

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, June 9, 2022

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Present: Elizabeth Rosas, Barbara Wojtach, Suzanne Thompson, Claire-Lynch-Dwight, Darryl Chairez, Veronica Miller, Natasha Hood, Omar Avila, Veronica Sarabia, Lisa Castagnola, Isela Hernandez, Karen Prosek, Christy Mader, Fatimah Abdullah, Kimberly Washington, Stacy Rauch, Arleth Rubio, Danette Shevlin, Zayra Rios, Emma Tidmore, Daniela Murphy, Cecilia Rubio, Diana Macis, Angela Wood, Lerone Jenkins, Eunice Sifuentes, Naheed Azim, Collette Best, Lilian Nyguen, Mai Woo, Patty Boles and Reem Radwan

I. Chair: Diana Macis called the meeting to order at 12:05pm

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Minutes for 4/14/2022 are approved

III. Updates and Discussion:

HHSA/Child Welfare Services - Diana Macis for Lillian Asoera

- No updates, other than Budget Hearings are occurring this week.

San Diego County Respite- Diana Macis on behalf of Alex Kahn –

- No updates

North County Foster Parent Association – Patty Boles

- We have a ton of items still. We have new bikes with helmets, they are for ages 2- 4 year and 6-8 years old. We have about 40 bikes. We can give to children who have been former youth who have adopted as well.
- Also have a ton of books from Barnes and Noble, we got permission to give those to all children who are foster/adopted.
- Very connected with Restoration 225 (R225), they are coming to do another service project. R225 let us know to reach out to them if we hear of any families in need to let them know, as they may be able to provide any support/help.
- We have extracurricular funding will send an email soon, usually do \$100 each kid and Graduation Target GC
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San Diego Foster Parent Association - Diana Macis for MaryJo Meer

- No updates, other than they hope to have a giveaway next month and a flyer will go out.

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support - Veronica Sarabia

- No updates

Foster Care Eligibility - Mai Woo

No updates, just a reminder the expected parents payments are still going out, so if there are any youth in third trimester have them please reach out to their social worker to let them know. Social Workers can reach out to Foster Care Eligibility with any questions.

Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) – Claire Lynch-Dwight

- We now can access California Immunization registry. We used to have access to San Diego immunizations registry, which is similar. Reminding foster parents if they need any vaccine records or the yellow or blue card for schools, you may contact PHN and they can get you one.

Polinsky Children’s Center (PCC) – Elizabeth Rosas

- Our population is pretty low, we have 41 youth,
- We are in full swing with summer activities. The recreational therapist is making sure kids have outings, especially music therapy and pool is opening this week.
- NEST program going strong.
- We are also under construction, sprucing up our cottages and campus.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP) - Veronica Miller

- No updates
- Still doing services remote
- Planning to build DSEP 3.0 and preparing to go back in the filed not 100% though
- Meet with County in July, so hopefully more updates after that

Resource Family Approval (RFA) – Natasha Hood

- No updates

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

- In honor of National Foster Care Month in May, we hosted two QPI Resource Parent Appreciation events. The event in May. South had 130 attendees. North had 86 attendees. Numbers include resource parents and staff. Recipient of Debbie Stoltz award was MaryAnn Paschal.
- Board of Supervisors did a Proclamation for all Resource Parents and a few of them were present to accept it.
- MaryJo Meer was profiled with her two foster sons in a story from Promises2kids.
- We did a media campaign during the month of May thru County Communications.
- Continue to do Recruitment booths and some of the upcoming ones are SheFest, PRIDE and Juneteenth event.
- Carole Shauffer coming to San Diego to discuss Champion Program.
- Planning QPI Road Shows and Resource Fair/Ice Cream Social events.

Independent Living Skills (ILS) - Diana Macis for Daniel Bernal

- Preparing for Graduation on 6/20. Graduates will be receiving a letter from Nick Macchione, Kim Giardina and Nathan Fletcher.

Comprehensive Assessment & Stabilization Services (CASS) – Stacy Rauch

No updates. No wait list currently. one clinician came back and one had to leave.

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

- In the midst of May/June schedule, just formalized July/August schedule- Pink book to come out end of June/beginning of July.
- We have been doing in-person outdoor venue- response not that great attendance but good feedback in terms of enjoyed connecting with other resource parents. Will have another in-person training next Tuesday. Breakfast and lunch served. “In Their Shoes- Parenting with Empathy and Positive Discipline” is name of training.
- On the 13th, guest speaker Atohsa Kelly-Harris talking about transitioning children between placements. Atohsa is the National Director of Family Advocacy. Training is 11:00am-2:00pm, due to time difference in Houston.
- Charlie Appelstein is doing Part 2 of his training “No Such Thing As A Bad Kid” This is a strength based verbal interventions on June 30th from 3:00pm-6:00pm.
- We have 2 trainers from Orange County doing a Trust Based Relational Intervention-attachment based training out of Texas Christian University-4 session training which starts tonight.
- All classes on website. You can register there or call 1-800-200-1222 or www.fakce.org

YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program – Cecilia Rubio-Voucher side

- Keep in mind end of Fiscal year coming up end of June. Foster parents will need to submit attendance sheets. Please submit by 7/5/22. Submit any outstanding sheets as well.

YMCA Kinship Support Services - Suzanne Thompson

- Two new workers who are navigators and a new intern navigator.
- Great coming back in May event -Partnering with Grossmont & Grandparents Raising Grandparents(GRG) event. The event at Adobe Falls was wonderful with a nice turnout, the GRG folks brought in a therapy horticulturist as well as bags for families to create their own garden. Another even this Saturday at Safari Park and Zoo. Another event in South later this month.
- Up and running and have been able to assign families navigators as no waitlist.

San Diego Office of Education - Michelle Manley

- No updates

Promises2Kids - Christy Mader

- Camp Connect-Padre Game this Saturday.
- Gearing up for Summer Camp- youth need to have a doctor's note. Looking for volunteers for camp which is Aug 4th-7th. Adopted youth eligible if they have a dependent sibling.
- Guardian Scholar is accepting applications.
- Something Special Funds reset July 1st.

Adoptions - Fatimah Abdullah

- No major updates, promoting summer camp with our foster youth and youth who have been adopted as well.

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists - All Regions

East- Collette Best

- Attended QPI Appreciation Events & had workers attend National Conference.
- Getting ready for summer and helping caregivers with summer day camps.

Central-Isela Hernandez

- Very active placements, children coming into custody especially store front, the Teens.
- Attended QPI Appreciation event and glad to see MaryAnn get Debbie Stolz and to see Debbie's family there- very touching.
- SAY San Diego Program came to QPI meeting to talk about impact of cigarette's and drugs.

South-Not Present

North-Martha Mackenzie

- Attended QPI Appreciation event, which was nice to see resource parents & connect.
- We have older kids at PCC, so please reach out if interested.
- We did a small training on LOC & FURS.

North Central- Naheed Azim

- Busy engaging in QPI comfort calls to stabilize placements.
- We have older kids at PCC, so please call if interested.
- Attended QPI Appreciation event.

Roundtable

- Reem Radwan- shared that they are utilizing FURS a lot- which is a 24 hour service to help stabilize placements/crisis driven for resource parents.

IV. ADJOURNMENT: 12:44pm

V. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, August 11, 2022
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Via Zoom