

Montgomery County Citizens Review Panel (MCCRP)

March 9, 2021 Meeting

Minutes

Persons Present:

Wilma Brier	Marci McCoy-Roth, 2020-2021 Chair
Laura Brown, Technical Advisor	Stacey McNeely
Kathleen Dunn	Sarah Stanton
Kay Farley	

Welcome

Marci McCoy-Roth called the meeting to order.

Review and Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the February 9, 2021 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Kathleen Dunn made a motion to approve the minutes. Wilma Brier seconded the motion, which was approved.

Agency Report

A written report was provided for the January 2021 data.

<i>Data Element</i>	<i>Sept. 2020</i>	<i>Oct. 2020</i>	<i>Nov. 2020</i>	<i>Dec. 2020</i>	<i>Jan. 2021</i>
Assessment					
Calls to Screening Unit	909	1,014	802	804	922
New Alternative Response (A/R) Investigations	68	77	56	54	70
New Information and Referrals (I/R) Investigations	56	69	67	61	69
New Non-CFS [previously New Requests from Other Agencies (ROAs)]	47	62	48	52	46
In-Home					
Families Receiving In-Home Services*	101	105	115	111	107
Out of Home					
New Out of Home (OOH) Placements (Entries)	12	12	9	9	
Children Who Left Care (Exits)	13	6	18	16	
Children/Youth in Out of Home (OOH) Care*	435	441	437	428	421
Children in Foster Care	261	265	261	255	
Children Placed with Relatives	114	115	112	110	
Families Receiving In-Home Services	101	105	115	111	
Voluntary Placement Agreements @ EOM	7	7	10	6	
Voluntary Placement Agreement Requests	6	1	4	7	
Active Resource Homes*	206	208	207	199	185
Resource Home Applications	4	6	3	1	3

Resource Homes Closures	12	4	4	9	17
Average Length of Stay for Children in Care (months)	29	29	29.6	30	

* average per month

Recruitment and Retention of Resource Families

The MCCRP members discussed how it could be of assistance to the agency.

As discussed previously, the MCCRP members would like to help with recruitment by posting outreach messages on each member’s respective neighborhood listserv. The agency is already posting on some neighborhood listservs.

Action Item: Ms. English will inquire about the existing postings so efforts are not duplicated and provide text/brochures that MCCRP members can use for individual postings.

The MCCRP members would also like to invite a representative or two from the foster parent association to seek their input and learn from their experiences.

Action Item: A subcommittee was appointed to take the lead on this issue – Wilma Brier, Laura Brown, and Kathleen Dunn.

Strategic Planning for the Citizens Review Panel

Lisa Merkin suggested four policies for possible review by the MCCRP.

- New Resource Home policy
- Families First Service Array request packet
- “Reasonable and Prudent Parenting” policy
- Policy about working with LBGTQ youth

The MCCRP members expressed interest in reviewing all four policies. There was consensus to start with the new Resource Home policy and the policy about working with LBGTQ youth at the next meeting.

With regard to the new Resource Home policy, the MCCRP could possibly look at potential measures for assessment. It was suggested that the MCCRP find out the reason for the policy change, so the review could consider whether to goal of the change will be achieved. There was discussion of the need to understand the practice along with the policy.

Action Item: Sarah Stanton and Kathleen Dunn will share the policy and discussion questions for the April 13th MCCRP meeting.

Several years ago, the MCCRP developed a report and recommendation for the agency related to working with LBGTQ youth. It would be beneficial to review the policy giving consideration to that report and recommendations.

Action Item: A hyperlink to the policy was provided, which members should review prior to the April 13th MCCRP meeting.

Action Item: Additionally, for the April 13th MCCRCP meeting, members should review and comment on the draft annual report. The MCCRCP 2021 Annual Report should be submitted to the Montgomery County Council by August 31, 2021.

2021 Spring Forum - Confronting Barriers to Addiction and Mental Health Services: Equity, Isolation, and Digital Divide

Kay Farley reported on progress of the Spring Forum Planning Committee. The virtual event will be held on May 6th from 6:00 PM – 8:00 Pm using the Zoom platform. The theme for the 2021 forum is *Confronting Barriers to Addiction and Mental Health Services: Equity, Isolation, and Digital Divide*. There will be three speakers, one for each of the subtopics. Elizabeth Guroff from the National Council for Behavioral Health has been confirmed as the isolation speaker. Alan Leshner, former Deputy Director of the National Institute for Mental Health, is confirmed as the equity speaker. An invitation has been extended to Diego Uriburu of the Black and Brown Coalition for Educational Equity and Excellence to be the digital divide speaker.

The Planning Committee is now working on a flyer for outreach that includes registration information. The committee is also pursuing the idea of recorded vignettes and/or quotes from consumers to talk about their personal experiences during the pandemic as an introduction to the forum session or prior to the speakers. A request for approval of the concept has been submitted to the County Executive's Office.

Wilma Brier will replace Laura Brown on the Planning Committee.

The meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: April 13, 2021