

**CHILD WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FRIDAY APRIL 11, 2014
MEETING MINUTES**

Members present:

Jerry Foxhoven, Jake Carmi, Denise Moore, Julie Allison (representing Wendy Rickman), Dave Zimmerman, George Belitsos, Gail Barber, Julie Heiderscheidt., Anne Gruenwald (phone).

Members absent:

Chris Secrist, Edwin Daye, Julie Mann Phillips, Sen. Amy Sinclair, Ron Stehl, Sen. Amanda Ragan, Rep. Marti Anderson, Rep. Rob Taylor, Charles Palmer, Wendy Rickman.

Visitors present:

Kristie Oliver, Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa
Don Burgmaier, Iowa Family Rights
Jim Haywood, Iowa Family Rights
Nancy Augustine, Iowa Family Rights
Nancy Vetter, Iowa Family Rights
Jeffrey Smith, Iowa Family Rights
John Harvey, Iowa Family Rights

Meeting Called to order at 1:07 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the December 13, 2013 meeting stand approved as written.

Bills of interest:

HF 2388—Relating To Continuity of Learning for Children Adjudicated under the Juvenile Justice Law or Receiving Foster Care Services.

SF 2322----Toledo Bill—To retain employees to up-keep the building.

HF 2421—Transfer of Guardianship for a child in Need of Assistance Proceedings.

SF 2276—Relating to Adoption Investigation and Report Requirements.

HF 2409—Bullying Bill (Training on prevention).

SF 2121—Synthetic Drugs Bill

HF 2463—Appropriations Bill

SF 2038—Electronic Cigarettes

SF 2310—Adults providing Alcohol to Underage drinkers.

SF 2311—Human Trafficking

George provided us with the contact information for the statewide and three regional anti-human trafficking network.

1. The Statewide Network Against Human Trafficking Chair is: John Chesser (jtchesser@gmail.com). The Executive Director is Teresa Downing (downingterri@gmail.com).
2. The Eastern Iowa network is known as Breaking Trafficking is chaired by Maggie Tinsman (maggie.tinsman@mchsi.com). The Executive Director is Cathy O'Keefe (cathy@brakingtraffik.org).
3. The Central Iowa Service Network Against Human Trafficking is chaired by George Belitsos (gbelitsos@yss.ames.ia.us). Teresa Downing provides staffing and support for the Central Iowa Services Network.
4. The Western part of Iowa has a regional network which was called the Innocence Lost Task Force and is now called the Omaha Child Exploitation Task Force. Kathryn Thompson, FBI Victim Witness Specialist is the contact person. Kathryn Thompson, 402-530-1584, (IC.FBI.gov).

DHS Budget—The House version passed, the Budget is stable.

Differential Response—Julie

Differential Response (DR) was implemented on January 1, 2014. Public forums and continued conversations with stakeholders continue to prove the opportunity to educate. DHS and a public provider presented at the DEC(Drug Endangered Children) meeting last week. A presentation will also be made at the Prevention meeting and again at the Governor's conference on Substance Abuse. Data is being collected, however at this point it would be premature to share. Data entry and system errors need to be stable. It is anticipated that in 6 months data will be shared.

Report on Children's Justice:

Gail Barber shared that the Parent Rep. Standards bill was passed by the Supreme Court. This bill states that an attorney's serving in juvenile court must have at least 3 hours of juvenile related training each year. Children's Justice Attorney Summit will be held on September 10th and 11th. The speakers will be Marty Guggenheim with the State University of New York and Michele Cortese, Center for Family Representation, New York City. On the second day of the training Diana Rue Johnson from Georgia will speak. Diana started as a neurobiologist and then returned to law school. She will speak on the attorney role in substance abuse cases.

On September 9th, the National Association of Counselors for children will be doing a training called the Red Book training, a preparation course for Juvenile Law Certification.

Iowa Family Rights:

Members of the Iowa Family Rights group attended the meeting today. They gave a report on their experiences with the courts and DHS.

Update on Children's Mental Health Redesign:

No update at this time.

Role of CWAC & Creation of the Children's Cabinet:

Jerry asked how the group viewed their role in relation to the Children's Cabinet.

1. Should CWAC have some of our members on the Cabinet?
2. Should CWAC be an advisory committee of the Cabinet?

After some discussion George made a motion that CWAC endorse the creation of the Children's Cabinet and that we recommend additionally that CWAC falls under the Children's Cabinet as an advisory group. Jake seconded the motion. There was some discussion; Jerry said that the Cabinet can make as many committees' as they feel there is a need. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Public Comment:

The question was asked by Nancy Vetter: What are we supposed to do about attorney's we have issues with? Sam Langholz is the State Public Defender, and contractor for attorneys serving through the indigent defense program. Contact him regarding your concerns about specific attorneys or contact Gail Barber, who will try to assist you.

Future Meeting Dates:

June 6th 2014 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

September 12th 2014 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Adjourned 3:00 p.m.

Lori VandeWall
Recording Secretary