

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 10th, 2016
5469 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego, CA 92123, Ste. 3700
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Present: Jorge Aguilar, Bernice Briggs, Michelle Cerna Flores, Claire Lynch-Dwight, Gloria Escamilla-Huidor, Sharon Ippolito, Brenda Jones, Nicole Kelsay, Mike Palomino, Katie Penninga, Twila Perucci, Dionne Puckett, Jacquie Pusateri, Veronica Sarabia, Marilynn Sproat, Lodia Ruiz, Cristina Duroiu, Arthur Hom-Shaw, Elyce Hoene, Jenny Rodriguez, Yoly Dayrit, Elaine Shelby, Diana Ojeda, Jessica Morales

I. Twila Perucci called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. All in attendance made introductions.

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: March 10, 2016 minute corrections suggested are as follows:

- Correction on Minutes: for DSEP, (page 3, bullet 2), “asked to provide options outside of the foster home”
- Correction on Minutes: for CASS, (page 2, bullet 2), Dr. John Aldous

III. Discussion:

Developmental Screening and Enhancement Program (DSEP) – Katie Penninga

- Reviewed handout that details the overview for DSEP services for foster parents and a flow chart of any child coming into DSEP.
- DSEP continues to conduct developmental and behavioral/social screenings for foster children under 6 years old.
- Families receiving Voluntary Services may also receive services.
- DSEP also facilitates Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings when applicable.
- Referrals are received weekly from the CWS data unit, who gather the information of children needing a screening from Polinsky Children’s Center, social workers, and foster parents or caregivers.
- DSEP team members are stationed at PCC, conduct screenings with infants and toddlers, and provide training for workers.
- Screenings last about 1 ½ hours and involve mostly play and questions depending on the age of child.
- Enrichment services are offered to provide further support to meet a child needs when applicable.

Nikki Kelsay – How long does it take to set up a CFT meeting?

- 3-4 weeks, depending on the people involved

Twila Perucci – What is the difference in services between DSEP and Regional Center?

- Regional Center requires the presentation of a developmental delay in a child to intervene and provide services, while DSEP screens every child.

Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA), Child Welfare Services (CWS), Deputy Director – Nicole Kelsay on behalf Alice Kennedy

- Two new Deputy Directors in CWS:
 1. Valesha Bullock, oversees Hotline, North Central Region, and Eligibility
 2. Kim Giardina, replaced Roseann Myers over Policy and Program Support
- Intergenerational Games have been postponed, possibly until the summer.
- Foster Parent Forum dates: South Region – Wednesday, March 16, 2016 6-8:00 p.m.

North Region – Thursday, April 7, 2016 6-8:00 p.m.

- Foster Parent Survey results will be emailed to committee members

Loving Arms Foster Family Network – Elaine Shelby

- Foster family picnic will be scheduled in July.
- Working on establishing Loving Arms Foster Family Network as a 501c3 to be able to raise funds.
- Inviting other foster parents in the area to bring awareness to this organization.

Nikki Kelsay – How are you going to raise donations for the 501c3?

- Bike raffle and receiving donations from members.

HHSA, San Diego Adoptions – Gloria Escamilla-Huidor

- Added 7 new staff members to the Adoptions Program.
- Adoption ambassadors will join regional QPI meetings and trainings to represent the program in each region.

HHSA, Foster and Adoptive Resource Family Services – Nicole Kelsay on behalf of Diana Macis

- QPI training for Needs & Services Plan and the Partnership Agreement has been trained in each for the first quarter of the year. Social workers should use these documents when a child moves or there is a change in social worker.
- Residential and Adoptions Programs are participating in QPI.
- Adoptions will be represented in every regional QPI meeting to bring perspective to those meetings and Residential may hold QPI meetings with FFAs.

Comprehensive Assessment/Stabilization Services (CASS) – Jacquie Pusateri

- CASS has new program director, Linda Wong Kerberg.
- Currently there is no waitlist for services.
- An outreach presentation is being offered to social workers to explain CASS, the referral process, and information on services offered. Contact Jacquie or intake coordinator, Ana Maria Namanati, at 619-876-9951 to schedule a presentation.

HHSA, Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care, Public Health Nurse (PHN) – Claire Dwight

- Passed out a Guide to Immunizations flyer required for school entry.

Grossmont College Foster & Adoptive Kinship Care Education Program (FAKCE) — Twila Perucci on behalf of Barbara Wojtach

- Currently working on the new pink booklet.
- Recruiting for the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) training, call 1-800-200-1222 to register.

HHSA, Independent Living Skills (ILS) – Diana Ojeda

- Ongoing ILS classes are being offered every month in every region.
- Promises2Kids invited ILS youth to participate in the Belmont Park Event: Wednesday, March 23; first come, first served; starts at 6:00 p.m.; rides/dinner at 6:15-8:45 p.m.; pick-up at 9:00 p.m. RSVP to Clifton H. at Clifton@promises2kids.org
- LIVE WELL San Diego Young Mater Chef Competition: Friday, April 29, 2016 at PCC from 3-5:00 p.m.; open to ages 14 and up; prizes will be given.
- Housing 101 Workshop held at South Bay Community Services:

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 from 4-8:00 p.m., RSVP to Belen Alvarez at 619-341-1263 or belen.alvarez@sdcounty.ca.gov

HHSA, CWS, Foster and Adoptive Resources Family Services (FARFS) – Nikki Kelsay

- Foster parents are invited to attend Fostering Children with Special Medical Needs and to participate in discussion with a panel of your peers to encourage more families to provide homes for children with special medical needs. Call Grossmont College at 1-800-200-1222 to register.
- 55th Annual Foster Parent Appreciation Banquet will be on Friday, May 20th, held at the Mission Valley DoubleTree Hotel.

Maxim Respite Care –Michelle Cerna Flores and Mike Palomino

- Currently serving over 400 families in San Diego County. Maxim is understaffed in the East and North locations. South bay has availability to provide respite at the caregivers home. Need people who are able to drive to providers homes.
- Requirements for Maxim respite provider:
 1. Live Scan
 2. CPR/First Aid
 3. TB test within a year
 4. Previous experience with children
 5. Reliable transportation
 6. Must register with the state of California
- Update on registration with the state of California as an In-Home Care Provider. Online registration takes 2 minutes. You may need to fingerprint if it has been more than 4 years.

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists – All

East Region –Yoly Dayrit

- Grandparents raising Grandchildren, held on 3/19, from 9:30 – 2:00 p.m. at the Meridian Baptist Church, 660 S. Third Street, El Cajon, California, 92019
- Population at PCC = 1

South Region – Jenny Rodriguez

- Thank you to all for placements foster parents have taken
- Population at PCC = 4
- QPI trainings have had a great turnout
- Program Integrity meeting, foster parents are invited to share success stories

CWS Policy Analyst and Program Support –Veronica Sarabia

- In preparation of Resource Family Approval (RFA) starting 1/1/2017, in place is the RFA steering committee with 8 subcommittees:
 1. Communications
 2. Emergency Shelter Care
 3. Permanency Assessment
 4. Emergency Approval
 5. Background & Exemption
 6. Training
 7. Investigation & Complaint
 8. Recruitment & Retention
- Foster parent, Raymond Valdez, is now participating on the Training Subcommittee.

- Articles have been provided internally to social workers regarding RFA:
The first article informed workers about what to expect
The second article explained how RFA supports the new initiatives (CCR, LIVE WELL San Diego, Waiver California Well-Being demonstration project)
- Caregivers will be given an overview of RFA in April

HHSA, CWS, Polinsky Children’s Center (PCC) – Marilyn Sproat

- Population at PCC is 30

Placement Coordinator’s Office - Bernice Briggs

Taking Care of Business (TCB) held on Saturday, March 26, at Levant St.

Roundtable

IV. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 12, 2016

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

5469 Kearny Villa Road

San Diego CA 92123 (Seville Plaza Building, Ste 3700)

V. ADJOURNMENT: 12:49 pm