

## **FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, October 13, 2022**

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

**Present:** Maryann Paschal, Diana Macis, Mary Jo Meer, Casey Mackereth, Nikki Kelsay, Delona King, Emma Tidmore, Dannette Shevlin, Veronica Sarabia, Barbara Wojtach, Patty Boles, Sarah Glass, Isela Hernandez, Linda Carter, Darryl Chairez, Rhonda Oliver, Stephanie Carter, Brenda, Brittany Alanis, Zayra Rios, Natasha Hood, Chad Lowndes, Karen Prosek, Fatima Abdullah, Natasha Garcia, Veronica Corona, Naheed Azim, Erin Lininger, Veronica Miller, Steven Wells, Daniel Bernal, Valerie Moore, Omar Avila, Hiyab Tesfu, Daniela Solano Murphy, Jeanna Bruce, Monica Torres, Tiffanie Abrajano, Kania Webster, Eunice Sifuentes, Belinda, Elizabeth Rosas, Michele Manley, Cecilia Rubio, Flor Beyer, Natasha Hood, Collette Best,

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

**II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** Minutes for

**III. Updates and Discussion:**

- Presentation by Casey Mackereth, Nicole Kelsey, Delona King, and MaryAnn Paschal:
  - County Self-Assessment (CSA)
  - The Federal Child & Family Services Review (CFSR)
  - California Child and Family Services Review ( C-CFSR)

**HHSA/Child Welfare Services- Lillian Asoera**

- No updates

**San Diego County Respite- Natasha Garcia**

- No updates
- Introduced a new staff Hiyab Tesfu new Respite Coordinator

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

- Toy drive coming up but scared because we have gotten donations from Toys for Tots for 25 years, but cannot get communication from them. We do have toys and will be doing a drive. If anyone has any leads for anybody with toys let us know.
- We have a volunteer Heather experienced with things in the Business community to help us create awareness of what we do and whom we serve; we have had almost a million views.
- An idea is to have a day that recruiter/staff are at Straight from Heart to talk to community members about becoming a resource parent.
- A shout out to churches for all their help in coming here, they coming Saturday especially R225 who has helped connect churches to us.

**San Diego Foster Parent Association- Mary Jo Meer**

- The office was flooded two times, they are back to normal
- We gave bikes and other items for the picnic
- they have Welcome bags and they will like to share
- They have gifts cards, Birthday Club gifts cards, and for extracurricular activities. You call the office; fill out the forms or email.
- They don't have a date for toy giveaway as they are not sure if they are getting any toys this year

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

- One update they send out to all the placement Units handbook Grandparents raising Grandchildren relative child care from 211
- 211 information on the web: <https://211sandiego.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Handbook-for-Grandparents-Raising-Grandchildren-and-Other-Relative-Caregivers-2022175962.pdf>

### **Foster Care Eligibility- Zayra Rios**

- No updates
- They are still having issues with cashing checks at the Banks
- If the County can send a letter out to all foster parents

### **Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) – Tiffanie Abrajo**

- No updates

### **Polinsky Children's Center (PCC) – Steven Wells**

- Our populations is under 28 - one children under the age of 6.
- Placement units are doing great work
- Have sibling sets
- 28 youth needing a home
- Special needs Youth
- Offside school for our kids
- Please contact me at [Steven.Wells@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Steven.Wells@sdcounty.ca.gov).

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

- DSEP out in the field doing home visits
- See family and children's in person
- Will remain hybrid
- We also are working with CWS in using there Office space, with families that want to meet in person not at home that is another option.

### **Resource Family Approval (RFA) – Natasha Hood**

- Shared that she attend the meeting Grandparents raising Grandchildren's, they also have hard copies of the handbooks in English only.
- They would like to share both the Handbook and a Cookbook. The Cookbook is in Spanish/English as well.

- Contact RFA worker or Granted worker if you will like to get both handbook and Cookbook

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

- Family Picnic September 25 we had 600 attendees, kudos to FARFS Team
- Next big event National Adoption day on November 4, Adding 10 families to our calendar for that day, with a total 30 new families this year with lite Lunch/Activities, in honor National Adoption Month that is in November.
- December 7<sup>th</sup> is the Annual computer giveaway Partnership with Futures Foundation they refurbish our County computers to give way to our families.
- QPI Champions we have about 12 Champions going there first Co-Ord first Conference last month in Reno.
- New highlights for the new transaction to QPI
- Working in QPI Resource Fair

### **Independent Living Skills (ILS) – Daniel Bernal**

- New ILS worker his name is Delay getting cases
- Foster Youth Mentor program they are taking new applications year around is good Resource for our Youth

### **Comprehensive Assessment & Stabilization Services (CASS) – Lisa Castagnola**

- No attendance

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

- Highlight a few classes that are coming up. They are free for resource parents, social workers, community members working with foster youth and families
- Events:
  - 10/15-Hair Love Caring for Multi-ethnic Hair - a hands on hands Class
    - 9:00am to 3:30pm- Held in person at Balboa
    - Presenters will be Maryann/Social Worker Donna
    - Snacks and Lunch will be served
    - We need more people to register
    - Great opportunity for resource parents that are struggling with their kids hair
  - 11/12 – Follow-up Class Hair Love Caring for Multi-Ethnic Hair - hands on hands Class
    - (3Hours Class) Held in person in Polinsky Pavilion
    - In person Class TIPS in English at Balboa
  - 10/20- Zoom Class- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
    - 3:00pm to 6:00pm
    - Dr. Campo and Dr. Jones

- Please register on website and also refer resource parents, social workers, or professionals that work
- Training Series:
  - Partnering Organization Lia's Pine tree contract with the State Department Social Services
  - Trauma Informed Nutrition Training for Resource parents (3 Sections)
    - Two Class in Zoom- That will be on November 01- December 7
    - In person event -Grossmont College on November 17, from 6-9pm
    - Any resource parents that come to class and complete evaluation pre-test /post-test an interview are available to earn Lia's Pine tree \$90.00 Amazon gift cards and give a feedback.
  - 11/29 – Zoom Class: Foster Motivation Introducing Motivation interviewing
    - Tuesday night from 6-9pm
    - Jamie Matranga- Social Worker/ Child Welfare Resource Parent through Orange County former Foster Youth
  - 12/6 – Collaborating with San Diego Youth Services
    - Sue Bade she is Resource Parent current lives in North Carolina
    - Presenting Class Impact of Adoptions Cross stages of Development
    - Tuesday 9am-1:30pm
  - 12/13 – The Art of Self Care
    - Katherine Lisson Meditation Teacher
    - In-person event in Handlery Hotel
    - Breakfast /Lunch will be provided
  - 12/2– Child Center Transitions
    - Friday from 6:00-9:00pm
    - Presenters' will be MaryAnn/Social Worker Nicole Espinosa
    - Multiple Transition classes will be done in the support group
    - Register in to website at FKCE.org

### **YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program – Cecilia Rubio-Darryl Chairez**

- Bridge referrals can be expedited
- For the long-term subsidy care program they don't need to provide proof of income

### **YMCA Kinship Support Services**

- No attendance

### **San Diego Office of Education**

- No attendance

### **Promises2Kids**

- No attendance

### **Adoptions- Fatimah Abdullah**

- Adoption finalizations are up
- We were available to get added few extra court days

- Historical 51 finalizing adoption for month of September in backlog

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

#### **East- Stephanie Carter**

- We all enjoy QPI Picnic in September
- QPI Meetings starting in October 25, 2022 from 9:30 to 11:30 Speaker /Mentors for QPI Maryann Paschal and Maxwell de la Cruz Educational Liaison speaking in RFA QPI class

#### **Central- Veronica Corona**

- We are short staffed
- QPI Calls and virtual meeting
- We are very thankful to the Bridge Program and Respite Program presented yesterday at QPI meeting, they had valuable information for our resource parents
- Still have few children at PCC, but they are mostly teenagers
- Regional Center Clients they have high needs still working finding new homes
- We wanted to thank North Central Placement Unit for supporting and helping placing teenagers in our area.

#### **South- Belinda Radovich**

- No updates
- Working hard keep children out Polinsky we current have one to provided home to 11year old boy
- QPI communities topic that are in radar to share with our resource parents are Special Care Rate /Mobile Crises team, presenting on placement preservation resources.
- Also South placement has a Senior PSW- Monica Torres
- South placement number is 619-585-5127

#### **North- Valerie Moore**

- They are under way with QPI workers calling families once they have placement and supporting needs/ questions.
- 6 kids in Polinsky
- One being released and another one going with family relative
- 2 sibling boy 12, girl 10
- Two single boys 11 year/6 years
- Reach out to Flor in North Placement unit (760) 450-4952

#### **North Central- Naheed Azim**

- They were happy to host snow cone booth for the picnic on September 25, they made like around 600 snow cones.
- QPI weekly calls with our Resource Parents
- Working change of Placement

- Transitions into Trauma Informed for the Kids/ Resources Parents
- Currently have 2 Kids in Polinsky set of Sibling 2,10 years old find out he has Autism Spectrum disorder
- Reach out to Naheed.Azim@sdcounty.ca.gov

#### **Roundtable**

- MaryJo Meer, Promises Program accepting youth that runs from ages 18 -26 years old Culture groups Latin mix, Blacks, LGBTQ, Parenting2 Contact information: George Promises2kids - [George@promise2Kids.org](mailto:George@promise2Kids.org)

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT: 1:44pm**

#### **V. NEXT MEETING:**

**Thursday, November 10, 2022**

**12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Via Zoom**