

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 12, 2020

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Present: Diana Macis, Michele Manley, Belinda Radovich, Cecilia Rubio, Veronica Sarabia, Valerie Moore, Mai Woo, Kimberly Washington, Karen Hockensmith, Peggy Ruefer, Natasha Garcia, Elizabeth Rosas, Kania Webster, Dannette Shevlin, Jennifer Zapata, Melissa Brooks, MaryAnn Paschal, Valesha Bullock, Natasha Hood, Alex Kahn, Barbara Wojtach, Isela Hernandez, Patty Boles, Kevin Hauck, MaryJo Meer, Steven Wells, Emma Tidmore, 619-955-8905-dial in number?

I. Chair: Mary Ann Paschal called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Minutes for were approved unanimously

III. Updates and Discussion:

North County Foster Parent Association- Patty Boles

- We are all still closed and will be permanently closed December 31st after 22yrs.
- We just did a Promises2Kids, we did 50 Drive thru style (COVID friendly) and for the kids under 10 we did backpacks, school supplies, shoes and prom dresses. We will continue doing giveaways through November of various items.
- We will continue on as an entity and not disband that at this point but it will be more of communication than the giveaways.

HHSA/Child Welfare Services- Diana Macis on behalf of Valesha Bullock

- The voting members will be getting an email by Monday (10/12/2020) to complete the required training, be on the lookout for that email.

San Diego Foster Parent Association- Mary Jo Meer

- We are doing another giveaway 11/22/2020, it will be drive thru style.
- We are going to do a Christmas giveaway that will be sponsored by one of the local churches, more to come on that.

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support- Veronica Sarabia

- No updates to report.

Foster Care Eligibility- Zayra Rios/ Mai Woo

- Eligibility workers all have new phone numbers, please be on the lookout for the notices of action they will be send via USPS for all three programs.
- No other updates to report

Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP)- Kimberly (Kim) Ayala

- No updates to report.

Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) – Steven Wells

- Today we have 58 children at PCC, seven of them are under age 6. There are a total of 64 NEST applications received, 49 homes approved and 22 are currently active. There is one NEST application is pending, currently 8 placements in NEST homes. Thank you to the NEST homes/families for being available for our children.
- Reminder about the NEST support group meetings on the 4th Wednesday evening and first Saturday morning. Next support group meeting is 10/28/2020 and the topic will be; “Supporting brain development in traumatized children and youth”.

Independent Living Skills (ILS)-Steven Wells

- Helping to cover responsibilities for Elizabeth until she returns. Supporting ESCU and Intake at PCC.
- Steven Wells – His cell: 619-813-7568 - PCC Intake and ESCU.
- No other updates to report.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP)-Veronica Miller

- No changes or updates, team is still providing virtual visits also known as tele-medicine

Foster Home Licensing/Resource Family Approval (RFA) – Natasha Hood

- If you are currently Fostering and would like to continue fostering please make sure to turn in your conversion application (if you are in need of one please contact your granted worker) and that is for licensed foster homes. Regions if you have homes that haven't converted yet please reach out to Merle Liburd she will be your point of contact to get those homes converted.
- Any questions about the process please feel free to reach out to Natasha Hood.

Foster & Adoptive Resource Family Services (FARFS)/QPI – Diana Macis

- We have our last virtual quarterly training on virtual visitations (in Spanish) this afternoon. Facilitated by and registration through Grossmont.
- We were trying to coordinate with Casey Family on a topic but will have to wait until the first of the year. The steering committee really wanted to bring the confidentiality training back, we will revise that and have that next quarter (dates will be sent out soon).
- For QPI our steering committee is meeting on 10/21/2020 we are continuing to work on goals for 2021 and the Regions have been working on goals from this past year and how we can move forward on those once we have a more definite outcome on how to move forward with those (more to come).
- Nothing new with QPI on a National or State level. They have on a National level started their Champions Program we, here on the West Coast will know more about that within the next few weeks. They started it with Ohio and I believe they are going to be reaching out to other counties more to come on that.
- In terms of FARFS program, we have continued to do orientations and they have been full every month (we will probably be adding another one). Applications are still coming in and being processed. We have seen a little bit of an increase with our vacancy list (which is good); we were in the single digits now we are back up into the high 20's.
- We have been in discussion about what or if we will be doing our computer giveaway that we do every year (December), more to come on that event.

San Diego County Respite- Natasha on behalf of Alex Kahn

- Claims are still be worked on to be sent out and being paid.
- Reminder that originals are still needed (original Claim forms and tax forms.)
- Working on updates for the county website and will try to continue to add updates on the site.
- At this time Blue ink isn't a requirement.
- Alex Kahn- phone: # 858-614-9135 email: alex.kahn@sdcounty.ca.gov

Comprehensive Assessment & Stabilization Services (CASS) –Joise Caudillo

- Reminder to everyone that we are still accepting referrals, we currently don't have a wait list.
- We are doing are services in person if that is the preference of the family, we are also doing tele-health services.

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

- Highlight of a few of the classes we have coming up in November and December. Today (11/12/20) we presented a class on the training; “Lying, stealing and manipulation” with Allison Davis-Maxim who is a National Speaker as well as an Author.
- On November 14, 2020 we will have a training specific to kinship caregivers it is called; “We are family, unique challenges of kinship families” that will be presented by Heidi Blue.
- On November 24, 2020 we will have a class on “Child center transitions”.
- December 5, 2020 we will be presenting a class on “Parenting a sexually abused child”.
- December 12, 2020 we will be presenting for the first time “Cultural consideration hair and skin care”.
- December 15, 2020 we will be having the C-SAT class and we will be offering this class every other month.
- December 7th **Foster & Adoptive Kinship Care Education Advisory Committee Meeting** 10am-12pm, if you are not getting the notification for the meetings you can email me (Barbara Wojtach).

YMCA Kinship Support Services- Melissa Brooks

- No major updates.

YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program –Lodia Ruiz/Cecilia Rubio

- We just had our bridge convening which was on November 5, 2020 with all of our participating Bridge programs around the county.
- We have and will be continuing to advocate for the continued funding from the state for childcare vouchers.
- We have a new address: 4451 30th Street, San Diego, 92104.
- FYI: Social Workers please fill out all required fields on referrals completely.

San Diego Office of Education- Michelle Manley

- No updates, but I did receive from one of our resources an activities booklet about being in Foster Care if anyone is interested contact me. (For age group 4-12)
- michele.manley@sdcounty.ca.gov cell 310-920-3644

Adoptions- Gloria Escamilla-Huidor

- No major updates
- Kudos and Thank you to: All our Foster Care Providers, Our service providers, Diana Macis and her Team!

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists-All Regions

Central- Carmen Robles

- We have scheduled our QPI resource event for December 9, 2020 it will be from 3-5pm.

North- No Attendance

South- No Attendance

East- Colette Best

- We have scheduled our QPI resource fair for December 3, 2020.

IV. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, January 14, 2021

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

8911 Balboa Avenue San Diego CA 92123

V. ADJOURNMENT: 12:58 p.m.