

## **Montgomery County Citizens Review panel**

**December 10, 2024 Meeting**

### **Minutes**

#### **Members Present**

Laura Brown, Technical Advisor

Lisa Merkin, CYFS Liaison

Laura Coyle

Elizabeth Simon

Stacey McNeely, Chair

Ms. Stacey McNeely called the meeting to order.

#### **Review and Approval of the Minutes**

The draft minutes of the October 8, 2024 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Ms. Laura Coyle made the motion to approve the revised minutes. Ms. Elizabeth Simon seconded the motion. The revised minutes were approved.

#### **Agency Update**

Ms. Lisa Merkin presented the data for November 2024. She noted that the decrease in number of calls to the Screening Unit was not surprising given the school Thanksgiving holiday. Ms. Merkin noted that the increase in OOH exits was due to larger sibling groups exiting OOH care.

Ms. Stacey McNeely asked when the new kinship policy would be available. Ms. Merkin stated that she expected it within the week.

#### **Yearly HHS Committee Meeting**

Ms. McNeely advised that she and Ms. Merkin presented the work of the MCCRP on October 16th to Montgomery County's HHS Committee. She stated that the full report is not available yet.

#### **Sub-panel on Developing a Culture of Support for Agency Staff**

Ms. Coyle asked if Dr. Patricia Carrington, a psychiatrist who works mainly with children and adolescents, and who would be happy to give a talk to CPS staff, had been able to make contact with Ms. Merkin. Ms. Merkin stated that she had not and that she would pursue the connection.

Ms. Simon also advised that the play therapist she discussed at the last meeting is also interested in presenting a program.

Mr. Ronald Whalen, chair of the Sub-panel, sent an email advising the panel of the CEO opportunity of a PTSD class offered by the Department of Psychiatry in April. He will send information about the class to Ms. Merkin.

### **Sub-panel on Support for Transitioning Youth**

Ms. McNeely, chair of the Sub-panel, advised that the Sub-panel members will be meeting after the Montgomery County HHS Committee hearings report is released, to see if there are board partnerships that can be developed around the challenges of transitioning youth.

Ms. Elizabeth Simon asked how we can better support transitioning youth. The panel discussed developing a resource manual for youth who have aged out. Ms. Laura Brown offered to search for any existing documents as possible models.

### **Panel Training Requirements**

Ms. McNeely reminded members to make sure they have completed the required training sessions and uploaded their certificates of course completions.

### **Panel Vacancy Notice**

Ms. Merkin will check with the County about getting the MCCRP vacancy posted.

### **Panel Availability for November 12, 2024 Meeting**

As several MCCRP members reported a conflict with the next meeting date, a decision was made to schedule the January meeting for the first Tuesday (rather than the second), January 7, 2025.

The meeting adjourned

