

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 12, 2014

6950 Levant St, San Diego

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Sandra Boelter, Elizabeth Cuevas, Wendy Curiel, Robyn Ericson, Ann Fox, Sharon Ippolito, Suzette Johnston, Alice Kennedy, Maribel Luna, Diana Macis, Michele Manley, Mary Jo Meer, Anita Secor, Marilyn Sproat, Debbie Stolz, Barbara Wojtach

- I. **Sandra Boelter called the meeting to order.** All in attendance made introductions.
- II. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** The April 2014 minutes were unanimously approved with the following corrections under Grossmont College, bullet one: “May 29” and bullet two, sub-bullet two: “Teresa Reed.”
- III. **Discussion:**

San Diego Foster Parent Association—Mary Jo Meer

- Funds are available for extracurricular activities, outings such as Disneyland/SeaWorld, or special toys for special needs children @ \$100 per foster child courtesy of Sleep Train.
- Shoes and pajamas that were collected by Sleep Train were given away to foster children in May.
- Full and twin beds are available for foster children courtesy of Sleep Train. Please call the office for more information.
- Concert tickets, courtesy of Sleep Train, will be given away at support groups.

HHSA & Child Welfare Services—Alice Kennedy

- On behalf of HHSA and Child Welfare Services, Alice Kennedy thanked all those who supported and attended the recent Foster Parent Banquet. The event was outstanding!
- Approximately 1,700 participants took part in the May 31st Live Well San Diego 5K at Liberty Station. Proceeds from the event will go to the Polinsky Children’s Center Trust Fund to benefit children in foster care.
- The following changes have been made within Child Welfare Services:
 - Pam Hurd— New Manager for Mills
 - Lilian Asoera—New Manager for East Region
 - Elyce Hoene—New Manager for South Region
 - Amy Donarico—New Manager for Adoptions
 - Bernice Briggs—New Supervisor for Placement Coordinator’s Office and Special Care Rates
- There are currently three Adoption managers; additional Adoptions staff will be added the third week of June.
- A SWIT class of 36 social workers is underway. More classes are slated for the future.
- Child Welfare Services is hosting an Exceptional Families for Exceptional Children booth at the San Diego Fair.
- San Diego Fair tickets for foster children and foster parents may be available soon; more information to come.

North County Foster Parent Association – Debbie Stolz

- No new business to report from the Association.

Foster & Adoptive Family Resource Services Operations—Ann Fox

- The Foster Care Services Committee Annual Review is due.
 - The Committee needs to replace four voting members who left due to changes in their positions. Discussion of what organizations/representatives the Committee would like to elect as new voting members.
 - Voting members must complete 2-hour ethics training every two years. Instructions and link to the training website were distributed.
 - Ann Fox will email voting members the ethics training website link and instructions on how to access the training.
 - Print the certificate of completion at the end of the training; copies are required to be collected by the Committee.
 - Once ethics training has been completed, please complete form 519, Statement of Incompatible Activities related to County Duties (distributed).
- The Foster Parent Banquet took place on Friday, May 16th at the Westin San Diego. Many foster parents were awarded for providing exceptional care to children and for supporting families.

Maxim Respite Care—Elizabeth Cuevas/Sharon Ippolito

- Maxim is trying to recruit two new respite providers in North County.
- Respite may be provided in the home of the foster parent or in the home of the respite provider.
- Elizabeth Cuevas will be going on leave of absence July 11. Mike Palomino will begin attending the Foster Care Services meeting.

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support Division—Wendy Curiel

- The Board of Supervisors Policy E-12 Out-of-Home Placement for Children was distributed along with CWS revisions.
 - The Committee is asked to give input regarding the policy by June 20.
 - An email will also be sent to Committee members with Wendy Curiel's contact information and the document attached.

Polinsky Children's Center—Marilynn Sproat

- The Care program is moving to Mission Valley.
- Fred Finch will be increasing staff to provide mental health services at PCC.
- The PCC population has been between 55-60 children.
- Alice Kennedy: CWS Managers are discussing how to mitigate the increased population at Polinsky. Many children at PCC are on the cusp of needing an FFA home vs. a foster home. Many are children ages 9, 10, and 11. Discussion of having WRAP and CASS support placements from the start, and supporting FFAs with more recruitment and services.

San Diego County Office of Education—Robyn Ericson/Michele Manley

- The 3rd Annual San Diego Foster Care Education Summit will be held June 25-26. Thirty-three youths are attending on June 25 and 278 people have registered for June 26.
- Pre-Employment Training (PET) orientations are now taking place. Applications are still being accepted.
- Week-long music camps will be held during the summer at Liberty Station. Children four years and older may attend, including children who are medically fragile.
- The SDCOE Foster Youth Services office will soon be moving to Casey Family Services.

- Temporary change of placement transportation funds will be available in the fall for ages 10-18 years old.

San Diego County Adoptions—Diana Macis

- The Heart Gallery showcased children who are waiting for adoption at the Live Well San Diego 5K event.
- Photo shoots are underway for the 2015 Charger Calendar.
- The last QPI training was held in South Bay; over 100 people in attended.
- The QPI Steering Committee is currently working on new goals for 2014.
- QPI training will be available in the Regions for social workers who missed the initial trainings.

Comprehensive Assessment/Stabilization Services (CASS) — Debbie Stolz

- CASS currently has no wait list for either Spanish or English speaking families.
- CASS will be hiring two more clinicians.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program—Maribel Luna

- The DSEP program and services that have been spread out in different locations will move to one centralized location at the end of June.
- Four DSEP staff will remain at PCC; two Developmental Specialists, one Developmental Aid, and one Preschool Teacher.

Grossmont College—Barbara Wojtach

- The new training schedule (Pink Flyer) was distributed.
- Super Saturday will be held June 21 at the Handlery Hotel in Mission Valley. Registration is already full at 121 people!
- Expert Week will be held July 12-17.
 - Jody Johnston Pawel, author of *The Parents Toolshop*, will present *Preventing and Responding Helpfully to Sibling Conflicts* and *Why Children Lie/How to Teach Truth*.
 - UCSD will provide training on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).
- *Theraplay* and *Parenting From the Inside Out* are new classes that will be available.

IV. NEXT MEETING:

**Thursday, July 10, 2014
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
6950 Levant Street, Room 1 A/B
San Diego, CA 92111**

V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:40 P.M.