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Family Resource Network (FRN) Regional Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 10, 2025

3:00-4:00pm, MS Teams

Attendance

Present

- Robin Bohannon
- Marc Cowell
- Elizabeth Crowe
- Samma Fox
- Kaycee Headrick
- Jennifer Leosz
- Tom Mahowald
- Heather Marcy
- Karin Stayton
- Anne Tapp
- Johnny Terrell
- Julie Van Domelen

Absent

- BVSD (Vacant Seat)
- Susan Caskey
- Suzanne Crawford
- Jorge De Santiago
- Nancy Herbert
- Lexi Nolen
- Simon Smith
- Hilda Zamora Hursh

Staff Present

- Georgina Becerril (proxy for Susan Caskey)
- Liz Izaguirre
- Joni Lynch
- Daphne McCabe (proxy for Lexi Nolen)
- Gwen Mossman

Welcome and Introductions

The Family Resource Network (FRN) Regional Council Meeting was called to order by Marc at 3:01pm. Marc welcomed two new Regional Council members: Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager for the City of Louisville who is replacing Mandy on the Council, and Heather Marcy, new Executive Director for Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) who is replacing Anne on the Council. Next, Marc expressed appreciation to Julie for her service to the FRN; today was Julie's last time attending the Regional Council Meeting since she is retiring from the Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA) this summer.

Approval of May 2025 FRN Regional Council Meeting Minutes

Marc asked for a motion to approve or amend the May 2025 Meeting Minutes. Tom motioned to approve with Karin seconding the motion. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

FRN Annual Report

Marc shared that Whitney and Liz are working on a FRN annual report to highlight the Network's key accomplishments over the past year. Additionally, this report will provide a framework for promoting collaborative projects between the FRN and its member organizations to support members in sharing how these joint efforts benefit the community. Members should anticipate receiving a draft of the report to review towards the end of July.

Boulder County Findhelp Update

Liz shared an update on the FRN's launch of [Boulder County Findhelp](#). During the month of June, 5 organizations claimed new programs on the site. During this time frame, over 1,000 searches were conducted on the site with 7 out of 10 searches resulting in an interaction with a program card. Compared to previous months, housing (21%) and health (17%) remained the two top search categories with money (17%) overtaking food (11%) for third and fourth places, respectively. Currently, 73% of FRN member organizations have claimed a program on the site; if 3 more organizations claim a card, the FRN will reach its stretch goal of 80% member engagement.

Additionally, Liz suggested that Council members connect with their Local Area Collaborative (LAC) member for updates on their organization's June stretch goal for community outreach. Members were also asked to encourage staff and community members to submit feedback on the website using the [BoCo Findhelp Feedback Survey](#) as well as check out the [Communication Toolkit](#) for new resources – including free social media assets. Additionally, the Early Childhood Council of Boulder County (ECCBC) is partnering with the FRN to launch a pilot project exploring how to use BoCo Findhelp to better connect parents with potential child care providers; Liz thanked Kaycee for her support and efforts in rolling out the pilot. Lastly, Liz provided a demonstration of how organizations can access their [program card analytics](#).

Elizabeth asked if the project had received any feedback on website usage from staff or community members. Liz shared that the feedback survey is intended to assist the FRN in gathering this information but no responses had been received to-date. Anecdotally, the site has been well-received with the largest hurdle being reminding individuals of the ZIP code filter at the beginning of a search which needs to be reset when a person switches the location for which they are looking for services.

Safety Conversation Follow-Up

Elizabeth provided an overview of the Law Enforcement Panel organized by Council members for the July 8th All LAC Meeting in response to feedback received from frontline staff concerned about maintaining public spaces that are safe and welcoming to everyone. Originally scheduled for 30 minutes, several members and panelists stayed on the call an extra 15 minutes to continue conversations – an indication of the timeliness and benefits to these types of discussions. Key themes emerging from the panel included:

- the importance of creating a list for staff of instructions for when/how to engage with law enforcement;
- connecting with law enforcement to share experiences of when interactions with them have gone well and when interactions did not have the desired outcome;
- learning more about the support that co-responder teams can provide; and
- encouraging organizations without established relationships with local law enforcement and/or co-responder teams to schedule a meet-and-greet with them to do introductions with staff, tour their facility, and discuss any organization-specific concerns.

Julie expressed concern about staff being unsure how to contact co-responder teams, especially if law enforcement intervention is not deemed necessary. Robin shared that while co-responders are teamed with law enforcement, staff can request co-responder support when contacting law enforcement. Additionally, she reminded members that [WellMind Connection](#) is a crisis service available to community members that is not connected to law enforcement, although their services are only available Monday-Friday from 9am-6pm. Jen offered that services offered by the Clinica Family Health and Wellness (CFHW) crisis line (303-447-1665) and [Walk-In Crisis and Addiction Center](#) at 3180 Airport Road in Boulder are available 24/7.

Several members expressed appreciation for the panel and indicated interest in attending similar presentations in the future. Elizabeth will connect with the LAC co-facilitation team on future topics and dates.

Communication and Advocacy Work

Elizabeth updated the Council on the work of the Communication and Advocacy Workgroup over the last two months. The group is working to develop specific requests for community members focused on the impacts to the safety net for contributing seemingly “small” amounts of time, funding, and/or advocacy work. She has collected quotes from Simon, Ana Karina Casas (Boulder LAC member representing Amistad), and a Sister Carmen volunteer (organized by Katie Warning) about the benefits of supporting local organizations. Future outreach plans include exploring releasing another opinion editorial as well as potentially developing short videos that could be shared on websites or social media. Elizabeth will follow-up via email with members who volunteered to contribute to the advocacy campaign and then share the workgroup’s plan with the Council for feedback before taking next steps publicly.

Reconfiguring for Resilient Services

Marc shared how safety net organizations are working to understand the effects of recent decisions made at the federal, state, and local level. He then asked for feedback on a proposed in-person, half-day event in potentially August or September for the entire Network (i.e., Regional Council as well as LAC members). The goal of this meeting would be for the FRN to draft a high-level outline of impacts across the safety net based on what individual organizations are facing and then develop a plan for leveraging member's strengths for a collective response.

Members were supportive of holding this type of gathering but were uncertain of the optimal meeting date since additional time might be needed to hold an informed discussion on known versus anticipated effects. Some sectors (e.g., housing, healthcare, etc.) anticipated more concrete impacts being known in October as items move through appropriation committees. However, other sectors (e.g., early childhood, education, youth development, etc.) reported experiencing impacts now.

The Council agreed to look for a meeting date in late fall with the recommendation that the September Council meeting be used to set the stage and prepare for that joint meeting. Marc encouraged all organizations to let him or Elizabeth know about emerging impacts so that those items could be added to Council meeting agendas. Specifically, he asked Kaycee to let the Council know of specific supports that might be needed for the early childhood and education service areas.

Emerging Issues for Partners

Tom shared excitement over the new child care facility that is currently breaking ground in Nederland. Some members had questions about upcoming activities related to behavioral health advocacy in the county; Robin offered to provide some additional information via email that could be shared with members.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04pm.