

City of Lawrence
Outside Agency
Bi-annual Report
2016

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org. Reports on activities from January 2016 to June 2016 are due on July 15th 2016. Cumulative reports on activities from January 2016 through December 2016 are due on February 15th 2017.

Agency Name:

Reporting Period (please check one):

| | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> January - June (deadline July 15) | <input type="checkbox"/> January – December (deadline February 15) |
|--|---|

1. Give a brief narrative of the activities that were funded with City funds over the reporting period checked above.

Funds during this reporting period were used toward staff salaries, including management. The VEC management provides supervision, oversight, direct service provision and other duties to maintain the quality of services at this Center. Staff provides direct services, documentation and client education. By providing these funds to TFI Family Services, the Visitation and Exchange Center were able to provide the following services:

Supervised visitations are provided to parents who are usually court ordered to have supervision of their parenting time with their children. In most situations, this is for reasons such as domestic violence, child abuse, substance use, criminal activity, and family reintegration. Staff ensures children are physically and emotionally safe and work to increase bonding and engagement between parent and child.

Monitored exchanges are a neutral drop off and pick up of the child between separated or divorced parents. This service ensures the children are not exposed to fighting, violence or conflict between the parents. It also helps reduce the risk for child abduction, driving children while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, and for domestic violence during the drop off/pick up.

Intake Assessments are conducted with each parent prior to receiving services from the VEC program. During the intake staff obtains information regarding the reason for referral, information about the children, and detailed information about history of the case. During this time, staff also discusses the rules and policies of the VEC, which includes reading the rules to the parent and discussing the fees. During the reporting period staff conducted 41 intakes between January and June of 2016.

2. Provide specific detail (and supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate progress made toward your goals/objectives.

A. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of supervised parenting time will be free of parental violence or conflict in 2015.

Progress: 100% of parenting time has been free from parental violence thus far in the grant year.

B. Conduct visits/exchanges without security incidents in 90% of all services in 2016.

Progress: 100% of visits and exchanges have been without security incidents. Staff and security officers have been diligent in ensuring clients understand the process and expectations prior to services beginning, and we strongly feel these preventative measures have been instrumental in preventing security incidents.

C. TFI will meet or exceed our current 46% rate of serving clients who are at or below the poverty rates by providing scholarships to cover fees and discounted sliding scale rates.

Progress: 100% of clients who are at or below the poverty rates are served based on the discounted sliding scale.

3. How have you impacted the citizens of Lawrence?

During the January 2016- June 2016 funding period the VEC has successfully met our goal of providing safe supervised visitations and monitored exchange services to families in the City of Lawrence. During the 6 month period the Lawrence VEC provided services for 26 families, of those 52 are adults and 41 are children. Also during this time, the Lawrence VEC facilitated 169 supervised visitations and 83 monitored exchanges.

4. What barriers, if any, have you encountered?

The Lawrence VEC has experience a low number of referrals for the past few months, as well as having competition from other visitation facilities in the area. TFI has increased the marketing for the Lawrence site. This includes meetings with key stakeholders in the community, attorneys, domestic violence advocates, Judges and the Court. We continue to have the VEC advisory board meetings to ensure we meet the needs of the community.

5. Review the line-item budget you provided in your application. How much of your allocation has been spent?

From January to June 2016, TFI Family Services, Inc. Visitation and Exchange Center has spent \$2400