

## **CHILD WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Friday, September 6, 2013**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Members present:** Jerry Foxhoven, Jake Carmi, Denise Moore, Gail Barber, Susan Walkup, Nancy Magnall, Wendy Rickman, George Belitsos, Jean McLeer, Rep. Marti Anderson, Julie Heiderscheit (phone), Anne Gruenwald(phone).

**Members absent:** Chris Secrist, Edwin Daye, Julie Mann Phillips, Rep. Amy Sinclair, Ron Stehl, Jim Hennessey, Sen. Amanda Ragan, Sen. Amy Sinclair

**Visitors present:**

Kristie Oliver- Coalition

Dave Zimmerman – for Jim Hennessey Child Advocacy Board

Meeting called to order at 1:04 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting stand approved as written.

**Report on Implementation of Differential Response**

Wendy shared that Differential Response is on course for January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 state wide implementation. There are several work groups, Marketing and Communication, Operations, Training, Contracted Services, Performance Measures and Surveys, there are both public and private representation on the work groups. The administrative rules have been written and will be presented to the rules committee early next week.

## **Discussion of Task Force on Iowa Juvenile Home in Toledo**

The task force members are Jerry Foxhoven (chairman), Ron Stehl, Director Chuck Palmer, Mary Stephens, Dr. Mark Peltan.

Jerry said that the first three meetings have been scheduled they are going to be held every 6 days and will be for 5 hrs. each day. The first meeting of the task force will be held at Toledo, during lunch the members will go to the different cottages and talk to the children. The task force needs to have their recommendation completed by October 15<sup>th</sup> 2013.

## **Report on Children's Justice Activities**

Gail Barber shared that the Children's Justice Summit will be held September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the conference center at Prairie Meadows. 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.
- Wendy Rickman with DHS, Wendy will be the first speaker on the second day of the conference and will speak about DHS's involvement with the courts.
- 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.
- Dianna Walker of Jim Casey Youth Opportunity. Dianna is a former foster child and she has reconnected with her birth family.

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 and to also take a look at ways that we can help them prepare for adulthood.

Juvenile Justice has just received a new grant from Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). There will be two conferences held as a result of this grant. Celebrating families will be held next week and Strengthening families will be held in October.

### **Update on Parent Partner Expansion/Iowa Plan**

Wendy and Denise updated us on the Parent Partner Expansion. There will be 7 new sites in 2015. In the 2016 and 2017 budget the department will be asking for additional funds to take the program state wide.

Children and Families of Iowa has been awarded the new contract with Parent Partners and it started the first of July. The first three months has been bringing everyone to the same point, talking about infer structure, policies etc. Denise said that the process had been so smooth that the parent partners did not notice any change.

The contract with the Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center (MCWIC) ends in October. MCWIC has been responsible for doing research for Parent Partners. They have been very instrumental in helping the state with the data that has been collected.

Gail said that the public treatment program will be up next year and they have talked about doing a pilot and asked who would be the right people to bring to the table for a discussion on this topic. Wendy suggested Sandy Lint from DHS and Janice Lane from CFI.

Iowa Plan- Wendy said there is nothing new at this time.

## **Update on Permanency Subcommittee**

George Belitsos is a Co-Chair for the permanency subcommittee. George shared the agenda for their last meeting and touched on some of the items that were discussed. One of the main items that the subcommittee was responsible for was the Blue print. Along with the Blue print, there have been one page blue sheets. Gail and Kristie Oliver (Coalition) ask if all the blue sheets could be sent to them they would make sure that they would be posted on their web sites.

George also asked if CWAC had any additional items for the permanency subcommittee. If not the permanency subcommittee will dissolve. Jerry asked if anyone had anything more for the committee, and then said job well done.

## **Administrative Rule [441—202.12 (234)]**

This administrative rule was written in 2012, The rule was written as a result of the department moving a child and the family was not told where their child had been placed. The Ombudsman's office is still getting questions on this topic, so the department is working on getting this rule out. Wendy is putting it in IFAPA's newsletter and Gail will also have it put on the courts web site.

## **Additional Business**

- Drug Testing Contract update—there is a new statewide collection contract with Tony Reed and the Central Iowa Detention. There has been a state wide lab contract for the testing for years. The new contract gives the state uniform charges for collection.
- Membership to CWAC—several members are up for reappointment to CWAC. Wendy said that they have been waiting to see who will be members and what the children's cabinet will cover, and if the cabinet will overlap what CWAC does. Wendy was wondering if members would be willing to serve until the children's cabinet is up and running.
- CWAC report to DHS Council—CWAC will compile a report of what CWAC has done in the past year and present it to the Council at the meeting November 15<sup>th</sup>.

- New Public Information Officer (PIO): Roger Munns retired earlier this summer. Our new PIO is Amy Lorentzen-McCoy.
- DHS Budget—2015 is the second year of the Governor's budget, there were only a couple of requests made. Child welfare adjustments for 2015 are to maintain the rate increases. There is a loss in our FFP so we need to make it up. We did not make any changes in our programs so there is no need to ask for additional dollars. 2016-2017 the budget conversations will include discussions about provider rate increases, specifically group care, the dollars that we would need to expand Parent Partners statewide, and the impact of the implementation of differential response.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Future Meeting Dates**

Next meeting December 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. At the Drake Legal Clinic.

Meeting adjourned 2:34 p.m.

Lori VandeWall

Secretary