



Executive Director's Report

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## Executive Director's Report

### **Objectives for the Month**

**Objective:** Preparations for Community Event

**Objective:** Accountability oversight of funded agencies

**Objective:** Community Outreach

**Hours worked each week-** 40

**Holiday Hours-** 8

**Sick hours-**

**Vacation –**

**Office Hours-** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9 am to 5 pm. Lunch break 12 to 1pm.

“A community where all children of 19 years and less and their families of Lafayette County can reach their full potential in a supportive and nurturing environment.”- LCCSF long-term goal

Over the course of the past month the Executive Director continued to work towards the goals of the LCCSF Board identifying areas of consideration among the board, promoting LCCSF within the community and looking at the overall well-being and safety of the children of Lafayette County. Identifying objectives throughout the month help the Executive Director approach areas in which to work on behalf of the board. Those objectives were; Preparations for community events, accountability oversight of funded agencies, and community outreach. Throughout this past month the Executive Director attended the counties Directors meeting, REACH Forum

(information about Immigration Law and communities), attended the monthly meeting with the school districts and Compass Health, conducted site visits, gave a report to the County Commission, attended the monthly HCC General Membership meeting, participated in a webinar “Using outcomes-based financing to improve child & youth outcomes”, planned and prepared for the “For Ahkeem” community event and took care of all of the day to day administrative duties.

### **County Directors Meeting**

Friday August 17th, the Executive Director hosted the state-wide Children's Services Fund Directors meeting in Columbia, Mo. The purpose of meeting is for collaboration, information and strategy among the state. Directors present were from Boone, St Louis, St Charles, Jackson, Franklin, Lafayette and Lincoln counties.

The topics discussed were; Medicaid billing in schools, volunteer policies for board members, site visits, board engagement, legislative priorities and updates from each county. Medicaid billing in schools will prove to be a challenge for some counties such as St Louis. This is because nearly 90% of the children in school are on medicaid and the funds that were allocated before were significant. Emily, St Louis County, wanted to discuss ways in which funding could move forward in additional areas. Discussion among the directors took place in regard to talking with Senators about what priorities should take place with other medicaid billable services in school. We will revisit this topic in October, after services and billing have taken place. Three of the counties also brought up the Pinnocchio program and the huge impact it has had on preventative/intervention for their county children.

Annie, Franklin county, shared that she is looking for any policies we could share with her about board volunteering. Many of the counties have policies in regard to what capacity board members can volunteer for organizations. Kelly shared about a board member that has volunteered for a horse therapy program for a long time and when the agency came to the board to request funding, she was required to recuse herself from conversation and voting for that particular agency. Overall, volunteering is permissible. Many counties require that a board member volunteer no more than 12 hours per year, and are not allowed to donate money to any agencies fundraiser. The directors all offered to share was policies they had. Conversation also took place in regard to setting up a basecamp website where we can all share our policies, bylaws, and other documents. We will revisit this topic at the next meeting.

Cheri, Lincoln county, wanted to discuss board engagement and look for recommendations. The counties shared that they do not require a physician to be on the board but look for knowledgeable, experienced members that share differing insights. Some of the other things the directors do for board engagement are conduct workshops and board education nights.

Rob, Jackson county, wanted to discuss site visits and look for recommendations/insights from other counties. All of the counties conduct site visits to the same extents. Main priority during site visits is to ensure that the children receiving services are within the county and age range, as required by statute. Also, directors check 10% of the agencies client files to ensure dates of service are consistent. If an agency has issues with the budget or are failing to report accurate data, they are required to complete a full audit. The counties consistently conduct site visits twice a year (one for each funding cycle, per agency).

Tiffany, Lafayette county, was curious about the other counties board policy on funding for school districts. Many of the counties have several districts in the area and maintains funding

with outside agencies to go in and complete the work that needs to be done. Several districts deny services. Jackson county provides funding to school districts on an individualized basis. This is due to the differing needs among districts. All directors understand clearly that the statute does allow for school district funding. Each counties needs differ and the boards make funding decisions based on the need of the community.

### **REACH Forum**

Friday August 24th, the Executive Director attended the REACH forum, Communities Concerned for Immigrants and Refugees, in Kansas City, Mo. The purpose of attending this meeting was to learn new information in regard to Government policy and the changes/impact it will have on the Lafayette County community. Particularly, the migrant farmworker community.

Featured speaker, Gabrielle Lessard, senior policy attorney for the [National Immigration Law Center](#), shared national trends and updates regarding recent policy that impacts the immigrant and refugee communities. And a panel of experts on immigrant health and policy discussed the ripple effect of U.S. immigration policies on working people, households, communities and business owners.

Public charge was discussed among the panelists as a new threat to immigrant families. The "public charge" test has been a part of federal immigration law for decades. It is designed to identify people who may depend on government benefits as their main source of support. If the government determines someone is likely to become a "public charge", the government can deny admission to the U.S. or refuse and application for lawful permanent residency. The White House is reported to be reviewing a proposal that would change longstanding "public charge" policy. Panelists discussed the impact that this issue has on legal immigrants. It was reported

that many legal immigrants will forgo any kind of public assistance and go without food and necessary items because they are worried that they will be deported or denied residency.

### **Schools and Compass Health Collaborative Meeting**

Wednesday August 29th, the Executive Director attended a meeting at Lafayette County C-1 with representatives of each school district (Aaron, Amanda, Nicky, Lori, Nancy, Leslie), Lucas Taylor (Compass Health), and Greg Voygt (Jess Angelique assemblies). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss school-based services across the county and share information with one another.

Greg Voygt, Jess Angelique assemblies, was present to share with the districts, and ED, of the program they offer. This program would be done in each school district and they intend to stay for a week to reach each school district. The goal of the program is to teach each child they are a MVP (Matter, Value, Purpose). Anti-bullying and teaching kids they are important and matter are the primary goal. This is done by Greg's daughter who is a singer/songwriter. Each of the districts, that were present, were interested and would plan this school year, pending approval of the application submitted to LCCSF.

Lucas went over the parent packet of paperwork with the districts. All of the districts were concerned of the amount of paperwork and felt like it was too much information to ask for. The group discussed solutions to make the process smoother for everyone. All four therapist are working full-time and Bailey has already received referrals. Services appear to be running smoothly and the system is functioning as it should. Lucas will review the paperwork process when it comes up for review soon.

The Executive Director asked the districts if anyone had any questions regarding the applications for funding. Nancy questioned if LCCSF would need a paper copy of the audits/990's. The Executive Director advised that a digital copy is sufficient as they are large documents and would be too much to print.

### **Report to the Lafayette County Commission**

Tuesday September 4<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Director reported to the County Commission. The purpose of reporting to the Commission is to keep our local county government informed of what is happening with the Children's Services Fund and of the needs within the county. The Executive Director shared financial information which showed that the board has increased program funding and is currently seeing an increase in the services being provided to our county children.

### **HCC General Membership Meeting**

Tuesday September 11th, the Executive Director attended the HCC General Membership meeting. The purpose of attending the meeting is to gather with other professionals working in the area to share information, collaborate and network.

Sherry Graham from the Good Shepherd Care Community was the guest speaker. They have recently finished a large renovation and addition to their facility.

Their health care complex consists of Skilled Nursing Care which is a 113 bed skilled long-term care and rehabilitation facility under the supervision of a Medical Director with around-the-clock professional nursing care. The Division of Health and Senior Services conducts inspections regularly. An abundant array of services include physical therapy, occupational therapy, social

services, nutrition assistance and counseling and a complete activities program. They are blessed with a number of caring Volunteers from numerous organizations such as the Red Cross.

### **For Ahkeem Community Event**

Thursday September 13<sup>th</sup> the LCCSF Board hosted a community event in which the film “For Ahkeem” was shown and speaker/Executive Producer, Jeff Truesdell, spoke. Afterwards a panel discussion took place that addressed trauma, school-based services, alternative schools in Lafayette County, unique needs of Lafayette County students and resilience. Community members shared thoughts and information. This event fostered an atmosphere of collaboration and support! 42 people attended this event and 20 post event surveys were completed. Every person that completed the survey agreed that the event helped them to gain awareness of the effects of trauma, empowered them to make a difference in the community, and felt that their time was well spent. Some comments: “Thank you!” “I would love to see a what is next plan to implement in Lafayette County” “The people who encouraged and supported this young woman are so important to her. We can all do more to support all the children regardless of their situation.” “The movie presentation was fantastic! I wish more people would have been here. I so appreciate this program. The program reaffirmed my commitment to giving support to young mothers/dads and their children. Thank you so much!”

### **Site Visits**

Site visits for CASA and House of Hope were conducted throughout this past month. The purpose of site visits is to ensure accountability of funds and to experience first hand the services

taking place. CASA's site visit occurred on August 30<sup>th</sup> and House of Hope's visit took place on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Each agency is required to complete a site visit after their mid-service report is completed. The board maintains two funding cycles and recently implemented monthly funding application. The site visits that took place are for agencies under contract for Funding Cycle 1.

### **Looking Forward**

Throughout the course of this next month the Executive Director will be involved in the community and with our funded agencies. Many children are back into the daily grind of school. Now that school is back in session, the Executive Director will be planning meetings with school district representatives. Letters of Intent are due to the Executive Director by October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and full proposals are due by November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The November meeting of the board has been moved to the 14<sup>th</sup>. At the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting agency presentations for funding cycle 2 will occur. Announcements will be made by the end of December.

### **Dates To Remember**

10/01/2018 – Monthly Invoices Due

10/09/2018 – HCC Membership meeting

10/12/2018 – LOI Due – Monthly Applications Due

10/16/2018 – Mental Health Board meeting

10/17/2018 – LCCSF Board meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Harbour