

Meeting Date: January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Meeting Location: Lorain County Administration Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Commissioners' Meeting Room A, Elyria, Oh 44035

Time: 9:00-10:00 am

**Present: Tim Weitzel**, (Lorain County Domestic Relations Court), **Rick Soto**, (City of Lorain), **Mark Adams**, (Lorain County Public Health), **Barb Tamas**, (Chair, Lorain County Job and Family Services), **Barb Morgan**, (Parent Representative), **Shauna Matelski**, (Lorain County Community Action), **Susan Shepard**, (Family Representative), **Dan Haight**, (The LCADA Way), **Kristen Fox-Berki**, (Lorain County Children Services),

**Staff: Chelsea Freeman- Director**

**Guest: Heather Knoble** (Early Intervention Supervisor/DD), **Denise Henry** (Family Service Coordinator), **Mr. Arnold** (family story guest), **Mr. Miller** (family story guest), **John Gall** (Commissioner Riddell AA), **Jon Paul Filipkowski** (Family Service Manager), **Dave Kish** (Educational Service Center of Lorain County), **Jackie** (Lorain County 4H), **Isaac Young** (Early Intervention Neighborhood Alliance)

**Guest Virtual: Martha**, (Child Care Resource Center, **Carrie H** (OhioRise/ CME), **Amy C** (Senior Outreach & Education Specialist/ Ohio Consumers Council)

### **Call to Order**

Barb Tamas called the meeting to order at 9:00am

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Barb Tamas welcomed everyone and introductions occurred around the table.

Guests- see below

Mr. Miller- Grandfather contacted CFCC for his grandson who is 14 with severe autism. They have had guardianship of the child since he was 2 years old. They had never reached out for services. The grandmother became ill and passed away. After working with the child for 1.5 years, grandfather finally needed help and reached out. The council has worked with him by providing wraparound services and supports. Grandfather said that he lost his wife and was by himself. He first reached out to Vermilion schools for assistance. He was dealing with seven different organizations at one time. Denise from CFCC came in and organized everything for him and went the extra mile for him. They started a respite program with some family members which was helpful, but short term due to his needs. Grandfather said at that time that he could no longer manage the child. The team came together and was able to successfully place the child at New Avenues where he will be until he can find a more child appropriate place. The dedication of the worker was remarkable and so helpful to him.

Willie Arnold- another grandparent who was raising his 8 year old grandson. Riley is doing so much better at school since Chelsea's intervention. CFCC has gone above and beyond for them. Chelsea would meet them at the clinic for his check ups. He is so grateful for the intervention of CFCC.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Dan Haight motioned to approve. Rick Sotto second. Minutes approved. Motion Carried.

### **Early Intervention Report**

El Program Report July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to December 31, 2023. Chelsea stated that all council members received a hard copy of the report in the email with supporting documents for Council. Chelsea asked represented members if they received and reviewed the document. Chelsea introduced Isaac Young who presented the following data: 163 referrals with 111 of them being under the age of 2. Next largest referral sources were children services and local hospitals. Of the 244 eligible, 220 went on to has a plan completed. Last year the main focus was stabilizing the team and staffing. The majority of the team has been there over a year. Four staff members met their five year anniversary. Average caseload size is 75-80. Currently have an evaluator opening. The next audit from DODD will be for a transition audit. Began the transition committee recently to discuss the process and fine tune things with emphasis on training.

Chelsea reported that she is working with Mayor Bradley and CFFC is going to pledge \$20,000 to help update the playground at Lakeview Beach in Lorain. Maintenance will be done by the city to maintain this. This will be a match with Early Intervention. This will be for the playground on the opposite side of the beach area that is maintained by the city. There will be signs and a plaque for the area and an event for grand opening.

Motion made for the \$20,000 donation to Lorain- Motion made by Dan Haight to utilize \$20,000 as matching funds and Kristen Fox – second. Motion carried.

### **Current Program Update**

Current Program Update: 9 families on the waitlist and have 7 new cases that are opening right now. 62 open cases. 2 cases in residential with one out of Ohio.

### **Old Business**

Cathy and Mindy not present. LCPH Partnership rolled out on January 1. Kristen Estep will have this plan of care caseload to maintain.

Outreach and Community- Connecting for Kids Event in February, Youth Resilience Summit in April and Vulnerable Population Summit in May. El Playground Grand Opening in Late summer.

By Law update and edits put up for a vote: Motion made by Kristen Fox and Second by Mark Adams. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

Finance: Meeting held on 1/17/24: Doing very well and received almost all of the pooled funding. Another \$200,000 coming from commissioners. Working with 4C to open up CFFC's ability to apply for family stability for families.

Program, Data and Evaluation- no meeting this quarter

Early Childhood Committee- not met yet this quarter.

### **New Business**

Jon Paul promoted to Family Service Manager, open posting for Administrative Assistant, office furniture has been ordered.

Updating service coordination mechanism and dispute resolution and creating the youth advisory board to be under council. This will be a great opportunity for the council as we need a voice to travel to the council. Exciting opportunity that will be championed by a non profit in the community.

Ohio Children's Trust Fund- Kristen and Chelsea's position and time on this committee has ended. New involvement requires a two year commitment and must be board approved. Are there any other entities present today that are interested in this? Public Health was recommended and Mark has considered this since the meetings are in Stark County where he lives. Meetings are quarterly at most. One other spot is still available, but Jon Paul can also do this.

Family Representatives- Applications are being accepted for FY25 participation. Application approval will occur with the OCBF application at April meeting. Take a look internally at our agencies for any families that may have interest in this.

FSY 24 Dates- April 18, 2024 at 9 am, July 25, 2024 @ 9 am

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Amy C provided a state update from the consumers council and will be sending out flyers on winter programs.

Chelsea mentioned the following dates for meetings: April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Dan Haight seconded by Rick Sotto adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.