

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 10, 2013

6950 Levant St, San Diego

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Present: Jorge Aguilar, Nory Behana, Patty Boles, Bernice Briggs, Ligia Cerqueria, Ann Fox, Sharon Ippolito, Suzette Johnston, Alice Kennedy, Greg Khoth, Robyn Lefkowitz, Maribel Luna, Michele Manley, Mary Jo Meer, Violeta Mora, Sara Otto, Twila Perucci, Jacquie Pusateri, Anita Secor, Debbie Stolz, Barbara Wojtach

Minutes

- I. Twila Perucci called the meeting to order.** All in attendance made introductions.
- II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** The minutes were amended to correct the spelling of Perucci.
- III. Discussion:**

North County Foster Parent Association—Patty Boles

- The Association has been very busy giving away Halloween costumes and school supplies.
- The Association is preparing for the Toys for Tots distribution in December.
- The Association will be hosting a Holiday party the second week in December; more information to follow.
- Training: Will Grossmont FAKCE still send foster parent training transcripts to Placement Coordinator's Office?
 - Per Nory Behana, Grossmont Administration directed that transcripts may only be given directly to the foster parent unless the foster parent gives Grossmont written permission to distribute it to CWS/PCO/Licensing.
- Training: If a foster parent is behind two years on their annual training, must they complete 16 hours of training before PCO will lift the training hold?
 - Per Greg Khoth and Ann Fox, only 8 training hours are required for PCO to lift the hold.

HHSA & Child Welfare Services—Alice Kennedy

- CWS would like to thank all those who participated in the Foster Parent Picnic.
- CWS is still hiring and training new staff.
- Educational travel reimbursements are not being claimed as much as they could be. The reimbursement covers mileage for transporting children to their schools of origin for education and extracurricular activities. Please request the child's social worker to submit the required 07-65 form.

San Diego Foster Parent Association—Debbie Stolz

- The Association has school supplies and Sleep Train scholarship enrichment funds. Call the Association at 619-579-4900 to inquire.
- The Association has been busy distributing Halloween costumes.

San Diego Office of Education – Violeta Mora

- Training on new laws related to education will be coming soon; will send information by email.
- College Connection will be held in the spring.
 - Foster youth college preparedness will be combined with the I Can Go to College event.
 - Junior League, Foster Youth Services, Court, and County will be involved.

- Supplemental Services Letters provide information on tutoring through school districts for all Program Improvement Schools. Caretakers please watch for them to come in the mail; respond to them by the deadline.

San Diego County Adoptions—Barbara Wojtach

- The 2014 Charger calendar is being finalized; will be ready for release December 1.
- Distribution locations are currently being sought out in the community.
- The Adoptions Court Party will be held November 15 at Juvenile Court on Meadowlark Drive.
 - Twenty families will finalize their adoption this year!

Comprehensive Assessment/Stabilization Services (CASS) — Jacquie Pusateri

- CASS has no waiting list at this time.
- CASS thanked Foster Home Licensing for the opportunity to host a booth at the recent Foster Family Picnic.

Child Health Disability Prevention (CHDP)—Anita Secor

- Welcome to Ligia Cerqueria, student intern from Cal State Dominguez Hills, who will be working with CHDP for the next six weeks.
- CHDP is currently working on a quality assurance project; received health surveys from foster parents, and are currently conducting surveys on social workers
- CHDP staff are working with QPI; attending Steering Committee and Subcommittees.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP) – Maribel Luna

- DSEP is currently providing training at the Social Worker Initial Training and the Options for Recovery support groups.
- DSEP is now offering infant massage training for caretakers with children 0-6 months of age.
 - Two behavioral specialists also work with infants ages 6-12 months
 - DSEP trains caretakers how to give infant massage.
 - Infant massage stimulates the infant's central nervous system and promotes bonding.

Loving Arms Foster Parent Association – Elaine Shelby

- Loving Arms is working to confirm board officers for the Association.

Grossmont College—Nory Behana

- The Trauma Informed Pre-Service (TIPS) training curriculum has been well received.
- A summary/overview TIPS training is available for experienced caretakers.
- Trainer positions are opening; See Nory Behana or Twila Perucci for information.
- The Discipline Tool Box course began in October.
- Training on Understanding Lifebooks will be offered next year.

Foster Home Licensing—Ann Fox

- The Foster Care Services Committee meetings will continue to be held at Levant for the next several months.
- The State is actively engaged in looking at the issue of confidentiality to determine guidelines about what information can be shared with caretakers.
- Licensing will send out letters to foster parents for Toys for Tots in November.
- The 28th Annual Foster Parent Picnic was a great success with over 700 people attending, including Chairman Greg Cox and Supervisor Dave Roberts. The National City Rotary Club provided 8 bicycles for foster youth ages 8 and older.

- The Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) 3-month follow-up meeting was held on September 25th. Carole Shauffer was impressed with the participation and progress with QPI!

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists

North Central Region—Bernice Briggs

- Need placements for medically fragile children and teens.
- The foster parent associations' communication networks have been a great help with placement.

IV. Round Table

- Diana Macis—New Adoptions Recruiter, Sara Otto, will move to the Escondido office soon.

V. NEXT MEETING / NEW TEMPORARY LOCATION:

Thursday, October 14, 2013:

6950 Levant Street, Room 1 A/B

San Diego, CA 92111

V. ADJOURNMENT: 2:00 P.M.