



## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

### Child and Family Strengthening Advisory Board

## Summary of Ad-hoc Committee Meeting

#### Ad-hoc Committee:

Race & Equity	1:00 - 2:30 pm
---------------	----------------

**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2022

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

**Facilitators:** Sandra McBrayer

**Meeting Staff:** Jocelyn Núñez, Kayla Iliff

#### **Race & Equity Ad-hoc Committee Summary: 35 attendees took part in the Ad-hoc Committee.**

Advisory Members Participating: Carolyn Griesemer, Stephen Moore

Sandra provided a brief overview of the agenda and the purpose of the Ad-hoc committee. Sandra then explained how the meeting was being conducted via the Zoom platform and provided attendees multiple ways to ask questions during the meeting. Lastly, Sandra encouraged participation from all attendees.

#### **Clarification on S.B 354 – Allowable and not allowable crimes**

Sandra opened the agenda item and turned it over to Veronica Sarabia to present on the agenda item.

- Veronica gave an overview on S.B 354, which removes barriers for relative placement.
  - It expanded the list of crimes that are now exempted.
  - It changed the criminal record exemption process under the Resource Family Approval.
    - No misdemeanor convictions within the last three years, the applicant can go through a simpler process. Previously, it was five years.
    - No felony charges within the last five years, while previously it was within the last seven years.
    - The above applies only to crimes that are not on the state and federal non-exemptible list.
  - Relatives can now request an exemption for a child specific approval if the criteria are met.
- Veronica reviewed the state and federal non-exemptible list. The list will be sent out to the member list serve once it has been finalized.

#### **Update on Community Session – Racial Bias in Child Welfare**

Agenda item was moved to the June meeting due to the presenter having a last-minute conflict.

#### **Goal for Ad-Hoc Committee – Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in CWS – Moving forward**

- Data Measurements
  1. Allegations of Abuse or Neglect
  2. Substantiated Allegations of Abuse or Neglect
  3. Entries into Foster Care

4. Children in Out of Home Care
5. Kin Placement
6. Reunification

Sandra opened the agenda item and proposed several questions to the group.

- How do we look to and move from mandated reporting to mandated supporting?
- How do we strengthen families and what can be done to support them before they interact with the child welfare system?
- What are some of the things the County can or should be doing as it moves from mandated reporting to mandated supporting?
- What are some things that should be done to help the Ad-Hoc committee to it's goal of eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in child welfare?
  
- Discussion:
  - A participant asked if we could look at the entities that are the most common reporters. If the family is lacking basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter it would be beneficial to have another entity to report/recommend the family to instead of reporting them to Child Welfare.
  - Sandy, stated it would be helpful to map where the calls are coming from and list out who the most predominate calls are. This would be helpful in determining do we have the services in the right communities with the highest need.
  - A participant stated that she believed organization that are providing services to the families in need are not located in the central region. She stated that this important to note since 25% of the families that are reported to child welfare are in the central region. It is important to have a physical presence to the community.
  - Participants asked how many calls are coming into the hotline after the 8:00 am – 5:00 pm time frame. Also, if we can determine what resources most families need.
  - A participant stated they would like to examine the mandated reporting laws that are required by the state.
  - A participant stated that services going into the communities should be culturally appropriate.
  - Some asked if we could we have some education on the assembly bill (A.B 2085) on neglect and mandated reporting it is passes.

**Next Meeting:** June 8, 2022 1:00 pm

Sandra concluded the meeting by reviewing agenda items for the June meeting.

- Update on Community Session – Racial Bias in Child Welfare that occurred on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Updated on S.B. 354 with the all-county letter and the interpretation from the County.
- Presentation and review of map of where calls are coming from and what entities are making those calls.
- Data review of the zip code children resided in and the zip code the homes they were placed in.
- Clarification on A.B. 2085 when it passes.