

Three Fivers Human Service Zone Board

Meeting Agenda

Three Rivers Human Service Zone 1st Floor Conference Room

Mandan Office

210 2nd Ave. NW Mandan

10:00 AM – February 16, 2023

Meeting Call to Order:

- **Dennis called meeting to order at 10:01 AM**

Roll Call:

Mandan: Dennis Meier, Jackie Buckley, Rosemary Lawson, Lori Flaten, Heidi Peltz

Carson: Charlie Steinkuehler and Marty Meyer (by Phone)

Fort Yates: Ken Snider

Absent: John Pretty Bear

Others present: Vince Gillette, Jodie Leier, Mandy Garrett, Natalie Anderson, Jenny Wetsch, Wendy Bent

Approval of Agenda

- **Moved by Jackie Buckley seconded by Ken Snider to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes from January 19, 2023

- **Moved by Ken Snider seconded by RoseMary Lawson to approve the minutes from January 19, 2023. Motion carried.**

Review and Approval of February 2023 bills:

- **Jackie Buckley came early to review the bills.**
- **Moved by Jackie Buckley seconded by Charlie Steinkuehler to approve the bills as presented. With a unanimous roll call vote the bills were approved.**

Name	Roll Call	Bills Approved
Jackie Buckley	P	Y
Lori Flaten	P	Y
Rosemary Lawson	P	Y
Heidi Peltz	P	Y
Marty Meyer	P (Phone)	Y
Charlie Steinkuehler	P	Y
Ken Snider	P	Y
John Pretty Bear	A	A
Dennis Meier	P	Y

Budget Review

- CY 2022 came in at an overage of approximately \$50,000 in the red. We do have a remaining \$90,000 that has not been placed in the budget and will be moved over to finish out the year in the black by \$40,000 at the next Commission Meeting.

Zone Program Stats

Vince – Three Rivers Human Service Zone Tribal Liaison Report for January 2023

- Standing Rock Covid numbers as of February 9. There are 5 active cases in Sioux County, with 24 cases in Morton, 4 cases in Grant, and 88 cases in Burleigh. There are 818 New Cases Statewide for the week of 2-10-23.
- There are 80 SRST foster children placed in ND homes. DHS has not sent out any current dollar amounts spent on SRST Tribal IV-E children since November 2022. SRST currently has 50 ND IV-E cases.
- Vince attends monthly TEAMS meeting with the ND CFS, SD CFS, Tribal, and Zone Staff. There are separate meetings for Licensure of foster homes, Tribal foster children placed in Zone Foster homes. There is a Case Management monthly training and a state IV-E and Tribal IV-E meeting.
- Vince spends time on clearing up Medicaid issues and bills not being paid for foster children.
- Vince is part of the planning committee for the ICWA conference, which has been moved to July and location TBD.
- Vince recently went to provide technical assistance to Spirit Lake Social Services at Ft. Totten and at Turtle Mountain. TMSS is looking at approximately \$518,000 and SLTSS \$312,000 reimbursements available. He is helping identify the IV-E individuals. They have until June 30, 2023, to submit the reimbursement request.
- Vince reported at the last meeting, Dean Stern, DHS was putting a meeting together with people who provide technical assistance to the tribes. From this meeting TRHSZ has agreed to provide technical assistance to the Native American Training Institute to help train their IV-E specialist. Vince will also be attending quarterly meetings with the ND Tribes and all agencies providing technical assistance on the reservations.
- Vince and Dennis had a Teams meeting with Dean Sturn about Cultural Awareness presentations for Foster Children. Dean stated, HHS has heard there are a couple agencies who are interested in providing these classes and we need to wait to see what happens with those inquiries.

Mandy Garrett – Income Maintenance/Eligibility Supervisor

- See the attached statistical copies for the complete report on Income Maintenance cases and programs.
 - Redesign rolled out on 02/13/2023, system issues but for the most part going ok. The work isn't being pushed out to the workers. The call center rolled out as well, with the center handling calls statewide. There has been an average wait time for service of 20 minutes. Applications were caught up to January 24 by last Saturday within our region. Our Techs are now doing work statewide and no longer just our Zone.
 - With the redesign there have been concerns over getting the services. Clients are upset over the EBT card process of no longer being able to get them issued at the local office. They are now being mailed out from a main center in SD. This has caused some cards not to arrive for almost a month.
 - Cass County is short 10 eligibility workers and 6 CPS workers.
 - We are not sure what the stats for next month will look like and if she can pull stats for our region or zone individually due to the roll out.
 - In our zone total open cases were up slightly for January by 597 additional approved applications.
 - We have had 4 GA Burial applications for January.

Jenny Wetsch – Child Protection

- See the attached Statistical Information which was presented during the meeting.
 - 90 total reports in 01/2023. 0 report in Grant County, 0 reports in Sioux County
 - 43 Assigned as Full
 - 10 ATP Assessments
 - 37 Administratively Assessed or Administrative Referrals
 - 0 Alt Response
 - 0 Child Sex Cases
 - 2 Prenatal Drug Cases
 - Courtesy Interview requests 0 from another Zone and 1 LE assist
 - 0 Conflict cases for another Zone
- Alicia Grimm our parent aide had resigned, and her last day was February 3rd.
- The position is currently open but will close today. As of last Friday, there were only 2 applications. We will be getting the list of applicants soon so we can begin setting up interviews.

Natalie Anderson – Foster Care/In Home/ FP Licensing

- See the attached statistical information which was presented during the meeting.
- Currently we have 77 cases.
 - 57 Foster Care
 - 37 Foster Home Cases/ PATH
 - 2 QRTP/PRTF
 - 16 Relative Care
 - 20 In-Home Cases, ICPC, Courtesy Case management & Home Studies
- Kendra's last day was February 10. Her 9 cases have been divided up between the remaining workers.
- We have had several big sibling groups adopted this past month. We have several more coming up in the next month.
- State is looking at a redesign for Foster Care
- We have been fortunate to not have to hotel or have children stay in the office supervised by staff. We are looking for other shelter care options. Dickinson has Sunrise, where we are hoping to be added to their services. Minot also has one option.
- A question was posed as to why Youthworks has closed here. The requirements of shelter care have changed by the state, staffing issues and financial issues due to contracts as many beds were only filled at 50% capacity at \$395/day which doesn't sustain the cost of operations according to Youthworks. There are also requirements to separate different types of kids being sheltered.
- There have been some changes that have been a benefit. We can now look at fictive kin (examples are friends or neighbors of the families, teachers, principals). We would be able to use these people who are like family, when family is not available or an option. There is a bill that will pay kin a similar rate as foster care without getting licensed. This service can be provided up to six months.
- We have interviewed for Kendra's position. We had some good applicants and are currently checking references.

Legislative Bill Review

- Gallagher Equity Study
 - Sara Stolt felt the information wasn't sufficient so they will present to the legislators this week with updated information.
- SB 2124
 - Lodging and Reimbursement.
 - Increases allowance to \$8.00 Breakfast, \$13.00 Lunch and \$21.00 Supper.
- SB 2005
 - State and Zone Employee Raises
 - Governor proposed 6 and 4 % while Sen. Came out of committee proposed 4% and 4%
- HB 1526
 - CRT used in schools.
 - Make sure schools have local control of what is taught.
- 4 SB's and 1 HB on TANF
 - Using more of the TANF dollars on recipients and not administration.
 - Change eligibility to 50% of the poverty level.
 - Unborn child disqualified -requesting removal from the state law.
- HB 1533
 - Domestic Violence bill to prevent excessive litigation against a spouse after divorce to exhaust finances.
- SB 2321
 - Open Adoption Bill.
- SB 2341
 - Clean up the Language for Foster Care
 - Foster Care and Home on The Range providing shelter care for beds for children of sex trafficking.
- HB 1183
 - Zone and State Budgets
- SB 2203
 - ND Social Workers and Licensure

- Proposed to get rid of BS and MS testing requirement.
- The current licensure tests are seen as culturally biased.
- SB 2139
 - Indigent Burial Bill
 - Proposed the change in amount for Cremation and Burials to \$3500 across the state.
 - The bill also includes who can release the body and the duty of the Funeral Director. This removes the culpability of the Zone Directors when they sign for a burial.

Appointment of the Presiding Vice Chair

A nomination for Jackie Buckley was made by Charles Steinkuehler and seconded by Rose Mary Lawson. Jackie accepted the nomination. A vote was cast and carried unanimously.

Fort Yates Office

Security and Safety for staff with frustrated clients due to Eligibility Department changes with the roll-out, call center and EBT process. The EBT cards are no longer available locally but are sent from an out of state company which has experienced delays on the cards getting to the clients due to old or incorrect address information.

- There is no security in the building.
- Adding cameras and closing one of the access doors to make once main entrance.
- The Commission is considering putting in half doors for Social Services, Auditor and Treasurer's Offices.
- Installing Panic Buttons in the Offices.

Other Business

- There was a Facebook Promotion to attempt to reach qualified applicants to apply for open positions. Wendy explained they used people who work here to entice people to apply with their experience working here.
- It has been proposed to move Zones fiscal year to match the State's fiscal year of July 1 to June 30. The Department would need to support it and there would need to be money available for the last 6 months of 2023. This would allow for raises sooner for staff to keep up with the state.
- The Cap for Direct Costs at the state is \$200 million. \$50 million was found to add which would increase the Direct Cost Amounts for Zones.

Adjourned

11:14 AM Charles Steinkuehler made a motion which was seconded by Heidi Peltz. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2023, at 10:00 AM in Mandan.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jodie Leier

TRHSZ Accounting Budget Specialist I

Tribal Liaison Report

The Covid report as of Feb 9, 2023, is Sioux County has 5 active cases. Morton has 24, Grant has 4 and Burleigh has 88, according to the ND dept of Health website. There are 818 new cases, statewide, for the week of 02-10-23.

There are approx. 80 SRST foster children placed in ND foster homes that I help facilitate visits . These are SD IV E foster cases and tribal 638 foster care placements. These numbers do not show up in ND statistics, because we are only concerned with the foster children where a ND agency is the legal custodian. DHS has not sent out any current dollar amounts spent on SRST Tribal IV E children since Nov, 2022.

Standing Rock currently has 50 ND IV E cases.

I continue to attend monthly TEAMS meeting with the ND CFS, SD CFS, Tribal and Zone Staff throughout the state, who have tribal foster care placement in their foster homes. There are separate meetings for Licensure of foster homes, Tribal foster children placed in Zone Foster homes, A case management monthly training and a state IV E and Tribal IV E eligibility meeting. I help facilitate visits for 80 children between zones SW and Zone foster homes and group facilities. Answer questions for foster parents about various topics. I spend a lot of time with Medicaid issues with the foster kids Medicaid, bills not being paid, getting SD foster kids on ND Medicaid and talking with business offices of medical facilities clearing up non payment issues. I also sit on the planning committee for the ICWA conference, this involves TEAMS meeting setting up the conference, speakers etc. The conference is being held in the Turtle Mountains this year and is being planned as an in-person conference, summer, 2023.

I reported last month that Dean Sturn, DHS was putting a meeting together with people that provide technical assistances to the tribes. From this meeting, Three Rivers Human Service zone has agreed to provide technical assistance to the Native American

Training Institute to help train their IV E specialist. Dean Sturn has also asked that I attend quarterly meetings with the ND tribes, and all the agencies that are providing technical assistance on the reservations. I did on site technical assistance for Spirit Lake Social Services, Ft Totten ND, on Monday, Feb 6th and at Turtle Mountain, on Tuesday Feb 7th. We partially completed the paperwork for \$518,000 for TMSS and \$312,000 for SLTSS. We have the financial portion completed and they need the case load numbers and I'm also getting the IV E numbers for them so they can submit the reimbursement request. They have until June 30, 2023 to submit the reimbursement request.

Both TMSS and SLTSS requested on site training on IV E reimbursement. They are both looking at filing for IV E reimbursement.

Dennis and I had a TEAMS call with Dean Sturn about Cultural Awareness presentations for Foster Children. Dean says DHS is talking a with a couple of agencies who are interested in providing these classes and we need to wait to see what happens with those inquires.

Vincent Gillette

TRHSZ FOSTER CARE / IN-HOME

CASE LOADs January 2023

CASE LOADS TOTALS = 77 (74)

57 Foster care – (Foster care is counted by child)

37- foster homes/PATH 2-QRTP/PRTF 16-Relative Care 2-18+

20 In-Home Cases, ICPC, Courtesy Case management & Home studies

	Opened	Closed
2022		
September	5	4
October	0	2
November	6	8
December	7	8
2023		
January	3	3

2021 – TRHSZ

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
87	92	90	92	89	96	103	104	104	105	100	109

2022- TRHSZ

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
103	112	111	107	100	99	94	82	84	79	83	82

2023-TRHSZ

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

77

	2022					2023
	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
KC						
Foster Care	7	7	7	7	6	7
In-Home	5	4	3	3	3	3
Total	12	11	10	10	9	9
LE						
Foster Care	5	6	7	6	6	6
In-Home	3	4	5	5	4	2
Total	8	10	12	11	10	8
KP						
Foster Care	11	11	11	10	10	5
In-Home	3	2	1	2	3	3
Total	14	13	12	12	13	8
TM						
Foster Care	9	7	8	8	7	7
In-Home	3	3	2	2	1	2
Total	12	10	10	10	8	9
TS						
Foster Care	0		NEW	1	2	2
In-Home				1	2	2
Total	0			2	4	4
NK						
Foster Care	12	13	12	12	11	11
In-Home	2	2	2	2	1	1
Total	14	15	14	14	12	12
JD						
Foster Care	4	5	5	5	8	8
In-Home	6	7	7	6	5	5
Total	10	12	12	11	13	13
EA						
Foster Care	10	13	13	13	12	12
In-Home	2				1	2
Total:	12	13	13	13	13	14

CPS REPORTS BY MONTH AND YEAR

CPS REPORTS BY MONTH AND YEAR

	2016	2017	2018	2019
JANUARY	58	77	92	
FEBRUARY	60	58	59	
MARCH	70	73	89	
APRIL	53	60	85	
MAY	77	110	106	
JUNE	42	62	56	
JULY	44	63		
AUGUST	46	60		
SEPTEMBER	53	70		
OCTOBER	42	70		
NOVEMBER	51	88		
DECEMBER	43	76		
YEAR TOTAL	639	867	487	0

TOTAL 960 REP (Full, ATP, AA, AR, Combine)

	2021	2022	2023
JANUARY	74	67	90
FEBRUARY	93	83	
MARCH	107	88	
APRIL	81	81	
MAY	85	86	
JUNE	77	79	
JULY	55	59	
AUGUST	79	74	
SEPTEMBER	93	85	
OCTOBER	74	66	
NOVEMBER	87	71	
DECEMBER	77	71	
YEAR TOTAL	982	910	90

FULL AND ATP (includes combined 960's)

	2021	2022	2023
JANUARY	50	31	53
FEBRUARY	64	41	
MARCH	69	55	
APRIL	56	52	
MAY	58	57	
JUNE	41	40	
JULY	33	36	
AUGUST	45	39	
SEPTEMBER	50	38	
OCTOBER	50	30	
NOVEMBER	45	43	
DECEMBER	40	40	
YEAR TOTAL	601	502	53

THREE RIVERS HUMAN SERVICE ZONE

Child Protection Reports Jan 1 to Jan 31st

-Of the 90 total reports in January, 29 Administratively Assessed (AA)/ 8 Administrative Referrals (AR), and 10 Assessment Terminated in Progress (ATP).

Grant County- 0

Sioux County- 0 (non-reservation cases)

* Total number of Alternative Response cases- 0

* Total number of Child Sexual Behavior (CSB) cases- 0

*Total number of Prenatal Exposure (drugs/alcohol)- 2

*Total number of courtesy interview requests- 0 from another zone, 1 LE assist

* Conflict cases for another Zone- 0

Beginning Jan caseload-

Opened/Closed- Jan 1- Jan 31st-

CPS Supervisor (JW)- 2

Opened-5, Closed-1, End- 6 (*0 combine)

CPS Worker (KO)- 18

Opened-11, Closed- 6, End-23 (*4 new reports received on open cases)

CPS Worker (AS)- 10

Opened-5, Closed-10, End-5 (*0 new reports received on open cases)

CPS Worker (MH)-23

Opened-9, Closed-8, End-24 (*5 new reports received on open cases)

CPS Worker (BM)- 11

Opened-11, Closed-6, End-16 (*3 new report received on open case)

Parent Aide Caseload

KH -	Jan(22)	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
	14	14	14	17	17	13	12	12	12	10	13	12	9

AG-	Jan(22)	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
	10	10	8	10	11	10	13	13	11	9	11	7	6

TRHSZ -Summary of Economic Assistance Cases by Groups as of 2/1/2023

Eligibility Worker Groups	Open Cases	
Group 1 (Medicaid only)		
Jan-23	3570	
Dec-22	3048	
Group 2 (SNAP & Medicaid)		
Jan-23	1157	
Dec-22	1153	
Group 3 (SNAP/MA/CCAP/LIHEAP)		
Jan-23	757	
Dec-22	682	
Group 4 (TANF+ all programs)		
January	91	
Dec-22	87	
Total Open Cases per County		
	Jan-23	Dec-22
Stoux	1335	1226
Grant	287	260
Morton	3984	3515
Total GA Burials		
Jan-23	3	
Dec-22	2	

Benefit Issuance Report for the month of January 2023

	<u>Child Care Assistance</u>	<u>SNAP</u>	<u>TANF</u>	<u>LIHEAP</u>	<u>Medicaid</u>
<u>Grant</u>	\$7,480.00	\$28,363.00	\$366.00	\$51,152.71	Unavailable
<u>Morton</u>	\$113,755.00	\$371,790.00	\$4,995.00	\$75,072.65	Unavailable
<u>Stoux</u>	\$0.00	\$246,374.00	\$18,403.00	\$5,928.70	Unavailable

Mini Region (Three Rivers/Burleigh/Dakota Central) Report:

- SNAP applications caught up to 1/24/2023
- LIHEAP applications caught up to 1/24/2023
- Medicaid – to date
- TANF- to date
- Child Care Assistance- 1/24/2023