

## **FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, February 11, 2021**

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, Peggy Ruefer, Natasha Garcia, Elizabeth Rosas, Josie Caudillo, Melissa Brooks, MaryAnn Paschal, Valesha Bullock, Natasha Hood, Alex Kahn, Barbara Wojtach, Isela Hernandez, Patty Boles, Kevin Hauck, Mary-Jo Meer, Steven Wells, Emma Tidmore, Veronica Miller, Lodia Ruiz, Suzanne Thompson, Martha Mackenzie, Amanda Amabile, Kim Ayala, Aisha Gonzales.

**I. Chair: Mary Ann Paschal called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.**

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

**III. Updates and Discussion:**

### **North County Foster Parent Association- Patty Boles**

- We will not be closing Straight from The Heart but currently still closed for other reasons.
- We have some brand new Dell Laptops that we will be giving away, more to come.

### **HHSA/Child Welfare Services- Valesha Bullock**

- We have a brand new board of supervisors that have joined us this year. The new Chair Nathan Fletcher, Vice Chair Nora Vargas, the other members are Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Lawson.
- As of December CDSS made the decision to have all youth that were placed in out of state placements returned to the state of California. Every county was charged to find placement here within the state of California, as they were no longer allowing out of state placements for our youths. Between Probation and CWS we had about 7 youth that have been placed appropriately.
- Lots of new Legislation that is coming on right now we are doing a lot of reviewing and just trying to make sure that we have a plan for our budget, which we anticipate being a little stretched this year.

### **San Diego Foster Parent Association- Mary Ann Paschal on behalf of Mary Jo Meer**

- We did receive a twenty thousand dollar donation from an adoptive family, which allowed us to keep our office open.
- We have a foster/adoptive home that is offering boomerang lessons for foster youth which we have about 8 youth doing that, which is free of charge to the adoptive home.
- We will possibly getting funding/donations from an organization that will provide storage to house cribs, diapers, etc.

### **Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support- Veronica Sarabia**

- Currently reviewing the Resource Parent Handbook (Spanish Version).

### **Foster Care Eligibility- Amanda on behalf of Zayra Rios/ Mai Woo**

- No other updates to report

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

- No updates.

**Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) – Elizabeth Rosas**

- Today we have 71 children at PCC, we continue to have openings for our nest families.

**Independent Living Skills (ILS)-Steven Wells**

- Our team has been discussing how we can make the best use of our time with ILS during COVID.
- If you have any questions in regards to extended foster care, independent living skills, resources, etc. you are welcome to email the centralized email address:  
CWSEFCINFO.HHSA@SDCOUNTY.CA.GOV
- Steven Wells – His cell: 619-813-7568 - PCC Intake and ESCU.
- No other updates to report.

**Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP)-Veronica Miller**

- No updates.

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

- No updates.
- Main Number for RFA 858-650-5876

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

- We have a new SR. Protective Service worker who is taking over special care rates, her name is Jennifer Doud.
- Gertrude (Trudy) Frayer from the Kids Line will be retiring next month, if you talk to her please wish her well in her retirement.
- Regarding QPI we are in the middle of our partnership with Casey Family providing the training, which we did one last month and the next one will be March 17. In short, it will be about brain mapping, more information to come with a flyer.
- We are also working with QPI/Youth Law Center on development of using a pulse survey, which will be going to resource parents on their phone. We will be able to gather important feedback from resource parents.

**San Diego County Respite- Alex Kahn**

- Update on payment status, 3 more November claims that are due to be processed, 15 December claims. We have been seeing a lot of errors on the claims and with the tax forms. For example; missing signature, missing dates, missing addresses, child name etc. Please be sure to fill out the form completely and accurately.
- 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) – Lisa and Joise**

- We have a new Spanish speaking Clinician (Jessica)
- We are still providing in-home services via in person or via Tele-Health depending on the preference of the family. There is currently no waiting list.

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

- We have been doing as many classes online as were when we were in person, all of our classes are now via ZOOM.
- All Resource parents will be receiving a physical copy of the Pink Booklet in the mail, probably within the next few weeks.
- On 2/15 we will be having 2 CSAC trainings (English and Spanish).
- We have some news classes that we will be offering, Teen suicide prevention training will be in March and for April the training will be on child and adolescent mental health.
- TIPS materials available at 8911 Balboa Office.
- We have engaged with a partnership with Scripps Health offering a training each month both in English and Spanish.

**YMCA Kinship Support Services- Melissa Brooks**

- No major updates.

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

- No Updates.

**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- Diana Macis on behalf of Gloria Escamilla-Huidor**

- No updates

**Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists-All Regions**

**Central- Isela Hernandez**

- We currently have 10 kids at PCC some of which are special needs.

**North-**

- Currently have 20 children at PCC.

**South- Belinda**

- We currently have 9 children at PCC.

**East-Colette Best**

- We have 9 children at PCC.

**IV. NEXT MEETING:**

**Thursday, February 11, 2021**

**12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**8911 Balboa Avenue San Diego CA 92123**

**V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:40 p.m.**