

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 12, 2021

ZOOM Conference Call

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Present: Aisha Gonzales, 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

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

II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes: Minutes for 07/08/21 were approved, with correction to wording for Mai's last report out.

III. Updates and Discussion:

San Diego County Respite- Alex Kahn

- Update for Respite, we have been working with our payment vendor to start the process of moving over into our new respite format. We have provided them with a lot of information; including all of the 1099 that we have, all of respite providers so that they can put them into the system. We have a meeting with them on Monday (8/16/21) to start talking about the training process for our Respite providers so that we can start moving them into W2 status as well as how to enter information into the time keeping system that they will be using.
- We will be going live with that towards the end of this month and what that means is you will be to continue to use your hours up until our "Go Live" date and at the beginning of September families will get a new set of hours (34) for that month. We are preparing an email that we will be sending out to all respite providers so they are aware of the changes and information on the training and what that will look like and how to get set up for that.
- We are on the agenda for QPI; there will be 4 sessions that will talk about the changes to the respite program. We have our updated policy which will be posted soon so all of our Social Worker staff are aware of all of the changes and can share that information with all of our Resource Families who use the Respite program and the updates will also be posted to our website.

North County Foster Parent Association- Patty Boles

- Exciting things happening; we are open full hours again, we are about to do a giveaway (which an email will go out with those details). We will be doing a school themed drive-by for a \$25 Target gift cards and a couple of other items: notebooks, pencils, pens etc.
- Another update for this week was I got to meet with Rady's on a few issues, one of which was; that children who were adopted via foster care, Adoption was put in the diagnostic

sheets and in “Problem List” field, which I didn’t feel belonged there it should be placed in “History” field.

HHSA/Child Welfare Services- Lillian Asoera

- No updates

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

- We did receive a donation for back to school supplies and we were able to purchase over 200 Jan-Sport backpacks that will be filled with school supplies and the \$25 Target gift card. The date on the handout is still in the works.

Child Welfare Services Policy & Program Support- Veronica Sarabia

- No updates

Foster Care Eligibility- Zayra Rios/ Mai Woo

- No updates in regards to policy.
- Last month we went over the COLA for Foster care, the final ACL did come out and it is 2.11% that should have already gone out for July and the other part to that is for clothing which you should start to see that come out either the \$106 of annual part or the Board of Supervisors which is \$100. Depending on how long the child has been in your home the may get one or the other. That will be going out this month (August).

Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) – Kim Ayala

- We have hired a lot of new staff; Danielle Deana PHN for probation she started 7/31, John Bonner PHN for North Island region, Chris Ward PHN for Central region.

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

- Currently we have 63, any help to get youth out would be appreciated.

Developmental Screening & Enhancement Program (DSEP)-Veronica Miller

- At the beginning of COVID we were giving the option to do the screening over telephone or tele-health however, we are really encouraging our staff to implement screening via tele-health it has been more effective for us and we are able to see the children on ZOOM.
- We now have 4 Behavioral Specialist, 2 Bilingual and 2 English speaking.

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

- Regarding RFA on the granted side, as you may know that reassessments for the Approved homes has changed from annually to bi-Annually.
- We have also been doing annual calls to our caregivers doing check-ins to see if anything has changed in the household composition and how things are going.

**Foster & Adoptive Resource Family Services (FARFS)/Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)-
Arleth Rubio on behalf of Diana Macis**

- Upcoming QPI trainings are posted in the chat, we are encouraging Caregivers and Social workers to attend the trainings.

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.

Independent Living Skills (ILS)-Steven Wells

- I wanted to share and make sure everyone was aware of the Therapeutic Recreation Services program that is through the City of San Diego Parks and Rec. Which are rec services that are designed around individuals who may have different abilities whether it be physical or mental health related. There are some services that are offered at either no to little cost.
- ILS is in the process of issuing what we call “Cash Cards” to our youth who are EFC eligible.
- Transitional housing youth we do have some additional services in our THP programs that provides support for youth that maybe experiencing challenges with; mental health, substance abuse and Parenting or prenatal and Housing.

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

- No attendance.

Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists-All Regions

East- Collette Best

- 15 kids at PCC.

Central- Isela Hernandez

- We have 5 teens at PCC

South- Belinda Radovich

- We currently have 7 (aged 1yr-12yr old) children at PCC

North- Valerie Moore

- Currently have 13 children at PCC, a lot of teenagers.

North Central-Naheed Azin

- We have a new QPI Social Worker ambassador her name is Karen Mulcahey.
- We are in need of a resource home that has the capacity to welcome into their home sibling groups.

YMCA Kinship Support Services- Suzanne Thompson

- No updates

YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program – Cecilia Rubio on behalf of Lodia Ruiz

- No updates, just and reminder that the bridge program is only taking Licensed Child care providers at this time.

YMCA Long Term Subsidy Program-Cecilia Rubio

- The CEL (Centralized Eligibility List) has moved to a new system is called ‘Care Linked’

San Diego Office of Education- No one present

- No updates

Adoptions-Gloria Escamilla-Huidor/Fatimah Abdullah

- No major updates

IV. NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, September 9, 2021

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

V. ADJOURNMENT: 1:06pm