

# Meeting Minutes-State Interagency Team Meeting

Thursday, August 26, 2021

2:00-3:30

Location: Microsoft Teams

## System of Care Priorities:

1. Utilize the Residential Analysis Report to increase the number of children, youth and families served in community settings by investing in community-based supports and focusing on mobile response efforts in Vermont.
2. Continue supporting funding structures that are coordinated and streamlined to the highest extent possible across AHS departments moving away from fee-for-service funding and toward value-based payments.
3. Support statewide services being streamlined and coordinated during and after the pandemic.

**Present:** Alicia Hanrahan, Cheryle Wilcox, Laurel Omland, Dana Robson, Karen Price, Sandi Yandow, Amy Lincoln Moore, Adam Poulin, Beth Sausville, Barb Joyal, Suzanne Legare Belcher, Keith Williams (welcome! New CIS Director), Karen Bielawski-Branch, Danielle Bragg, Kheya Ganguly

**Regrets:** Diane Bugbee, Amy Roth, Melanie D'Amico,

Agenda Item	Discussion Notes	Next Steps
<p><b>Reviewing updates from last month (see below) any major updates we all need to know about related to our System of Care (e.g. staffing changes, new programming, policy changes, fiscal, workforce challenges and planning, legislative outcomes)</b></p>	<p>CDD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen Bielawski-Branch is leaving CDD to go to VDH to oversee the Home visiting program. So sad to see you leave, Karen!! She starts in her new role on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Increased demand in the field for background checks to get through the backlog</li> <li>• Number of staffing changes-new Data Manager</li> <li>• Danielle Howes has moved into Performance Management Role and they will be hiring for an Early Intervention Coordinator</li> <li>• Licensing has 4 openings</li> </ul> <p>DMH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have newly appointed Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners</li> <li>• Funding for Mobile Response has been approved to spend! Grant agreement to Rutland Mental Health is being routed for signatures.</li> <li>• Adult Case Management Director is being interviewed for—this is the position Samantha Sweet held prior to her being hired into the Mental Health Services Director role (that was vacant when Frank Reed retired).</li> <li>• Still have two leadership roles in DMH that are also vacant.</li> </ul>	

- Trauma Director: just rolled out a Resilience training for Capstone Community Head Start. Working on how to support staff and focus on resilience.
- STAMPP grant: VDH and DMH grant together—perinatal parents and caregivers—have four pilot projects and moving to 3 new areas.

Interagency:

- Tomorrow DAIL, DMH and Family Services are testifying to the Child Protection Oversight Committee on children and youth in residential programming.
- Yesterday LIT Connections was held—next one is late Sept. You should have received the notes at the end of the day yesterday. Slides will be shared when they are finalized.

VFN:

- Home schooling and special education webinar - good info for families  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrBC9w5RQQk>
- Tough start to school year with disparities in masking
- Terrible shortage of para educators and special educators
- Hearing a lot from families who don't have school staff to support the services

VFFCMH:

- Peer workforce is also challenged (and has been for years) for the Federation. Need to look at how to deepen the workforce
- Had a meet and greet with new DMH Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner
- Hearing from families wondering about CSPs

VDH-CSHN:

- Monica Ogelby is leaving her position at MCH and is taking another position at VDH to be the immunization program manager. Recruitment for her clinical director role is not yet determined.
- VDH staff are being reactivated to do covid work many of whom were only able to step back into their roles a few weeks ago.

AOE:

- Workforce development issues—high need for teachers
- Home study is ramping up as more parents want to teach their children from home.

	<p>DVHA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No update on a Commissioner-has been vacant for a couple of months now.</li> <li>• Some providers are not wanting to enroll as Vermont Medicaid providers.</li> </ul> <p>FSD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some districts are down multiple case worker positions</li> <li>• Also faced with domino of staff moving around at FSD. Suzanne Shibley (Policy, Planning and Performance Manager) is moving to Economic Services</li> <li>• Some Directors have moved to central office.</li> <li>• Tomorrow is a meeting to discuss the Newbury program (Woodside replacement).</li> <li>• Working on a kinship navigator project</li> </ul> <p>AHS Field Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Field Director, Kerry Duquette, starts Sept. 13<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Looking for a new Field Services Director to oversee the Field Director roles</li> <li>• Looking to stand up more consistent adult Local Interagency Teams</li> <li>• Working in communities to address workforce challenges</li> <li>• Helping with housing –357 children still in hotels.</li> <li>• Trying to help support wellness of staff</li> </ul>	
<p><b>FFPSA Overview and interagency work</b> ~ <i>Beth Sausville, Family Services Division</i></p>	<p>Family First Prevention Services Act: Landmark legislation-most significant child welfare law in 20 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to draw down funds to support prevention work instead of only intervention work</li> <li>• Slide 2: Major Elements of Family First <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prevention</li> <li>○ Evidence-Based Programs and Services</li> <li>○ Quality residential Care</li> <li>○ System Alignment and Integration</li> <li>○ Family Focused Care</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Family Services is submitting a plan for Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to move Family First forward in Vermont. It will take months for review, feedback and finalization from federal partners.</li> <li>• What has happened recently? Candidacy term has been defined which means this states how a child/youth is eligible for services through this funding. See slide detail for definition.</li> <li>• This legislation helps us work more closely together to determine the best way to support and serve children, youth and families</li> <li>• Services offered using this funding stream must be “promising, supported, or well-supported”.</li> </ul>	<p><b>See attached slides for reference</b></p> <p><b>After thinking and reviewing the info. more please provide your thoughts and feedback to Beth</b></p>

Wrap Up and Next Steps		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Remember to take time for self-care</b></p>  A painting of a person sitting on a red mat under a large, leafy tree in a field. The scene is bathed in a soft, golden light, suggesting a peaceful, self-care moment. The background is a mix of blue and green, with a bright light source behind the tree.		

