

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 10, 2014

6950 Levant St, San Diego

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Jorge Aguilar, Sandra Boelter, Harold Brown, Wendy Curiel, Elizabeth Cuevas, Ann Fox, Sharon Ippolito, Suzette Johnston, Diana Macis, Maribel Luna, Robert McMonigle, Violeta Mora, Twila Perucci, Dionne Puckett, Jacquie Pusateri, Anita Secor, Crystal Scott, Elaine Shelby

Minutes

- I. **Sandra Boelter called the meeting to order.** All in attendance made introductions.
- II. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes: The March 2014 minutes were unanimously approved.**
- III. **Presentation:** Transitional Housing for Foster Youth—Crystal Scott & Harold Brown

Harold Brown is the Chief Executive Officer of East County Transitional Living Center (ECTLC) located in El Cajon. This is a non-profit 501(C)(3) that provides a hand up to struggling individuals and families. ECTLC provides short term transitional housing at low cost, over 300,000 meals each year, drug/alcohol programs, emergency shelter, case management, job skills, GED readiness, and college application assistance. ECTLC is a faith based organization offering Bible study and worship services for those who choose to participate. ECTLC has a zero tolerance policy on smoking, drugs, and alcohol.

ECTLC would like to launch a pilot program to assist youth ages 18-24. AB12 foster youth may be eligible. ECTLC has five rooms that can house 20 youth, and plans to obtain a site with 60 rooms. ECTLC will offer 24/7 onsite assistance, conduct needs assessment, and develop case management plans. The goal is to help youth move towards independence.

Discussion:

Please note the May 2014 Foster Care Services meeting will be cancelled.

Loving Arms Foster Parent Association —Elaine Shelby

- The Association is working to recruit a full Board.
- The Association will attend the Foster Parent Banquet on May 16.

Maxim Respite Care—Elizabeth Cuevas

- Maxim approved four new respite providers from North County.
- Maxim is working with Patty Boles to secure a North County site to conduct interviews/applications with prospective respite providers from North County.
- Looking into placing an article about Maxim in a Regional Center newsletter in order to recruit respite providers for children with special needs.

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support Division—Wendy Curiel

- Pathways to Well Being: Child and Family Team (CFT) is a combined effort of Child Welfare Services and Behavioral Health to focus on mental health needs of foster children, youth, and families. Child Welfare Services Special Notice #05-14 was distributed.
- Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is a statewide concern. San Diego County is taking an active role to address this issue and to ensure that the needs of victimized children and youth are addressed. CSEC brochure was distributed.

- Policy regarding tattoos and body piercing; Child Welfare Services Information Bulletin #01-14 was distributed. Health and Safety Code 119302 states:
 - Client shall be at least 18 years of age to be offered or to receive a tattoo or permanent cosmetic application, **regardless of parental consent.**
 - Persons under 18 years of age shall not be offered or receive a body piercing unless the piercing is performed in the presence of his or her parent or guardian.

Probation—Jorge Aguilar

- Probation places youth in FFA homes; is not placing in licensed foster homes at this time.

San Diego County Office of Education—Violeta Mora

- The 3rd Annual San Diego Foster Care Education Summit will be held June 25 (for students only) & June 26th (for students and adults) at the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley.
 - Looking for students ages 14-15 to participate as ambassadors.
 - Foster parents are strongly encouraged to attend. Registration form distributed.
- Local Control Activities Plan: School districts will hold focus groups on April 11 (North County), April 22 (Central), and April 23 (East County). Foster parents are encouraged to attend and give their input. School districts have until June 30 to develop plan for services to foster youth.
- College and Career Day will be held April 11, 8 am to 1:30 pm at Grossmont College. The goal is to expose students to college life and discover what drives foster youth to complete college.
- Pre-Employment Training (PET) recruitment will begin in April.
 - 30 to 50 foster youth will participate.
 - Youth can earn up to \$200 a month for first time participants, and returning youth may earn up to \$400 per month.
 - Looking for businesses to participate in the program.

San Diego County Adoptions—Diana Macis

- Adoptions is holding focus groups to gather input on the adoption process.
- Adoptions is gearing up for the 2015 Charger Calendar.

Comprehensive Assessment/Stabilization Services (CASS) — Jacquie Pusateri

- CASS currently has no wait list.

Child Health Disability Prevention—Anita Secor

- Moira Lewis has resigned from County service.
- Encourage foster parents to call the CHDP nurses for assistance with medical services.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program—Maribel Luna

- DSEP currently has 11 Developmental Specialists visiting in foster homes.
- DSEP staff are attending TDMs.
- Developmental Specialists are conducting 2-hour DSEP trainings for CWS social workers. The training includes information on referral, screening, recommendations, and follow-through.
- A DSEP team will participate in the Live Well San Diego 5K.

Grossmont College—Twila Perucci

- TIPS Train the Trainer will take place Saturday, May 24.
- Super Saturday takes place June 21 at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley.
 - Lunch will be provided for those who register for the full day of classes.
 - Keynote speaker is Teresa Green—A former foster youth.

- Spanish classes are available.
- Foster parents will receive training credit.
- Pink flyers will be distributed in early June.

Foster Home Licensing—Robert McMonigle

- During Orientation, foster parents are now being informed of the no-smoking law that recently went into effect.

Foster & Adoptive Family Resource Services Operations—Ann Fox

- The next QPI training will be held on May 8 at Turning the Hearts Center.
- The Foster Parent Banquet will be held May 16 at the Westin San Diego.
- The Live Well San Diego 5K will be held Saturday, May 31; foster parents and community providers are encouraged to attend.
- Dionne Puckett was introduced as the new Community Outreach worker.

IV. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, June 12, 2014

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

6950 Levant Street, Room 1 A/B

San Diego, CA 92111

V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:40 P.M.