried forward into State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017-18 that were not covered by a current year surplus, covering the amount of any projected current year Independent Living (IL) deficits; and using any remaining funds, based upon analysis of remaining deficits not covered in 1) and 2).

The Adoption Team started to pilot Family Match, a program developed by Adoption-Share, consisting of a data driven application to match children available for adoption to approved families on markers of compatibility. This modernized system applies the utilization of data science along a technology interface that identifies individual attributes to successfully contribute to placement matches using analytics that generate the greatest placement stability. Family Match is being managed by the Selfless Love Foundation. The pilot period extends for eighteen months to participating agencies. BFP's primary intent for use of Family Match is to expand the network of potential approved adoptive families to match children that are not currently in pre adoptive placements. The system is accessible only to approved providers and does not provide identifying demographic information for available children.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Executive Director