

STATUS OF INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATION

TANYA KEYS, DEPUTY SECRETARY

FOSTER CARE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE - SEPTEMBER 22, 2020





OVERVIEW

- DCF engages with a number of stakeholders, organizations, and agencies to ensure coordination and delivery of services, implement best practices, and analyze policy and procedure
- Areas of communication include:
 - Courts
 - Mental Health
 - KanCare
 - Education
 - Juvenile Justice
 - Other

- Supreme Court Task Force on Permanency Planning
 - Federally required Task Force that analyzes policy/procedure and makes recommendations to help youth achieve permanency
 - Includes representatives from courts, child welfare, mental health, tribes, and education
- Kansas Judicial Council
 - Works to improve the administration of justice by continuously studying the judicial system
 - DCF participates in Adoption Law, Family Law, and JO/CINC advisory committees



MENTAL HEALTH

- Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council
 - Federally mandated mental health planning and advisory council
 - Made up of mental health consumers, family members of mental health consumers, mental health service providers, state agency staff, and private citizens
- PRTF Stakeholder Group
 - Meets quarterly to discuss issues pertinent to PRTFs including capacity, MCO collaborations, and efforts to reduce and monitor psychotropic medication usage
 - Includes PRTFs, KDADS, DCF, KDOC, and KDHE



MENTAL HEALTH

- Bi weekly PRTF Waitlist calls
 - DCF collaborates with KDADS and the MCOs on biweekly calls to review children in foster care who are on the PRTF waitlist
- Psychotropic Medication Workgroup
 - Multi-agency workgroup that includes professionals focused on studying and discussing issues related to psychotropic medications prescribed for children in foster care



MENTAL HEALTH

- Weekly meetings between DCF Director of Medicaid and Children's Mental Health and KDADS Children's Program Manager to discuss gaps in children's services and address barriers to children in foster care obtaining mental health services
- Policy and Treatment Working Group for Mental Health for the Mental Health Modernization and Reform Committee
- Monthly behavioral services meetings with MCOs
- Participation in the Kansas Mental Health Coalition





KANCARE

- KanCare High Needs Workgroup
 - Address processes and issues related to children with high needs to ensure provision of services needed
 - Facilitated by KDHE, includes DCF, KDADS, KDOC-JS, Tribal Representation, DCF Case Management Grantees, and Managed Care Organizations
- Monthly KanCare Clinical Meeting with KDADS, MCOs and CMHCs

- Education Stability for Children in Foster Care Workgroup
 - Created in 2016 to collaborate around the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act, has continued to meet to discuss foster care education issues
 - Includes DCF, DCF Grantees, KSDE, and KASB
 - Provides strong network outside of formal meetings to address issues, some systemic and some more case specific

EDUCATION

- Mental Health Intervention Team
 - Collaborate with KSDE and ACMHCK to provide mental health services to children in schools
- Daily data sharing for free/reduced lunch eligibility purposes



EDUCATION



JUVENILE JUSTICE

- Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee
 - Established by 2016 SB 367 to guide implementation of juvenile justice reforms
 - Includes representatives from courts, DOC, DCF, Board of Education, and others
- Kansas Crossover Youth State Policy Team
 - Multi-system, multi-agency collaboration working to implement the Crossover Youth Practice Model in Kansas that includes OJA, DCF, DOC, courts, law enforcement, and others
- MOU in the works with DOC and OJA to improve crossover youth data sharing capabilities

OTHER

- Kansas Strong Grant Project
- Quarterly meetings with the four federally recognized tribes headquartered in the state
- Quarterly DCF Grantee Stakeholder/Multi-disciplinary Advisory Board Meetings
- Permanency Advisory Committee
- Human Trafficking Advisory Board
- Independent Living Policy Workgroup
- Family First Prevention Services Act Regional and Statewide Advisory Workgroups
- Citizen Review Panels
 - Intake to Petition
 - Custody to Transition
 - Child Death Review Board

MOVING FORWARD

- Outside of these collaborations, DCF maintains strong relationships with partners to address systemic and case specific issues as they arise
- DCF is continuously working to improve interagency communication by:
 - Addressing disparities in technology and information systems
 - Increasing local level engagement
 - Collaborating with other organizations when possible



QUESTIONS?