



Meeting Minutes

North Dakota Children's Cabinet Meeting

Monday, May 9, 2022

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Central Time

APT Solutions, 2900 E. Broadway Ave., Bismarck

Virtual Call through GoToMeeting

Members in attendance

Russell Riehl, Parent/Private Service Provider	Kim Jacobson, Director, Agassiz Valley Human Service Zone
Lt. Governor Brent Sanford, Governor's designee	Honorable Justice Lisa McEvers
Representative Kim Koppelman	Senator Joan Heckaman, Chair
Veronica Zietz, Director, Protection & Advocacy	Senator Larry Luick
Paula Condol, Parent/Private Service Provider	Vincent Roehr, Tribal Nations Representative

Members Absent

Janell Regimbal, Parent/Private Service Provider	Kirsten Baesler, Superintendent of Public Instruction
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Other attendees

Kelli Ulberg	Bridget Dowling
Cathy Ferderer	Jim Vetter
Maria Naset	Carrie Evans
Kristen Hasbargen	Holly Shellings

Lynn Flieth	Michelle Koepplin, representing Superintendent Basler
Heather Traynor	Cory Pedersen
Karen Kingle	Sara Kapp
Rhonda Allery	Jessie LeKnowle

Call to Order – 11:00 a.m. – Senator Heckaman

Motion to Pass Minutes from 4.11.2022 – Motioned by Russell Riehl, Second by Paula Condol.

Unanimous Approval

Report from Workgroup on Foster Care –Cody Pedersen – [Presentation](#)

- Short term solutions to help solve foster care issues: Utilize programs that are already in place like, FCE, ND Kinship Program, 211, and mobile crisis teams.
- Create grants to make more shelter care/respice care housing throughout North Dakota.
- Long term solutions need to focus on funding Behavior Health and Prevention Services, Family Advocacy Outreach, and Court Improvement Program.

Foster Care System Stabilization Recommendations - Kim Jacobson, Lynn Flieth, Holly Shellings, & Rhonda Allery - [Presentation](#)

- The state needs to focus on reducing the number of children in Foster Care. Some recommendations that were discussed are:
 - o Developing a streamlined emergency placement process
 - o Create provisional licenses to get professionals' help sooner
 - o Emergency homes are needed throughout the State of North Dakota
 - o Create more flexibility in childcare rules to have more providers
 - o Financial incentives for Foster Care Homes/Parents
 - o Increase Funding
 - o Create a network of specially foster care homes
 - o No sudden or unjust discharges for children in foster care
 - o Student loan repayment program

Update on System of Care Grant – Kelli Ulberg

- DHS-BHD applied for the System of Care grant. The purpose of this program is to provide resources to improve the mental health outcomes for children and

youth, birth through age 21, with serious emotional disturbances (SED), and their families.

- If awarded, ND could receive up to \$3 million per year for up to four years.
- Proposed implementation areas include the area served by West Central Human Service Center (Bismarck) and Lake Region Human Service Center (Devils Lake).

Cabinet Discussion: Next meeting - Sen. Heckaman

- All-Day meeting is set for July 15th in the Judicial Wing of the Capitol, Room J327B.
- Board members must bring 5 topics on child welfare issues to discuss at the all-day meeting.
- Next meeting is set for June 13, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m. **Adjourn**