

## **FOSTER CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

8911 Balboa Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123, Magnolia Room

**12:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

**Present:** Amanda Amabile, Debbie Boles, Miriam Curiel, Jessica Morales, Belinda Radovich, Mitsuru Ramirez, Veronica Sarabia, Jennifer Zapata, Gloria Escamilla-Huidor, Delona King, Brenda Jones, Da' Shaun, Payne, Ivette Corrales, Dannette Shevlin, Juliana Vega, Melissa Brooks, Rebecca Corbett, Sergio Cayetano, Joanna Smith, Robin Thompson

**I. Gloria Escamilla-Huidor called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.** All in attendance made introductions.

**II. Approval of Agenda/Minutes:** The August 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

### **III. Updates and Discussion:**

#### **Straight From The Heart – Gloria Escamilla-Huidor for Martha Tavares**

- Straight from the heart is very busy lately. Doing a lot of mentoring with resource parents. Quite a bit of relatives have been coming in for kid packs.
- Talking to organizations who are interested in donating for kids packs because supply is running low.

#### **HHSA, Centralized CWS Operations – Gloria Escamilla-Huidor for Valesha Bullock**

- No updates

#### **Resource Parent/Mentor – Brenda Jones**

- Resource Family Picnic is October 14, 2018, at Admiral Baker Field. Flyers were mailed to parents with RSVP info. Must call kids line to RSVP 877-792-5437 by October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

#### **HHSA/ CWS Policy and Program Support – Veronica Sarabia**

- No new up-dates

#### **HHSA, CWS Foster Care Eligibility – Gloria Escamilla- Huidor for Maria Martinez**

- Eligibility is on track with issuing clothing allowances and they are on track to complete issuing all payments by the end of month.

#### **HHSA, CWS FARFS – Miriam Curiel for Diana Macias**

- QPI regional ice cream socials are under way and going well.
- Resource Family Picnic coming soon, passed out picnic flyers.

#### **HHSA, CWS Polinsky Children Center (PCC) – Robin Thompson**

- Population is 33. NEST is up and running with 21 homes with 15 children placed. Need more NEST families to reach 50 beds.
- Training on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Polinsky Pavilion Room, 8:30am-4:30pm
- Spread the word for foster parents to become a NEST family and also get 8 hours of training.

#### **Grossmont College Foster & Adoptive Kinship Care Education Program (FAKCE) — Juliana Vega for Barbara Wojtach**

- Four upcoming classes (English & Spanish Youth Mental Health First Aid; Navigating Special Education and Understanding the Secret Language of IEPs; Cultural Considerations for Hair & Skin Care for Multi-Ethnic Children; to be held in September and October 2018.(flyers provided)

- September is Mental Health Awareness Month.

**HHSA, CWS Foster Home Licensing/ Resource Family Approval (FHL/RFA) – Gloria Escamilla-Huidor for Wendy Curiel**

- Reminder that the RFA Statewide convening is set for October 15-16. San Diego and all other counties will be attending and learning from each other about what is working well.
- Two bills SB 1083, which focuses on Resource Family Approval and AB1930 on Foster Care were passed.
- Deadline extended to 12/31/2020 for converting licensed families and relative homes. Agency will be notifying caregivers by July 2019 of changes.
- Vertical ERFA team has approved some families within the 90 days.
- Family Permanency Evaluation working hard to approve families that have been in process for a while.
- Families with emergency/compelling reason placement prior to approval are getting interim funding.
- Working on having someone from policy come to present at next month's meeting on Child and Family Team Meetings and answer any questions.

**HHSA, CWS Foster and Adoptive Resource Family Services (FARFS) – Miriam Curiel for Margo Fudge**

- No updates

**HHSA, Independent Living Skills (ILS) – Amanda Amabile**

- Reminder about the graduation list. We will be sending out requests at the beginning of October.

**Maxim Respite Care – Sergio Cayetano for Breanna Davila**

- Should see an increase in respite referrals with the Holidays coming in. Asking all Social Workers and families to continue good communication.

**Comprehensive Assessment and Stabilization Services (CASS) – Jennifer Zapata**

- We have no waitlist.

**HHSA, CWS Placement Support – Miriam Curiel**

- Christine Rosas DiMaggio retired end of August 2018. Currently looking to fill this Options program social worker position. Job posting went out and should end this Friday 9/14/2018 - will be interviewing soon.

**HHSA, Child Welfare Services Placement Specialists – All Regions**

**South Region – Belinda Radovich**

- QPI Ice Cream Social next Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 1:00-3:00PM
- Any Foster Parents interested in having children should contact Robin Thompson at (858) 874-1140

**Central Region – Joanna Smith for Donna Alexander**

- We had our Ice Cream Social on September 12, 2018, 125 people attended.

**North Region – Mitsuru Ramirez**

- Ice Cream Social is scheduled on Wednesday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 10:00-12:00pm
- Onslaught of teens coming in possibly due to the upcoming holidays.
- Working with RFA units and Polinsky to manage the population.
- Green Oak Ranch resource for children that cannot find homes.

**Probation Department – Delona King**

- Frank Andrade will be taking over title IV-E project and stepping away from RFA. Delona King will be

taking over placement unit.

- Participating in forums with CWS to try to find families that can care for probation youth.
- Having caregiver events. The first one was in June 2018. The next one is November 1, 2018 and is being held at Phil's BBQ at the event center from 5:15PM until the end of the football game. Contact Delona to RSVP at 858-694-4213.

**YMCA Kinship Support Services – Melissa Brooks/ Rebecca Corbett**

- No waitlist at this time.
- Currently trying to fill three positions.

**YMCA Emergency Child Care Bridge Program – Debbie Boles**

- As of this morning, we have 34 families that have been through navigation and are receiving vouchers.
- Contact Lodia Ruiz at lruiz@ymca.org if you want the Bridge Program to participate in future events.

**Roundtable**

**HHSA, CWS Polinsky Children Center (PCC) – Robin Thompson**

- NEST support groups are starting September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and will be held the fourth Wednesday of every month (except for December) and will be at Polinsky in room 5 from 5:30-8:00PM.

**Maxim Respite Care – Sergio Cayetano for Breanna Davila**

- For Emergency request that are longer than their allotted 50 hours, contact Maxim. There may be a change in personnel for these situations.

**IV. NEXT MEETING:**

**Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**8911 Balboa Avenue San Diego CA 92123**

*(Magnolia Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor)*

**V. ADJOURNMENT: 12:40 p.m.**