

MINUTES OF LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD
Regular Meeting Held September 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Lucas County Children Services Board was held at 705 Adams Street, 3:00 P.M. in person and via Zoom.

Members Present: Ms. Cowell, Ms. Easterly, Mr. Schinharl, Ms. Vasquez, Ms. Wilson
Member(s) Absent: Ms. Arnold, Ms. Gagnon, Ms. McCollough, Rev. Dr. Perryman, Mr. Ridi, Mr. Walrod

Ms. Vasquez called the September 15, 2021 regular meeting of the LCCS Board to order. Roll Call was taken. A quorum was not present.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Charisse Madison – RN – Clinic
Dr. Hope Bland – Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Strategy – Administration

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND AUGUST 2021 LCCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

There was not a quorum present to approve the Consent Agenda and August minutes. These will be addressed at the October Board Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Ms. Vasquez participated in part of the Counsel on Accreditation interview with board members and appreciate all of you who did participate in the interview. Ms. Vasquez understands everything went very well.
- Thank you board members who attended the playground dedication and thank you, Ms. Gagnon, for speaking on behalf of the board at the dedication. I look forward to seeing the playground once completed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

LCCS Child Placement Statistics

	Current Month	Previous Month
Agency Foster Homes	312	317
Subsidized Adoptions	1,208	1,212
Purchased Boarding Homes	127	117
Institutions/Group Homes	10	9
Relative Placement	401	366

DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT

Family First Prevention Service Act

PCSAO, along with Directors of the 88 counties, have been trying to bring attention to the issue that QRTPs will be deemed as IMD (Institutions for Mental Disease) and thus will not be able to bill Medicaid for non-room and board services (physical,

behavioral, dental). This could have a devastating impact on Ohio starting in October 2021. On behalf of the agency, I signed with 500 other national, state, and local organizations a joint letter urging Congress to exempt Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTPs) from the Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) exclusion. We also had a conversation with Senator Sherrod Brown's office to discuss the issue because we believe that a legislative fix is necessary.

Race Diversity Equity and Inclusion Work

Dr. Hope Bland started September 7th here as our Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Strategy

Current race and equity work includes, but not limited to:

- Department of Job and family to serve as a member of the Children Services Race Equity Think Tank
- Ohio Metro / State Leaders Race Equity Workgroup convened by Casey Family
- Lucas County Race Equity workgroup also convened by Casey family
- Lucas County Committee learning community facilitated by the Burns Institute
- Led a collaboration of 100 African American women to have a press conference to encourage the African American community to get immunized/vaccinated against COVID-19
- Co-leading TREIC (Toledo Race Equity Inclusion Council) Social Justice Pillar

From Casey Family

"Eric Fenner and I are so pleased to introduce you all for change management work. Robin, you have been such a leader both within the Toledo community and on the statewide level for child welfare. When you indicated you were creating a new agency position focused on issues of race equity, and you had a desire to more deeply integrate the work in your agency, community and continue statewide leadership, it seemed like the right time to leverage expertise to support you. BJ Walker and Jim Dimas both have deep change management experience, and they have agreed to meet with you, explore goals and opportunities and help you plan for culture change, as demonstrated by real transactional work that can be evidenced by all. Casey Family Programs is pleased to sponsor this partnership, and we encourage you to schedule time to meet and explore."

Medicaid Managed Care and OhioRISE

*This statement is credited to PCSAO:

"ODM announced that OhioRISE, along with other Medicaid Managed Care changes, will be delayed from January 1, 2022, to July 1, 2022. The primary risks associated with this delay are related to the coverage of MST and FFT services by OhioRISE and the completion of the CANS assessments for youth involved with a QRTP. The announcement of the delay was made in late August and PCSAO staff are working to gain a better understanding of the impact and additional risks associated with the change in timeline."

Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce Community Forum

I attended and gave testimony at The Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce Community Forum, featuring State Senator Theresa Gavarone, that was held on Monday, September 13. The forum was held to discuss the significant negative economic and community impact of the decision by the Ohio Department of Medicaid to exclude Paramount Insurance from the Ohio Medicaid Managed Care Program.

DONATIONS/PARTNERSHIPS

Volunteers from the Owens Corning world headquarters will gather again on September 23 to build more care bags for LCCS kids. The backpacks contain comfort and care items, including a fleece blanket, personal care items, and activities. The care bags will be available for distribution during the fall and upcoming holiday season.

LCCS participated in an Engage Toledo Recycle Day August 28 to let the public know some of the tires they drop off will be used in the playground's rubber surface. The educational component is part of the Ohio EPA grant awarded to Friends of LCCS. Nearly 400 vehicles passed through the event, netting hundreds of tires for recycling. The Foster Recruitment team also used the opportunity to publicize its efforts.

IN THE MEDIA

WTOL-TV 11, wtol.com The Blade, toledoblade.com	Foster parent classes resume	08/16/2021
WTOL-TV 11, wtol.com	Your Day interview with Sherry Dunn Foster care recruitment	08/20/2021
Cumulus stations	Contact program, need for foster parents	08/20/2021
The Blade, toledoblade.com	Tire recycling event for playground	08/25/2021
WTVG, 13abc.com	TPD posting pictures of wandering kids on FB (Robin Reese interview)	09/01/2021
Journal of Accountancy	Podcast, interview with Ebonie Jackson Use of leadership to improve lives of kids	09/02/2021
The Blade, toledoblade.com NBC-24, nbc24.com	Playground Groundbreaking	09/10/2021
WTOL-TV 11, wtol.com	2-year-old fentanyl overdose death Robin Reese interview	09/10/2021
The Blade, toledoblade.com	Disproportionality among foster kids Robin Reese interview	09/12/2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OPEN SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Wilson.
Seconded by Mr. Schinharl.
Meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Kathy Vasquez, Board Chair