



Lorain County Children and Families First Council Budget and Finance Subcommittee

July 17, 2024

Attendees:

- Barbra Tamas - Job and Family Services
- Dan Haight - LCADA Way (attended until 9:00am)
- Kristen Fox-Berki - Lorain Council Children Services
- Chelsea Yates - Lorain County Children and Families First Council
- Jon Paul Filipkowski - staff

Opening:

- The regular meeting of the Budget and Finance Subcommittee was called to order at 8:32 on 7/17/24 in Elyria by Chelsea Yates.

Approval of Agenda

- The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve meeting minutes introduced by Barbra Tamas and seconded by Kristen Fox. The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Open Issues

1. Funding In

1. MISC Funding

- i. The High Fidelity Wrap Around training incentive dollars have all been expended.
- ii. Service Coordination Incentive Funds are being looked at to fund the start of a community lending library.
- iii. There is a small committee working with the Youth Leadership committee. Two projects are in the works currently.
- iv. FCSS Misc funds are rollover from early 2000s. It is unclear how this money should be spent and what it was allocated for. It is also unclear if these dollars were supposed to be given back to the state.

2. Annual Allocations

- i. FCSS and OCBF dollars for FSY25 have not yet been received.
- ii. TANF dollars for FSY24 need to be spent by the end of September. There are plans in place for where these dollars will be spent.
- iii. TANF funding for FSY25 has increased to \$465,000. The contract still needs to be completed.
- iv. The full assessment for MSYCPS dollars for FSY25 has not been completed.

3. Pooled Funding

- i. The remaining \$186.21 in ARPA funding needs to be spent by Dec.

4. Pooled Funds FSY25 Request

- i. Children Services and the County Commissioners each have 1 final payment remaining.

2. Current Contracts

1. The contract for the Child Care Resource Center remains the same, however, there are some issues receiving the full extent of the services requested.

2. Catholic Charities is not currently in contract with Children and Families First Council, however, they are continuing to provide services to families.
3. The allocation for EI Services for FSY25 has been increased. Neighborhood Alliance has increased the wages of staff to maintain competitive employment. The playground funded by EI dollars has been fully funded and cleaning and construction starts soon.
4. There has been no change in the independent provider contracts for FSY25.

3. Sponsorships

1. Children and Families First Council is looking to expand outreach and sponsorships. Lorain City Schools recently requested a sponsorship for their Back to School event. The district is out of ESSER funds and now needs to work with community partners for outreach. The district initially asked for \$16,000 to sponsor the event. While the committee supports all school districts most were in agreement that \$16,000 is not wise to be spent on this sponsorship.
2. Children and Families First Council will be funding the ribbon cutting ceremony at Lakeview Park on Sept 28, 2024.
3. An opportunity to expand Parent Mentoring was discussed. The hub that Lorain County is in was awarded \$20,000 per year for 2 years to provide this service. The Hub included Lorain, Medina, Wayne, Holmes, and Ashland Counties. It was proposed that a Children and Families First Council worker be allocated hours to provide this service virtually to all counties. The rate for the billable service still needs to be created.
4. Children and Families First Council is looking into purchasing services through Netsuite for fiscal management. With the amount and number of streams of funding it is becoming difficult to track with Excel, which is the primary system being used now. Netsuite is customizable to the needs of the agency. Dan Haight asked why the agency cannot use the County system. While it would be helpful to utilize the Children Services system, it is protected and Children and Families First Council would not be able to tap into it
5. All salaries are justified and funded.

Next Meeting

- The next committee meeting will be at 8:30 am on October 2, 2024 via Zoom.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am by Chelsea Yates.

Minutes submitted by: Jon Paul Filipkowski