NCACDSS Children’s Services Committee

MINUTES

Wednesday March 13, 2024

2:15-4:15

Virtual Zoom Meeting

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|  | **Agenda Item/Presenter** |
|  | **Welcome from CSC Chairs:**Jennie Kristiansen, Chatham County Kathy Ford, Pasquotank CountyKimberly McGuire, Wayne CountyBobbie Sigmon, McDowell County |
|  | **Approval of January 2024 Minutes\***Motion to approve made by Debbie Green and Melody Cummings seconded. \*Note: There was no CSC February 2024 meeting. |
|  | **NC Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Association, Kelsey Smith (PPT shared)*** Think of mental health in the same way we think of physical health. Mental health is neutral but we can do things to positively impact their mental health or negatively impact their mental health. This is all in the context of their caregiver – who impacts their mental health.
* Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health is…The growing capacity of a young child, age 0-6 to express and regulate a wide range of emotions, form healthy and secure relationships, and explore the environment to learn, which is all done in the context of family, community, and culture.
* NCIMCHA is a state-wide organization serving birth-age 5 to strengthen early childhood systems and developing an effective and supported workforce.
* Hoping to get all professionals to speak the same language and promote all children to grow up and be successful.
* Imperative to know what trauma does to their development from 0-3 years old because that’s when the brain grows the most rapidly. This is when the foundation for all learning, behavior, and health is completed. If it is disrupted, a child can spend a lifetime catching up. 40% of children in foster care are 0-5 according to data in 2021.
* Offer quarterly competency-based trainings right now.
* Specialized trainings can also be offered to local county DSS offices.
* Annual conference
* IECMH endorsement – credential that is obtained through specialized training. There is a category of endorsement for different professionals.
* 4/11/24 – 11-1 quarterly webinar
* 2024 annual conference is Sept 18-19 at Lake Junaluska

**Therapeutic Kinship Care, Erica Burgess (PPT shared)*** Family Focused Treatment Association
* Philosophy – all children belong in families, preferably their own families.
* Have their treatment needs met by relatives or by those with whom they have a family like relationship.
* Kinship treatment foster care can help children stay safe, achieve permanency, and thrive when their kinship caregivers have access to the full array of training, services, and supports available through treatment foster care.
* Hosted a summit in 2015 here in NC with private and public partners. Approached with trying to do a pilot after an evaluation with child trends. We are on the second round of funding. We began in 2020 with three years of funding. We are now on the second round of funding. Only one of the public agencies has changed. Public agencies are partnered with private agencies at different stages of the process.
* 1 hour team supervision provided
* Trainings offered prior to engagement of the pilot and throughout the pilot. Also offer coaching sessions.
* 6 different modules on kinship caregiver training objectives, including self care.
* Required regular communications among staff at partner agencies. Communication must be transparent, consistent, and frequent. Collaboration factors also include shared responsibility, trust, and established processes, and procedures. Establish clear understanding of staff roles and responsibilities, as well as goals central to implementation.
* Medium sized agency had the best results due to less cooks in the kitchen.
* Now have a leadership cohort for managers.
* Program champion was very important.

**Child Abuse Prevention Month, Leshana Moore & LouMecia Staton (PPT Shared)*** Public awareness year round
* Child abuse prevention month – April – Building A Hopeful Future Together
* Shared the link for the toolkit and child abuse awareness video
* Friday, April 5th is wear blue day this year.
* Tuesday, April 2nd – will be at NC State Farmer’s Market in Raleigh to plant pinwheels
* Tuesday, April 16th, national digital advocacy day
* If you need help planning, reach out and they will assist.
* Reach out to let them know if you are having an event and they will put it on the map.
* They do have a new pinwheel ordering process – go to the website to do this.
* Rebranding - now called PCANC – Positive Childhood Alliance North Carolina

**ESSA Update, Sonya Morgan/Jessica Frisina (PPT shared)*** In 2015, ESSA was signed into law.
* Five forms are used in regards to ESSA
* On 3/19/24 from 9-11 am webinar is being held for collaborating for the Educational stability of students in Foster care.

**CFSR Round 4 Update, Peter West (PPT shared)*** Moving towards changing the culture. It will be an ongoing process, not a one time process. Stakeholder interviews will be the week of April 22nd. Variety of different people have volunteered to come do stakeholder interviews with us. We will start reviewing cases in April. If you had a case pulled in April, you were notified in February. There were 65 cases pulled (40 FC; 25 FIH).
* If you have questions, please reach out to Michael or Peter.

**Realistic Job Preview Video, Tammy Shook*** 18 minute video in the chat.
* Was completed by Buncombe and Mecklenburg counties.
* Have redone the preservice training videos so that North Carolina has their own videos.
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|  | Questions and Future Agenda Items |
|  | Adjourn |

