

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 8, 2022

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Present: Mary Ann Paschal, Diana Macis, Eunice Sifuentes, Belinda Radovich, Naheed Azim, Sarah Glass, MaryJo Meer, Zayra Rios, Vivian Pate, Lisa Catagnola. Mai Woo, Flor Beyer, Jeanna Bruce, Collette Best, Stacy Rauch, Kimberly Ayala, Brittany Alanis, Arleth Rubio, Patty Boles, Barbara Wojtach, Katie Baker, Darryl Chairez, Dannette Shevlin, Karen Prosek, Angela Wood, Isela Hernandez, Chad Lowndes, Brenda Jones, Gloria Escamilla-Huidor, Erin Lininger, Lillian Asoera, Veronica Sarabia, Daniel Bernal, Daniela Murphy, and Lisa Castagnola.

I. Chair: Mary Ann Paschal called the meeting to order at 12:06 PM

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Minutes for August 11, 2022 – Approved by Patty Boles.

III. Updates and Discussion:

HHSA/Child Welfare Services- Lillian Asoera

- New contract for SPA. Right of Passage now has contract for SPA, so when transition with alternatives and no kids are impacted
- Looking at new applications coming in

San Diego County Respite- Alex Kahn Not present

North County Foster Parent Association – Patty Boles

- Have 1200 pairs of Sesame Street socks, 62 pairs of Converse tennis shoes, 200 bottles of hand sanitizer. Medical company has a pallet full of hand sanitizers. If anybody needs any hand sanitizer, reach out to Patty Boles.
- Having people help with grant writing
- Ms. Heather helping with putting SFTH on better location on google
- Lots of new people coming in with incredible donations

San Diego Foster Parent Association- Mary Jo Meer

- Office had a backpack giveaway
- Requested to go to picnic, will have giveaways at the picnic for families
- Had questions regarding voluntary status of resource parents
 - Trying to figure out how we are supporting them and if we are referring them to Grossmont and if they are able to utilize respite as well

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support- Veronica Sarabia

- No Updates

Foster Care Eligibility- Zayra Rios/ Mai Woo

- No updates
- For any check cashing issues, please contact the Human Services Specialist (HSS) directly or the Foster Care Inquiry line at 619-767-5000 for the HSS information. Direct email: mai.woo@sdcountry.ca.gov

Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) – Kimberly Ayala

- No updates

Polinsky Children’s Center (PCC) – Elizabeth Rosas

- 65 children today, several under age 6
- Any communications you have with resource parents, we will love to hear from you
- Have sibling sets
- Onsite School started last week for our kids
- Kids continuing on going on outings and swimming
- If you know anybody that is ready to take kids, please give Polinsky a call

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP)-Veronica Miller

- No attendance

Resource Family Approval (RFA) – Katie Baker on behalf of Natasha Hood

- RFA in partnership with County of San Diego libraries through the tech connect program to provide Chromebooks to families:
 - This is to assist with approval process and for already approved families for trainings, Binti, or need to communicate with RFA
 - Families will need a library card and complete a form in order to access Chromebooks
 - If families are unable to go to headquarters and if there is a library in their area, we can connect with library to reserve a Chromebook there
 - Each Chromebooks has a hotspot and there will be information on how to access any websites used for RFA approval
 - To get information, contact assigned RFA worker or their Granted Worker
 - Have ability to check out Chromebooks for a year for RFA approval process and trainings

Foster & Adoptive Resource Family Services (FARFS)/Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)-Diana Macis

- Gearing up for Resource Family Picnic on September 25th at Admiral Baker
 - As a resource parent, please sign up
 - For booth information, reach out to Arleth Rubio at Arleth.Rubio@sdcountry.ca.gov
- First cohort for QPI Champions, started in August
 - Attending conference at the end of the month to learn more and develop our resources
- Planning a relaunch of QPI in 2023
- Annual computer giveaway will be first week in December

- Adoption Court Party in November 4th

Independent Living Skills (ILS) – Daniel Bernal

- No updates

Comprehensive Assessment & Stabilization Services (CASS) - Lisa Castagnola

- Fully staffed, but looking for Part Time staff for a Licensed Physician and a Spanish-speaking parent partner who is former or current foster parent, to be able to support and empathize with current caregivers
 - Spanish-speaking preferred, but open to anyone has foster parenting experience
- If you know of a current or former foster parent interested in a part time position as a Parent Partner, please have them reach out to Lisa or Stacy at 619-955-8905

Grossmont College Foster & Adoptive Kinship Care Education Program – Barbara Wojtach

- September/October Pink Book came out a couple of weeks ago
- Events:
 - 9/9 – Charlie Appelstein – Youth Care Trainer
 - 9:00am to 1:30pm – In-person event at the Handlery Hotel
 - Topic: Let your inner hero come through
 - Breakfast and Lunch will be served
 - Will have a lot of activities
 - 9/20 – Nathan Ross and Barb Clark
 - 9:00am to 1:30pm (Virtual via Zoom)
 - More than a one time event affirming children’s identities
 - Partnering with San Diego Youth Services
 - 10/15
 - 9:00am to 3:30pm – In-person event at Balboa
 - Hair Love, Caring for Multi-ethnic Hair
 - Great opportunity for resource parents that are struggling with their kids hair
 - 10/20 – FASD Workgroup
 - 3:00pm to 6:00pm
 - Dr. Campo and Dr. Jones
 - Training on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Training Series:
 - Starting 9/12 – Jodi Powell
 - Comprehensive 30 hour evidence-based, trauma informed parenting curriculum for foster and kinship caregivers
 - Two classes offered each month through fiscal year
 - Can attend single trainings, but if you attend entire series, you will receive a certificate
- Please check out pink book or website. We welcome any resource parents, kinship parents, social workers, or professionals that work with children to attend trainings. All trainings are free.

YMCA Kinship Support Services- Melissa Brooks

- No attendance

YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program – Darryl Chairez and Angela Wood

- Reminder for the Bridge referral process: make sure the forms 04, 317, and the cell 04399 are completely filled out and with signatures to keep process moving smoothly. We take referrals as they come in
- For voucher, we continue to approve childcare within 7 days and continue to work on getting them to long-term childcare

San Diego Office of Education- Michelle Manley

- No Attendance

Promises2Kids- Christy Mader

- No Attendance

Adoptions- Gloria Escamilla-Huidor

- No updates

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists-All Regions

East- Collette Best

- Still in need of homes for teens

Central- Isela Hernandez and Sarah Glass

- Will have Project KEEP, Fred Finch Wrap services, TBS, and Respite attend our QPI Meeting on 9/14 from 9:30am to 11:00am
- Excited to attend picnic, will be doing slime booth
- Losing one of social workers, Isela Hernandez is new PSS, and now missing a Sr PSW
- Desperate placement for a 14-year-old boy, looking for a home with no other children. He has been through a lot of trauma and loss, needs extra love
 - If anyone is working with resource parents or an idea of an option, Sarah would like to talk to them

South- Belinda Radovich

- Have 6 children in Polinsky, hopefully moving out to relatives quickly
- Have a new Sr PSW in placement, Monica Lopez

North Central- Naheed Azim

- New Supervisor Brittany Alanis, still need a Sr PSW
- Looking forward to picnic, will be hosting snow cone booth
- Have 6 kids at Polinsky and 2 sibling sets. 1 young sibling set, 3 month and 2 year old
 - If you know any military family or anybody that would be interested in a young sibling set, please reach out to Naheed.Azim@sdcounty.ca.gov

North- No one present

Roundtable

- Sarah Glass – Congrats to Brittany Alanis, she is now the Supervisor of the Placement Unit in North Central

IV. ADJOURNMENT: 1:04 PM

V. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, October 13, 2022

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom