

Lorain County Children Services

Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 @ 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Board Chair Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. at the Lorain County Administration Building, 226 Middle Ave., 4th Floor, Room A, Elyria, Ohio 44035.

A. Roll Call

Present: Lee Armbruster, Tamika Bonilla, Christina Doran, Kenneth Glynn, Martin Heberling, Jim Miller, Mallory Santiago

Excused: Dan Gross, Andrew Lipian

Also Present: Kristen Fox-Berki, Executive Director

B. Review Agenda

Board Chair Jim Miller asked if there were any additions or changes to the Board Meeting Agenda submitted for the May 18, 2022, Board meeting. No additions or changes made.

C. Review and Approve Minutes

Board Chair Jim Miller asked if there were any additions or changes to the Board Meeting Minutes submitted for the April 20, 2022, Board meeting. Hearing none, the minutes are approved as distributed.

II. Public Comment

Board Chair Jim Miller noted that there was no one from the public present and wishing to address the Board.

III. Old Business

A. Tabled Items

- **Policy 4.1 Non-Bargaining Pay Scale**
Tabled.

B. Unresolved Action Items

- **Visitation Center**
Kristen Fox-Berki is scheduled to visit the Children's Center of Medina County, along with a few staff and Board members. This center provides essential services for the entire county, including families that are, and are not, involved with Medina County Children Services, and houses the County's Child Advocacy Center (CAC). Ms. Fox-Berki also intends to schedule a visit with Summit County's visitation center.
- **LCCFFC Pooled Funding**
LCCS is on target to transition to the administrative agent for the Lorain County Children and Families First Council (LCCFFC) on July 1, 2022. Kristen Fox-Berki provided the Board with a draft MOU. Each pooled funding partner

would have their own agreement with the Council. There are 5 systems that will be providing funding- LCCS, the Board of Commissioners, Lorain County Public Health, the MHARS Board and Board of Developmental Disabilities.

IV. Executive Director's Report

A. Policy 4.6 New Hires/Leaves

New Hires for the month of April:

- Amanda Kiser, Direct Services Caseworker, 4/11/22
- Sarah Blasini, Direct Services Administrative Assistant, 4/18/22

There were no leaves for the month of April.

B. Policy 8.1 Annual Report

Kristen Fox-Berki provided the Board with the 2021 Annual Report.

Highlights:

- 2021 Data and Performance Measures:
 - The number of intake reports remains steady over the last several years, as well as the number of referrals screened in.
 - The number of screened in neglect referrals decreased. Family First legislation may be a contributing factor, as well as additional aid to the families during the pandemic or more preventative services available.
 - Kristen Fox-Berki briefly described the difference between Traditional, Alternative Response (AR) and Family in Need of Services (FINS).
- Strength-Based, Family Centered Initiatives; strengthening the relationship between the biological family and foster family.
- 2021 Federally Monitored Outcome Performance Measures. LCCS excels in most of these measures.
- Statistics reviewed for Youth in Foster Care or Kinship Care.

Additional Discussion Topics:

Summer Camps

Following camp closures in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, Operation Open Heart and Girl Power camps will be held again this year. Both camps are solely open to children involved with the agency, with a current caseworker.

- Operation Open Heart, 60 years in existence, is a camp for boys ages 9-14 and conducted by law enforcement, firefighters and others working closely with law enforcement. The camp will be held July 18-22, 2022.
- Girl Power is for girls ages 8-14, conducted entirely by LCCS staff. Girl Power camp will be held July 25-28, 2022.

V. Fiscal Reports

None.

VI. New Business

A. New Items for Discussion and Approval

None.

VII. Executive Session *(to discuss litigation, personnel matters and other matters required to be kept confidential by law)*

MOTION: A motion was made by Christina Doran, seconded by Mallory Santiago to move into Executive Session to discuss litigation. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes:	Lee Armbruster, Tamika Bonilla, Christina Doran, Kenneth Glynn, Martin Heberling, Jim Miller, Mallory Santiago
Nays:	None- 0
Abstentions:	None- 0

MOTION: A motion was made by Martin Heberling, seconded by Kenneth Glynn to move out of Executive Session.

VIII. Announcements

None.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION: It was moved by Lee Armbruster, seconded by Kenneth Glynn to adjourn the Board meeting at 5:37 p.m. Motion carried.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at the Lorain County Administration Building, 226 Middle Ave., 4th Floor, Room A, Elyria, Ohio 44035.

Minutes Prepared by:
Kimberly Kassam, Administrative Supervisor

Approved by:
Christina Doran, Board Secretary