

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 8, 2013

6950 Levant St, San Diego

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Jorge Aguilar, Denise Behan, Nory Behana, Patty Boles, Bernice Briggs, Ann Fox, Suzette Johnston, Greg Khoth, Maribel Luna, Michelle Manley, Twila Perucci, Jacquie Pusateri, Cristine Rosas-DiMaggio, Pam Sokol, Marilyn Sproat, Debbie Stolz, Barbara Wojtach

Minutes

I. **Twila Perruci called the meeting to order.** (Committee Co-Chairs were absent.) All in attendance made introductions.

- **Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** The July 2013 minutes were amended under the heading of DSEP to read: “100% of children under age six months are **offered** infant massage.”

II. Discussion:

North County Foster Parent Association—Patty Boles/Barbie Caldwell

- Are foster parents required to actually be present in the back yard where children are playing?
 - Ann will look into this.
- Who should foster parent call when a biological child in the home turns 18 and needs to be fingerprinted?
 - Call the Foster Home Licensing worker
 - Foster parents have 30 days to get 18-year-old bio child fingerprinted
- A social worker told a foster parent that all inquiries from the police regarding birth parents should be directed to the social worker.
 - Please give Ann Fox the case name, and Ann will look into this.

San Diego Foster Parent Association—Pam Sokol

- Sleep Train scholarships may provide up to \$200 per child for extracurricular activities.
 - Foster, relative, and NREFM children are eligible. Biological, adoptive, and guardianship children are not eligible per Sleep Train requirements.
 - The child’s social worker must first request SCIAP funds for the activity.
 - Contact the Association at 619-579-4900 to request scholarships.
- Is a safety gate at top of stairs required by regulation?
 - Ann Fox will look into this.

San Diego Office of Education –Michelle Manley

- Tutor Connection is providing free tutoring to foster children located primarily in the North County. Referral form was distributed.

San Diego County Adoptions—Barbara Wojtach

- The 2014 Charger calendar photo shoot is in process.
- Upcoming events will focus on the Exceptional Families campaign.

Comprehensive Assessment/Stabilization Services (CASS)—Jacquie Pusateri & Eileen O'Malley

- CASS and Debbie Stolz conducted mental health training at foster parent support groups.
- CASS conducts training for new CWS social workers at Social Worker Induction Training.
- The Katie A. lawsuit resulted in law requiring all children to be assessed and referred for mental health services.
- CASS will develop and implement additional services to support this, including behavioral and rehabilitative support services and more case management.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP) – Maribel Luna

- DSEP will participate and host a booth at the Options Picnic.

Grossmont College—Nory Behana

- The new Training Booklet (Pink Flyer) will list classes scheduled from September through December.
- Trauma Informed Pre-Service (TIPS), which replaced PRIDE training, is now provided in English. Spanish-language TIPS class will be available January 1.
- Discipline Toolbox training will begin in the fall.
- Nory Behana will retire at the end of December. A replacement announcement will be posted.

Foster Home Licensing—Ann Fox

- State Community Care Licensing regulations update:
 - Drop-down cribs must be replaced due to safety concerns. Foster parents will be cited for having drop-down cribs.
 - Civil Penalties must be issued for the following:
 1. Uncleared adult living in or frequenting the foster home
 2. Unlicensed operation of a foster home
 - Civil Penalty fines are \$100 per day for up to five days.
- Per State and CWS Budget, Special Care Rates may not be paid simultaneously with Emergency Shelter Care. The Program Guide is being updated reflect this.
- Legislation is being considered which would make it a violation to smoke in foster homes.
- QPI Steering Sub-Committees are developing action plans and timelines.
- The Options for Recovery Picnic will be held at DeAnza Cove on Wednesday, August 14, 2013.
- The Foster Family Picnic will be held October 6th at Admiral Baker Park.

Polinsky Children's Center—Marilyn Sproat

- Polinsky population has averaged in the 20's and 30's daily.

Independent Living Skills – Denise Behan

- Independent City will be held at County Office of Education on Saturday, November 2.
 - Youth will have fun learning about banking, credit, shopping, etc.
- Barefoot Barbeque will be held August 24.

III. NEXT MEETING / NEW TEMPORARY LOCATION:

**Thursday, September 12, 2013:
6950 Levant Street, Room 1 A/B
San Diego, CA 92111**

V. ADJOURNMENT: 2:00 P.M.