

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 9, 2021

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Present: Aisha Baltierrez, Michele Manley, Veronica Sarabia, Valerie Moore, Mai Woo, Josie Caudillo, MaryAnn Paschal, Isela Hernandez, Alex Kahn, Steven Wells, Emma Tidmore, Veronica Miller, Lodia Ruiz, Martha Mackenzie, Fatimah Abdullah, Alex Kahn, Zayra Rios, Erin Lininger, Daniela Murphy, Naheed Azin, Dannette Shevlin, Alicia Rogers, Desare Lewis, Brenda Jones, Patty Boles, Belinda Radovich, Brittany Alanis and Shayna Hazlett, Gloria Escamilla-Huidor, Kim Ayala, Erika Medina, Suzanne Thompson, Arleth Rubio, Shannon Jimenez

I. Chair: Mary Ann Paschal called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Minutes for 08/12/21 were approved.

III. Updates and Discussion:

San Diego County Respite- Alex Kahn

- We officially go live tomorrow (09/10/21) with our new payment vendor, where you will be able to start logging your time as a respite provider. We be on a Bi-Weekly pay period, the first paycheck will be issued in October and then after that payments will go out every other Friday. Payment will be down via direct deposit. If there is an issue that prevents a respite provider from being able to do direct deposit, please reach out to Natasha and Peggy.
- Respite Providers will still be required to submit claim forms for each pay period, we will use that to cross-reference for payments.
- The changes for the Respite program also go in place at this time, for the month of September since we are starting mid-month Resource Families will still get 34 hours for the month of September even though we started later in the month and they may have used some for the quarter already.
- Also going into effect is the dollar per hour increase for Respite Providers. There have been some question regarding taxes and refiling for 2020 and for that we are putting in place a contract with a Licensed Tax Preparer that will be made available to Respite Providers, more to come on that.

North County Foster Parent Association- Patty Boles

- We finally got the \$25 Target gift cards for the Back to School giveaway, what we are planning to do rather than having a day we fell it makes more sense to give them away during our business hours since we are open full hours now.
- We also got \$5000 for extracurricular funding which can be used for just about anything. We will be doing up to \$100 per foster child, the Foster parent will let us know what they would like to use it towards and once approved they will then pay for the event and submit receipts to be reimbursed.

HHS/Child Welfare Services- Lillian Asoera

- No updates

San Diego Foster Parent Association- Mary Jo Meer/Emma Tidmore

- Not much to update, we did order backpacks we have about 80 we have about 140 more on the way. As soon as we have all the backpacks in we will be doing a giveaway, it will be more than just backpacks included in the giveaway.

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support- Veronica Sarabia

- No updates

Foster Care Eligibility- Zayra Rios/ Mai Woo

- No updates.

Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) – Kim Ayala

- Quick update, the last few months our PHN's (Public Health Nurse) have been following up with some of the foster families with children 12-17 to let them know that they are eligible to the COVID-19 Vaccine.

Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) – Steven Wells for Elizabeth Rosas

- Currently we have 67, 18 of which are under the age of 6yrs.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP)-Veronica Miller

- No updates.

Foster Home Licensing/Resource Family Approval (RFA) – Erika Medina on behalf of Natasha Hood

- No updates.

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

- We continue to do recruitments events in the community, at this point we are planning our last quarter of the QPI training which is our Resource Winter Fair.
- We also are going to be planning what we call "road shows" we will come up with a better name for it but we will be through the lens of QPI reaching out to regional management staff to see they can schedule trainings/information sharing with staff who are mostly case management.

Independent Living Skills (ILS)-Steven Wells

- The cash cards that I mentioned at the last meeting we have finished all the verification so for any of the youth that are ages 18-20 or 21-26 those cards should be on the way quickly.

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

- Our new pink book is out for September/October. Just a few things to highlight, September is suicide awareness month so we are doing several support groups regarding suicide awareness and hosting the mental health first aid for youth.
- We have collaborated with Jody Johnston-Powell who is a national Author as well as having done trainings all of the country she has a variety of topics that she will be covering.

Comprehensive Assessment & Stabilization Services (CASS) – Josie Lewis

- Currently no wait list
- We are still working on hiring a Parent Partner, preferably someone with foster care experience so they can better support our Foster Parents.

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists-All Regions

East- Collette Best/Shannon Jimenez

- No updates.

Central- Isela Hernandez

- No updates.

South- Belinda Radovich/Britney

- We currently doing a lot of family finding and adding an MSW to our team.

North- Valerie Moore

- No attendance.

North Central-Naheed Azin

- No attendance.

YMCA Kinship Support Services- Suzanne Thompson

- No updates.

YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program – Lodia Ruiz

- We do have a little bit of a waitlist now.

YMCA Long Term Subsidy Program-Cecilia Rubio

- We received more money for our CAP program in our alternative payment program for long term subsidies care; please let resource families know that if they do get the call for the program to please take the services.

San Diego Office of Education- No one present

- No updates

Adoptions-Gloria Escamilla-Huidor/Fatimah Abdullah

- No major updates.

IV. NEXT MEETING:

PLEASE NOTE, THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS FOR THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

Thursday, October 14, 2022

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:06pm