



# JOHNSON COUNTY Decategorization Program

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Laurie Nash – Decat Coordinator

## **DRAFT Board Meeting Minutes**

**November 8, 2022**

Room 214B HHS and Zoom.

Board members in attendance: Erin Altheide (JCS), Susan Vileta (JCPH), Jon Green (JCBOS), Cathy Razavi (Community), Dee Dixon (DVIP), Coreen Frank (ICCS)

Staff in attendance: Laurie Nash, Diane Kaster, An Leonard

Guests in attendance: Frederick Newell

The meeting was called to order at 2:38 p.m. (Quoram not yet reached).

Introductions were made-

Program Presentation- Frederick Newell, Executive Director of Dream City gave a presentation regarding services provided for the Fathers United Now program. 14 Dads attended the first Quarter of programming. Fred states there is a core group of 8 Dads that are always participating. Programming moved to the weekends for the fall so Dads can meet for longer, more informal gatherings and this has been a success. Fred has seen an uptick in fathers/families being involved due to domestic violence, which has increased their involvement with the Child Welfare System. Fred states lots of fathers would like to have a mentor or be a mentor to other dads. Fred has seen an increase in requests for dads wanting him to attend their court hearing with them. Fathers now share a facebook group and have been able to reach out to other dads who cannot come to meetings. A lively discussion followed.

Quoram was reached during the Fathers United Now presentation.

Financial Report- D Kaster provided a spreadsheet for L Nash to share. Several contracts are not getting spent, both FTC and NPP have only spent 6% and 1% of their budgets respectively. Contract amendments may be needed to reduce their overall budgets. For the Refugee Family contract, NCJC is no longer interested in providing this service, and has withdrawn their application. We continue to work with Center for Family Services Global Network in hopes of having services for refugee families beginning soon. A brief discussion followed.

Approve previous meeting minutes- **D Dixon motions to approve the October 2022 meeting minutes as provided, seconded by J Green. Motion passed unanimously.**

Contract Spending & Amendments- Contracts may be amended to reduce budgets if they are not spending down their money. Both referrals and expenditures are down for many contracts. DHS is seeing lots of children removed due to meth use. Dollars will likely be reallocated as lots of removals of young children lead to many tangible items needed- car seats, clothing and diapers etc. This Board could vote to add funding to the CPPC contract in order to address other community needs. Safe sleep classes with information and education culminating in parents receiving a pack and play

were discussed as this is something that has been very successful with Empowerment. They also do car seat clinics for families who have no car seats or are using expired or borrowed car seats, however Empowerment has expended most of their FY23 funding for car seats and Pack and Plays at this time. This Board could vote to add funding to the CPPC contract to provide some of those items for families in need. **J Green motions to amend the CPPC contract adding \$20,000 to the budget to address unmet community needs and provide services required to assist children and families, seconded by D Dixon, Motion approved unanimously.**

Program and Other Updates-Scholarships for BASPs were discussed, but C Frank states the ICCSD has scholarships for slots but most of the schools BASPs have wait lists. L Nash has just returned from a 2-day training in Des Moines where DHS discussed the need for lots of concrete supports. L Nash discussed the on-going work with the Immigrant and Refugee community leaders who want data about their community involvement with DHS. D Dixon suggests that it might be a good time to provide domestic violence training for staff, and community partners. CommUnity's Youth Services and Mental Health supports program has seen many more referrals than expected, the need far exceeds the available supports.

D Dixon saw kids riding bikes with the NCJC Empowered2Ride program and reports they all looked happy, and safe.

Announcements- none

The next monthly meeting will be January 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30. This meeting will be conducted virtually via Zoom and available for in-person attendance at the Health and Human Services Building.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:42**

Please direct any questions about this meeting to:  
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