

**CHILD WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FRIDAY JUNE 7, 2013  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Jake Carmi, Jean Mcleer, Nancy Magnall, Gail Barber, George Belitsos, Julie Heiderscheit; Jim Hennessey, Wendy Rickman, Ann Gruenwald (phone).

**Members Absent:** Chris Secrist, Edwin Daye, Julie Mann Phillips, Rep. Mary Mascher, Sen. Amanda Ragan, Jerry Foxhoven, Denise Moore, Sen. Amy Sinclair, Ron Stehl, Susan Walkup

**Visitors present:**

Amber DeSmet-LSA  
Kara Lynn Regula- DHS  
Kristie Oliver-Coalition

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for March 8, 2013 stand approved as written.

**Children's Justice Summit Update:**

Gail Barber gave a brief update on the Children's Justice Summit. The summit will be held in the conference center at Prairie Meadows on September 25<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

The key note speakers for the conference will be:

- Nancy Young of the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare. Nancy will speak on child welfare and substance abuse issues and the impact on families. Nancy will be the morning speaker for the first day of the conference
- Ira Chasnoff is with The Children's Triangle, Chicago. He will speak on the impact on children of substance abuse in the family. Ira will be the afternoon key note speaker for the first day of the conference.

- Gary Spangler of Jim Casey Youth Opportunity will be the morning key note speaker for the second day of the conference. Gary will speak about ways to assist our youth to transition successfully into adulthood.

The afternoon speaker for the second day has not yet been confirmed.

After the key note speakers there will be breakout sessions. The purpose of the conference is to take a look at the impact of substance abuse on families. The first day we will take a look at what we learn through family treatment court that can be applied. The second day will be focused on youth and how we can connect the youth to their families or to their essential support people and to also take a look at ways that we can help them prepare for adulthood.

In the past they have always sent the invitations to the summit through the districts, this time they would like to expand the number of people that they reach and would possibly like to attend. Invitations could possibly be sent through the Coalition and any other groups that would have contact with people interested in the summit.

There will not be a registration fee for the conference. CEU's and CLE's will be available at the summit.

**Children's Justice Update:**

Judge Owens of the Wapello County courts was awarded leader of the year for the National Drug Court Association.

**Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR):**

Kara Lynn Regula is the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and the Title IV-B coordinator for the State of Iowa.

Kara Lynn referred to the hand out entitled Title IV-B Child and Family Service Plan, Annual Progress and Services Report. This is a report has been put together for the Federal Child & Family Services review. Kara Lynn discussed collaboration, since many of the members of CWAC are from different agencies and are on different committees, we are asking for collaboration on the five year service plan which will be due next year in June. This is a review of the State of Iowa's Child Welfare system and where we are according to the federal Child and Family system requirements. We have established a strategic plan of what we would like to focus on as a state over a five year time frame and what improvements we are going to make to our system.

In a discussion with our Federal partners they stressed the use of data, and as a state we should be looking at the data, what it is telling us and where we should be improving our system.

Kristie Oliver of the Coalition suggested possibly involving the Children's Mental Health Group and Magellan with the children's integrated health plan. Gail suggested work groups and expanding outside of CWAC to Attorney's etc., since CWAC covers a rather small group, and also suggested we look at the partnership with the family courts.

Kara asked if there was any specific feedback that anyone would like to give today. George asked about Independent living, he would like to see more about the PAL program, the aftercare program can provide you with a wealth of data on the PAL program.

### **Legislative and Budget Update:**

- **Budget:**

Wendy Rickman gave an update on the budget. The entire budget was pretty much consistent with a few exceptions. There was an increase in provider rates, and the adjustments have been made.

The approp's bill had some wording changes such as, that providers will only use the increase to support the line staff and activities and not to support the administrative staff.

There are some changes in the juvenile court section covering detention beds. Detention beds have been capped at the level they are currently at, approx. 252 beds.

The department is working on 2015 budget and most of the changes for the department will be with the Medicaid expansion, with the affordable care act we are expecting 150,000 new members.

Mental Health is currently having a discussion with the county and state as to how resources need to flow and at what rate people need to payback Medicaid. Pay attention to the mental health section in the budget book, it will show how it all works out.

- **Legislation:**

There were two pieces of primary legislation that were passed.

- The first was the County Attorney bill. This bill states that the County Attorneys no longer represent DHS in court cases. There was a compromise reached between the department and the Governor's office. The compromise is that the County Attorneys represent the state and DHS is the state.
- The second legislation that passed was the Differential Response (DR). Wendy went over two Differential Response diagrams (see attached). The first one explains the DR process. The second one shows the communication plan.

**Future Meeting Dates:**

September 6, 2013

Location: TBD

Adjourned 3:14 pm

Lori VandeWall

Secretary

6-12-13