

Decat Intent: To redirect child welfare and juvenile justice funding to services which are more preventive, family centered and community-based in order to reduce use of restrictive approaches that rely on institutional, out-of-home and out-of-community care.

LINN COUNTY DECATEGORIZATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2021 at 3 pm via Zoom webinar

Per Iowa Code section 21.8 an electronic meeting can be held when there are valid concerns that an in-person meeting is "impossible or impractical" (e.g. COVID19).

Members: David Thielen, Matt Majeski, Jennifer Slife, Chris Wyatt
Designees: Mary Loops, Kristi Tisl
Staff: Chris Kivett-Berry, Jeanette Shoop
Guests: Amber Wood, AmeriCorps Member; Michele Lerch, HACAP

David Thielen, Chair, called the meeting to order @ 3:02 pm

Action: 11/12/20 Decat Minutes

- **M/S/C** (Majeski, Wyatt) Motion & Second to approve Minutes from the 11/12/2020 meeting. Carried unanimously.

Thielen welcomed new board member Jennifer Slife, Iowa Child Advocacy Board.

Community Engagement:

- Disaster Case Management Program Presentation:** Michele Lerch, HACAP Disaster Case Management Program Coordinator provided information on assistance provided to families related to the August 10, 2020 Derecho event. 2,071 households applied for individual assistance, and were automatically eligible for case management services. HACAP originally had 15 case managers to cover 9 counties, they now have 3 case managers. Five case management 'cases' are still open and working towards closure.
- Child Welfare Trends/Issues/Updates:** Majeski reported the D-SNAP program will wrap up soon. The legislative session has started, issues to watch include child care bills and block grants. Majeski also noted that the Iowa Departments of Public Health and Human Services are exploring the option to merge. Lisa Staude is the new Decat/CPPC Coordinator in Benton Co.
- Youth & Juvenile Welfare Trends/Issues/Updates:** Wyatt reported 1/4/21 was the official start date of the Families First program for Juvenile Court. JCO and Cedar Rapids Police Department are partnering on 'violence intervention', recommendations will be released soon. Two new JCO's will start work on 1/22/2021. The majority of JCO's are working from home. Legislation to watch: separation of juveniles and adults when charged or arrested.
- Prevent Child Abuse Iowa Legislative Agenda:** Kivett-Berry noted that this document was included in the agenda packet.

Fiscal Items:

- Action:** Transfer Letters
 - Discuss Special Projects Transfer:* Majeski explained the \$10,000 designated for Special Projects is required to be spent on community needs, not to supplant \$ in existing Decat contracts. The 'special project' will be identified with a community needs assessment. A new assessment is not required, the board can make use of a Community Needs Assessment completed by another agency, such as United Way or ECI.
 - **M/S/C** (Wyatt, Majeski) Motion & Second to accept transfer letter from Iowa Department of Human Services in the amount of \$201,733. Carried unanimously.

- b. FY 21-22 Projection with final FY 20 carry forward: Kivett-Berry reported the final FY20 carry forward is \$930,862 in State Funds. \$309,162 of these funds must be used by 6/30/2021.

Operational Items:

- a. Decat SWOT Analysis Summary & Discussion: Kivett-Berry and Shoop provided a summary of the SWOT survey. Discussion was held regarding goal to increase diversity in board membership. Board Members agreed by consensus to increase the number of board members in an effort to increase diversity. Diversity defined as rural, other funders, school, age, gender, race/ethnicity.
- b. 3-Year Program Trend Data Review: Shoop provided a summary of three years' worth of program data from Decat funded programs.
- c. Contracts ending June 30, 2021: Kivett-Berry noted 4 Decat Contract will end 6/30/2021. Two of the contacts are IGA's, and two will need to go out for bid.

Program Engagement:

- a. CPPC Strategic Plan Update: Shoop provided an update on the progress of the Design Team that is in charge of planning the focus and schedule for the Strategic Planning sessions. The 8 member Design Team is now meeting 2 times per month.
- b. Budget Utilization Summary: Shoop reviewed the budget utilization summary, no current concerns.

Open Agenda: No items for open agenda.

Next Board Meeting: Feb 11

Action- Motion to Adjourn:

- **M/S/C** (Slife, Wyatt) Motion & Second to adjourn meeting. Carried unanimously.