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## Governing Board Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2026

### ATTENDEES:

Bohlen, Amanda	Ohio State University Extension
Farnsworth, Jennifer	Parent Representative
Garrett, Adryanne	Hopewell Health Centers
Lane, Josh	Washington County Health Department
Miller, Kelly	Marietta Belpre Health Department
Neill, Tiffany	Washington County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Rauch, Dawn	Community Action Program of Wash./Morg. Co.'s
Schenkel, Geoff	City of Marietta
Shiple, Rachel	Project Head Start
Starcher, Stephanie	Fort Frye Local Schools
Stewart, Alice	Washington County PCSA
VanCleave, David	Ohio Department of Youth Services
Warner, Heather	GoPacks
Warsinsky, Larkin	Southeastern Ohio Counseling Center
Werry, Tasha	Building Bridges to Careers
Davis, Cindy	FCF Council Director / HMG Contract Manager
Higgins, Jon	FCF Financial Officer / Office Manager

### ABSENT:

Freimann, Flite	Washington County Dept. of Job & Family Services
Goddard, George	Washington County Behavioral Health Board
Hellinger, Craig	Parent Representative
Hermann, David	Parent Representative
Lee, Steven	Parent Representative
Schaeffer, Mary	Marietta City Schools
Schilling, Charlie	Washington County Commissioner

### GUESTS:

Katie Garner – Hopewell MRSS  
Troy Alford – CaseSource  
Jessica Smith - OhioRISE

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

### **PRESENTATION**

Katie Garner, Family Peer Support with Hopewell Health Centers Mobile Response Stabilization Services (MRSS), provided an overview of the MRSS program, which offers mobile crisis response services for families experiencing a behavioral health crisis. The MRSS team—comprised of a licensed therapist and a peer support provider—responds directly to the family to assess the situation, provide immediate de-escalation, develop safety plans, and connect families to appropriate community resources. Follow-up support is available for up to six weeks to help stabilize the family and ensure continuity of care.

MRSS has recently transitioned to a statewide service model. Allwell Behavioral Health Services now contracts with Hopewell to support service delivery. Services are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., with 24/7 after-hours coverage provided by Allwell. When Allwell responds after hours, the case is then transferred to Hopewell to complete ongoing follow-up services.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

January 21, 2026 Governing Board Meeting Minutes were included in the emailing.

***Tiffany Neil made the motion to approve the January 21, 2026 minutes as emailed.***

***Kelly Miller seconded the motion.***

***Motion Carried***

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

January Financial Reports were included in the emailing. Jon Higgins passed around the Fiscal Paperwork binder for Council viewing. These reports were included in emailing.

Financial Reports include a Financial Report Summary for All Accounts, Financial Officer Summary and Reports for each account.

The Financial Officer Summary Report is a summary of items that stand out for the month with an explanation and include a summary of any Appropriations and Amended Certificates for the month.

Each report for expenditures includes the budget beginning balance; any changes in that account that would reflect with the resolutions; monthly expenses; year to date expenses; outstanding encumbrances and finally the ending available balance.

Each report for revenue includes beginning balance, any changes in that account that would reflect with amended certificates; monthly revenue; year to date revenue; and anticipated revenue to be received.

Other Fiscal Reports includes a detailed report of all expenses and revenue; copies of amended certificates and resolutions for that month.

***Rachel Shipley made the motion to approve the January financial reports as emailed.***

***Dawn Rauch seconded the motion.***

***Motion carried.***

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Director's report was included in the emailing. Cindy reviewed points from the Director's report and the following handouts were included in the emailing: March Lunch & Learn Flyer, an updated 2025 Council Meeting Attendance Record, Understanding EI and Special Ed Terms handout, and Parent & Youth Ambassadors & Legal Aid handout. Additionally, Cindy awarded a 'gold star' sticker to those members who met meeting requirements in CY 2025. It was noted that due to reporting changes with DCY/OFCF, the next reporting will be for SFY 26 (ending 7/1/26)

## **COMMITTEE / WORKGROUP REPORTS**

1. **Pooled Fund Group** – The group met on February 5th and the meeting minutes were included in the emailing.
2. **No Wrong Door Cross Systems Training Committee** – The team met on February 9th and the meeting notes were included in the emailing.
3. **No other Committees wished to report.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Voices of Resilience Videos** – The Parent Panel video from the 2025 Retreat has been professionally edited and divided into five separate videos, one featuring each parent. All parents have given their consent for the videos to be posted for viewing. The *Voices of Resilience* videos are now live on the FCF website.
2. **National Parent's Day**- This is a reminder that National Parents Day is July 26. Cindy would like to discuss this further to explore whether any activities or recognition efforts

can be organized. She is requesting that the Youth & Family Voice Workgroup meet to discuss next steps.

3. **No other Old Business was discussed.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **OFCFCA Dues** – This is the annual dues for the Ohio Family and Children Coordinators Association. This year the dues are \$125.

*Tiffany Neill made the motion to approve dues payment for the Ohio Family and Children First Coordinators Association.*

*Heather Warner seconded the motion.*

*Motion Carried.*

2. **2025 Annual Report** – The 2025 Annual Report for Washington County Family and Children First has been completed. Cindy distributed copies to Council members and provided an overview of the report. She highlighted data related to service coordination, including the number of new referrals received and the total number of youth served. She also reviewed information demonstrating cost savings achieved by avoiding out-of-home placements and emphasized the ongoing goal of maintaining children and youth safely in their homes whenever possible.

3. **Fraud Risk Assessment** – The Fraud Risk Assessment Questionnaire was emailed to all Council members. Completion of the questionnaire is required to help prevent potential findings or recommendations during the financial audit. The importance of the fraud risk assessment and the process for completing the form were discussed. Blank copies were also distributed for any Council members who preferred to complete the questionnaire at the meeting.

4. **Other Business**

The No Wrong Door Cross-Systems Training Committee is coordinating a Burnout Prevention and Resiliency Training event to be presented by Kim Paull on October 15th. Kim is a burnout recovery and resilience coach, speaker, trainer, and guide based in Connecticut. The Behavioral Health Board is providing financial support to bring her to Washington County for this event. Cindy requested formal approval of the training services agreement with Kim Paull, including authorization of the total cost of \$2,740 for the training services.

*Heather Warner made the motion to approve the Training Services Agreement with Kim Paull.*

*Stephanie Starcher seconded the motion.*

*Motion Carried.*

Discussion ensued around the **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)** Title II requirements for websites to be ADA compliant by April 24, 2026. Title II applies to state and local government entities and requires that all programs, services, and activities—including websites and digital content—be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Members shared how they may be addressing this issue.

**No other new business was discussed.**

## **SHARED PLAN REPORTING BY MEMBERS**

**Stephanie Starcher** – Fort Frye had their annual planning for their Little Steps, Big Discoveries program for kindergarten readiness. This is for birth to five years old, and trying to do early screening intervention such as social, emotional health, and cognitive.

**Cindy Davis** – At the next Shared Plan Workgroup meeting, Joy Edgell has arranged for a representative from Stark County to present on the SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids) program. This initiative supports families with preschool-aged children and helps promote kindergarten readiness.

**Tasha Werry** – With the recent statewide expansion of Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library in Ohio, children can now be automatically registered at birth, helping ensure families are connected to the program as early as possible. The Marietta Community Foundation serves as the local lead organization for Washington County. Due to strong interest and increased enrollment, the program currently has a waitlist and is actively pursuing additional fundraising efforts to support continued participation and sustainability.

## **INFORMATION SHARING / PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Tiffany Neill** – The YMCA is going to start drafting up a contract to work with the Betsy Mills of running the Ewing pool. The Political Action Committee is going to host a Pancake Breakfast on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Ewing School, flyer will be completed soon.

**Heather Warner** – GoPacks enrollment numbers continue to rise and are currently just 10 students short of last year’s highest enrollment total. Heather anticipates higher participation in the coming months. The Top Chef Challenge will be April 24<sup>th</sup> with a combination of home and professional chefs. There will be a Puzzle Tournament fundraiser on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Lafayette Hotel. This will be for individuals or teams competing to see who can complete their puzzle first.

**Tasha Werry** – BB2C is offering two internship opportunities: a High School Tech Internship and a Behavioral Health Internship. There will be a Community & Business

Advisory Council meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Washington County Career Center. Education After Hours will be March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Tower Event & Conference Center.

**Dawn Rauch** – It is Ohio Loves Transit Week. CABLE Transit rides will be free from February 17-21.

**Geoff Schenkel** – City's Community Development office is wrapping up its annual action plan for use of Department of Housing and Urban Development money. If anyone is interested in talking with Geoff about your needs or your initiatives, please contact him. Additionally, any private property owner interested in developing low-income housing can start by contacting the Community Development Office to explore available resources and potential grant funding to support their project.

**Amanda Bohlen** – AG Night will be February 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the Career Center. 4H Open House will be on February 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at Jr Fair Building.

**Jessica Smith** – OhioRISE is currently serving 133 in Washington County.

## MEETING ADJOURNED

**Next meeting:** March 18, 2026 @ 1:30 pm, 204 Davis Ave., EOC

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Prepared by:  
Jon Higgins

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Council Chair  
Amanda Bohlen