



## **West Michigan Partnership for Children Hires Beth Caldwell as Director of Care Coordination**

*West Michigan Partnership for Children is fully staffed as Beth Caldwell comes onboard September 18, 2017*

The team at West Michigan Partnership for Children (WMPC) is now complete as we welcome Beth Caldwell as the Director of Care Coordination. Caldwell is responsible for providing oversight of the referral, placement, and case management of children referred to WMPC for foster care by the Kent County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). In this role, Caldwell will identify and oversee strategies to increase programmatic capacity for placing and serving children, to increase family reunification and adoptive placements, and to decrease racial disparities in the child welfare system.

Caldwell comes to WMPC from Bethany Christian Services where she served as the Transitional Foster Care Site Supervisor. In this role, Caldwell supervised a team responsible for implementing federal policies and procedures for a foster care and shelter facility for unaccompanied children and for overseeing safe reunifications of recently arrived Central American children with their families.

Caldwell's clinical experience as an Outpatient Mental Health Psychotherapist at COMHAR in Philadelphia will be an asset as she directs the review and authorization of expenditures for placement and client support services. She will ensure the effective and efficient use of resources and appropriate services to children and their families, and identify and address service gaps. Caldwell has a Master of Social Work from University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Social Work from Huntington University.

"I'm excited to support Beth's leadership of the Care Coordination team," said Sonia Noorman, Chief Operating Officer of WMPC. "Her experience in trauma informed care and her lived experiences as a licensed foster and adoptive parent give her a unique perspective as we work with our partners to transform our Kent County child welfare system."

October 1, 2017 WMPC will launch a performance-based foster care model that will incentivize permanency and strengthen families. In partnership with Bethany Christian Services, Catholic Charities West Michigan, D.A. Blodgett—St. Johns, Samaritas, and Wellspring Lutheran Services, WMPC's mission is to create better futures for children and families through innovation, collaboration, and empowering communities.