

## **FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, February 10, 2022**

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Present:** Aisha Baltierrez, Veronica Sarabia, Valerie Moore, Mai Woo, Josie Caudillo, MaryAnn Paschal, Isela Hernandez, Steven Wells, Emma Tidmore, Veronica Miller, Lodia Ruiz, Mary Mackenzie, Diana Macis, Zayra Rios, Erin Lininger, Daniela Murphy, Dannette Shevlin, Alicia Rogers, Desare Lewis, Patty Boles, Fatimah Abdullah Kim Ayala, Arleth Rubio, Pamela Thomas, Omar Avila, Sarah Glass, Kimberly Washington, Daniel Bernal, MaryJo Meer, Cecilia Rubio, Melissa Brooks, Kim Ayala, Valesha Bullock, Valerie Tovar, Lillian Asoera, Natasha Garcia, Karen Mulcahey, Kania Webster, Michele Manley

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

**II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** Minutes for 1/13/22 approved.

**III. Updates and Discussion:**

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

- We have a board letter that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors in March and it is just letting you, as Resource Parents know that our contract with CDSS has expired. We have been working on a Board Letter to continue that practice, that way we can continue working with CDSS to be our legal rep. in the appeals process. No major changes on the Resource Parent end.

### **San Diego County Respite- Alex Kahn**

- No updates

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

- We have official let go of our large training room, which will save us about \$1400 monthly. We do still have two other training room available that are equipped with WIFI to support any ongoing trainings.
- We recently had our bike giveaway, which out of 91 we have 84 left that includes scooters and skateboards.

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

- We had a very successful giveaway; we do still have a few boxes of items leftover.
- We are also revamping the office and doing “Welcome Bags” the bags will be broken down by age group; we have 13-18yrs old and another bag for the younger age groups.

### **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**

- No updates with hiring new staff but I will be going on Maternity Leave as of today (2/10/22). Claire and Joselyn will be covering for me if they are available to attend the meetings in my absences.

**Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) - Steven Wells on Behalf of Elizabeth Rosas**

- Currently as of today we have 61 youths, we have noticed a consistent reduction in our population. If you know of anyone who has room for our kids in their homes, please refer them to ESU 858-874-1140.

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

- No updates, we continue to provide 100% Telehealth.

**Foster Home Licensing/Resource Family Approval (RFA) – Diana Macis on behalf of Natasha Hood**

- No updates.

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

- We are starting the planning of our next QPI quarterly that will be scheduled sometime at the beginning of March. The topic will be on “Family First: Service Prevention Act”. We are encouraging Caregivers and Social Workers to attend that training; there will be two sessions, one in English and in Spanish. The QPI National conference announced their theme last week which is: “Building the Movement Together: Excellent Parenting for Every Child, everyday” that virtual conference is set to be on May 24<sup>th</sup>- May 26<sup>th</sup>. We have not received any information on registration and enrollment but as soon as that becomes available, we will get that information out to everyone.
- In regards to Options Training, for those Caregivers who are interested in the trainings please feel free to reach out to Graciela Soto ([858-650-5530](tel:858-650-5530)/[Graciela.Soto@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Graciela.Soto@sdcounty.ca.gov)) there will be a training that starts in March.

**Independent Living Skills (ILS) - Daniel Bernal**

- In regards to the upcoming graduation, we are still adding to that list so please send the names of the graduates over to their assigned Social Worker.

**Comprehensive Assessment & Stabilization Services (CASS) – Diana Macis on behalf of Lisa Castagnola**

- The new Co-Director is: Stacey Rouche
- There has been an influx of referrals but they have been able to maintain a turnaround with having a Therapist assigned.

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

- Some workshops that we have coming up in February and March that I would like to highlight, C-SEC class will be 2/16 and as you know C-SEC is now a requirement for all Resource Parents to take and registration is open for that class. We also have “Core Teen”, which starts next week as well and this is a great course for new or seasoned Resource Parent who would like to care for older children.
- The Pink Book for March/April will be going out in the mail soon.
- Another class that I would like to highlight will be with Dr. Pradeep Gidwani who is the Medical Director at the American Academy of Pediatrics; he will be doing a series of workshops on “Understanding the Importance of Early Childhood Development”. Please let your staff and Resource Parents know about this training.

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

- We no longer have a waitlist for our navigation and referral process.
- Reminder to Resource Families to take the call for long term subsidies care.

**YMCA Kinship Support Services- Melissa Brooks**

- No updates.

**San Diego Office of Education- Michelle Manley**

- We now have drivers (60 additional) for our transportation program, just let one of the educational liaisons know and they will submit a referral to our program.

**Adoptions-Fatimah Abdullah**

- No major updates for Adoptions.

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

**East- Stephanie on behalf of Collette Best/Shannon Jimenez**

- No attendance.

**Central- Isela Hernandez**

- No updates.

**South- Brittany Alanis**

- Thank you to all Resource Parents for opening their homes.

**North- Valerie Moore**

- We currently have 13 kids at PCC.

**North Central- Karen Mulcahey**

- We currently have very low population at PCC
- Naheed has returned from maternity leave.

**IV. NEXT MEETING:**  
**Thursday, April 14, 2022**  
**12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**  
**Via Zoom**

**V. ADJOURNMENT: 12:52pm**