

CAFPT (1624) VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING - MINUTES

July 16, 2018

1:00 – 4:00 pm


Conference ID: 6300001 and Access Code: 07152013

Phone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN: 07152013

Foster Parent Members	X	Victoria O'Banion Reg. 1	X	Alla Mishin Reg. 1	X	Silvia Zarate Reg. 2	X	Shannon Love Reg. 2		Ray Deck Reg. 3		Lisa Page Reg. 3	X	Aaron Edwards Reg. 4
X	Shanna Alvarez Reg. 4			Krista Piger Reg. 5	X	Sheryl Herd Reg. 6	X	Stephanie Vombaur Reg. 6	X	Beth Canfield FPAWS	X	Mike Canfield FPAWS		
DCYF Members	X	Connie Lambert-Eckel Assistant Sec. Child Welfare Field Ops.	X	Toni Sebastian Dir. Prog. & Policy	X	Barb Geiger Office Chief	X	Jeff Kincaid RA, Reg. 1		Natalie Green RA, Reg.3	X	Joel Odimba RA, Reg. 5	X	Darcey Hancock Acting Field Ops Director
X	Ron Effland Acting DLR Admin	X	Meri Waterhouse FP R & R Prog. Mngr.	X	Becky Taylor DLR Prog. Mngr.									


Guests: Debbie Lynn, Anne Hunt, Heather Moss, Frank Ordway, Millie Neal, Shelley Arneson, Tim Kelly, Holly Luna, Ericka Russell, Deanna Morrison, Kristina Wright, John March, Julie Lowery, Vickie Ybarra, Anita Teeter, Peggy Devoy, Anna Martinez, Tyann Whitworth

❖ Materials included as attachments in email		➤ Decision / additional action required			
<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item & Presenter</u>	<u>Purpose</u> D – Decision U – Update I – Information	<u>Outcome</u> A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	<u>Follow-up task(s)</u>	<u>Who is responsible/ due date</u>
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Roll Call Ross Hunter, DCYF Secretary Facilitating				
Old Business					
<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item & Presenter</u>	<u>Purpose</u> D – Decision U – Update I – Information	<u>Outcome</u> A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	<u>Follow-up task(s)</u>	<u>Who is responsible/ Due Date</u>
1:10 – 1:35	1. Civility/Respect/Communication – Retaliation Standing Agenda Item (Connie Lambert-Eckel) Discussion: Connie reported on current status, work on recommendation for a neutral 3 rd party to gather info and recommend resolution/outcomes and	U/I		Foster Parents Reps: Provide Ross with any example of retaliation	Standing Agenda Item

	<p>considerations for moving forward. Constituent Relations can gather info and work to help move this forward.</p> <p>A California model highlighted that utilizes a separate entity/attorney. Foster Parents (FPs) also like the Ombuds office as a protected body for contact. Retaliation centers on reasons why kids move, or fear of retaliation. Ross states any legislation on this topic will be difficult to pass; he would like to see examples of retaliation and clarity around removal of child from home. Shanna recommends a formalized process to obtain information.</p>			<p>Create project group to work with Shanna to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Help Foster Parents (FPs) be more aware of rights Create mediation process on what is currently in place <p>Those interested contact Shanna Alvarez Shanna.alvarez@gmail.com</p>	
<p>2. Developing a Rights and Responsibilities Document for Caregivers (Becky Taylor/Shanna Alvarez/Aaron Edwards)</p>  <p>Foster Parent Rights and Responsibilities 6</p>	<p>DLR issued final version that respects current policy & RCWs. Foster Parents (FPs) see document as step in the right direction, however some RCW's are more specific than current policy.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Share info with Ross on policies inconsistent with RCWs or create more inflexibility. If Foster Parents (FPSs) want policy to be different, provide info on creating more specifics. Come to agreement on what FPs want changed <p>RCW structure for the FP Rights and Responsibilities document is ok. Document is to be revised each year.</p>	<p><u>I/U</u></p>		<p>What is the step to move this forward for next year? Ross: DCYF can't answer that now, but will work on answering this question</p>	<p>TBD</p>
	<p>3. Visitation issues**:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster parents being pressured to transport or supervise Policy inconsistency: Biological parents being encouraged to attend medical appointments, etc., where foster parents' right to privacy is being infringed. <p>(**Reg. 3 previous Visitation issues remain a concern)</p> <p>Connie Lambert-Eckel gave policy/practice overview based on federal mandates to increase parent's capacity to participate with their children. Some caregivers are open to helping with visits, others are fearful. Caregivers want their address and phone info protected. Names are harder to keep confidential. DCYF social workers encouraged to ask if</p>	<p><u>U/I/D</u></p>		<p>Share info in Caregiver Connection on updates as new model of visitation goes forward</p>	<p><u>Holly & Meri w/ Alliance partnership</u></p>

	<p>caregiver can help with transportation/visits. Caregivers can decline without repercussion. DCYF moving away from supervised visits w/ just transportation provided. Goal: seek better solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 2008 enacted & requires a forecast for maintenance budgets on Court-ordered parent-child & sibling visitations delivered by contractors. More resources for Foster Parents (FPs) should help w/ this pressure. <p>Additional discussion - FP suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for FPs willing to facilitate visits may be helpful. • Involve FPs early in visitation planning. • FPs get asked questions about visit/what happened? • Frontload paid supervision to early support FPs. • Help FPs understand data on why DCYF is moving towards unsupervised visitation. • Medical visits: FPs work w/ parents not yet ready to manage child in community. <p>DCYF: Offices working to implement new model of Parent Child visits; new model from other states to go forward. Asking for bio-parent's participation should be consistent with current case plan. DCYF will be doing significant work on visitation.</p>				
	<p>4. Update on Permanency Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerous meetings held with Connie; referred to Timeliness Report by Vicki Y. Cross system linkage w/ court meetings and Permanency projects; 5 more are planned this year; Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) will help operationalize data. • Next step: Review data pending from Assistant Attorney General (AAG) on bottlenecks of cases. AAG working on this info. • Suggestion: more formalized way to share info with FPs on this work. 	U/I		AAG will report on cases and how they become backed-up.	Carrie Wayno Hoon
	<p>5. Lack of daycare support for working foster parents and kin caregivers with infants. New Federal funds and reserved slots for foster children may help assist. (<i>Frank Ordway</i>) Resources for infant spots in daycare facilities are limited. Increase licensed providers who can provide in-home daycare. (**Reg. 6 continuing concern) Lack of child care resources and inadequate payment rates (**Reg. 3 previous Child Care issues remain a concern)</p>	U/I		Child Care Decision Package moving forward for next legislative session.	

<p>DCYF: Working on Decision Package for next Leg. session. Additional (\$38 million) federal dollars available. Need to increase subsidized rate to market rate. Trauma informed care training for child care providers.</p> <p>Additional Foster Parent (FP) Discussion: Friends/Family/Neighbors care model doesn't work for foster parents. FPs are paying out of pocket because child's escalated behaviors gets them kicked out of child care. Can Child Care Aware list be triaged for which facilities will take child/infant? Ross would like to see development of a list with available slots. FPAWS suggests FPs to be approved to accept child care placements. The WAC allows for FP/Child care dual licenses, FPs can't exceed licensed capacity.</p>				
<p>6. Lack of DCYF Community Conversations in Eastern Washington (<i>Frank Ordway</i>) FP Reps would like information on the structure and authority that will support 1624 under DCYF Ross met with the communities of Nespelem and Colville in the last few weeks. Spokane and Tri-Cities were earlier. Planned meeting in Walla Walla is pending.</p>	I		Ross continues to visit communities across the state.	
New Business – Each regional area may bring up to two (2) agenda items for discussion/action.				
<p>Region 1: No Issues for July</p>				
<p>Region 2: Item 1: Transporters using appropriate car seats – ideas for discussion. Suggestion: develop protocols for caregivers when transporter comes with wrong car seat. Regions and contractors have been messaged about requirements for correct car seats. (DLR): When transporter arrives with incorrect car seat, child's safety must supersede visit availability. Training and communication is key to help staff and caregivers know how to file report of problem.</p>	I/D		Create an article in Caregiver Connection with specific details on how caregivers should proceed and report.	Holly and Meri
<p>Region 3: Item 1: Visitation** – <i>item covered in old business.</i> Item 2: Childcare** – <i>item covered in old business.</i></p>				
<p>Region 4: Item 1: Counseling resources for caregivers. Please review brainstorming done at regional level thru this link: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1rry_wPxxtYU7gKQWV202OuwXBEhmtaKpsiNnHjHBz0/edit?usp=sharing</p>	U		Anita Teeter share info with Meri on how service for FPs was paid	

<p>Foster parents (FPs) who struggle with grief/loss when a child leaves don't know how to access resources and if/how DCYF can help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster Parent Recruitment & Retention contractors can offer help through support groups; however not specific contract requirement • Reg. 5 has paid previously for FPs to access grief/loss counseling • Making Evidence Based Practice (EBP) available across the state in remote areas is challenging; no adequate training for providers • DCYF can't offer resources for what we don't have, or when no funding is authorized. <p>DCYF has work to do in this area to figure out how to cover this need.</p> <p>Item 2: Respect/Retaliation: Connie Lambert-Eckel requested the 1624 team provide a proposal on a caregiver mediation process. <i>We need help from others involved in 1624.</i></p>  <p>new and follow up agenda items for sta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed in Old Business • FPs seeking support in building state comparisons 			<p>See action on project group with Shanna Alvarez in Old Business item #1.</p>	
<p>Region 5: Item 1: Informing foster parents about invalid allegations made by a foster child - Including this information in the Child Information Placement Referral (CIPR) form.</p> <p>Foster Parents (FPs) want to know if a child considered for placement has made false allegations against prior caregivers and have it included on Child Information Placement Referral (CIPR). Is this legal to share? Unfounded findings relate to Child Protective Services (CPS) allegations and Invalid findings are tied to licensing WACS. Reporting this info is not do-able within timeframes specified to share CIPR. Policy requires new/updated information to be shared once known. In streamlining CIPR language about current vs historical data has been dropped.</p> <p>Also concerning is frequent allegations made by bio parents and inappropriate comments made by bio parents to FPs ("I know where your house is and could get kids from school.")</p> <p>DCYF wants CIPR to be honest document.</p>	<p>I/D</p>		<p>Ross wants to know what the legal environment is on this issue. Joel Odimba to report what the legal standing is.</p> <p>Share info in Caregiver Connection updating information about CIPR workgroup progress.</p> <p>Reg. 5 working on how to help FPs & bio parents communicate.</p>	<p>Meri and Tarassa</p>

	<p>Item 2: None</p>			<p>DCYF will review and come back soon with more info on this.</p>	
	<p>Region 6: Item 1: Lack of child care resources and the inadequacy of the payment. <i>(Administratively combined with Old Business)</i></p> <p>Item 2: Inadequate, specialized mental health resources for foster children has been previously discussed at the state 1624 meeting remains an important issue to Region 6. FPs seeking better access to knowledgeable therapists on trauma, Reactive Attachment Disorder (RAD) and other behaviors. Rural nature of Region 6. Family First Act may offer some help, however behavioral health care and therapists don't exist in many areas. Adoption Competency Mental Health - National Training Initiative (NTI) has been completed in Wash. State. This improves capacity of mental health practitioners to better understand and address the mental health and developmental needs of children moving towards permanency</p>	<p>I/U</p>		<p>Coordinated Care can help caregivers access resources where services exist.</p> <p>Could a list of NTI trained therapists be available to share?</p>	
	<p>FPAWS: Mike and Beth Canfield Item 1: FPs report Maximum coverage per occurrence under the Foster Parent Reimbursement and Liability Plans (FPRP and FPLP) is not adequate. https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SESA/publications/documents/22-090.pdf</p> <p>Foster Parents (FPs) can submit claims that exceed \$5,000 that can be processed by Millie Neal with an Exception To Policy (ETP). Millie must write justification and has only done two in five years. Claims must be submitted within one year of date of incident. Recommended to get them in quickly.</p> <p>Mike Canfield asked DCYF to work on increasing FP basic rate as the FPAWS lawsuit allows for it.</p> <p>Item 2: Caregivers continue to not be informed about an allegation against them, even when safety is not an issue. DLR-Licensing and investigative staff will receive updated training on expectations and to share info on allegations, unless it is law enforcement related which could jeopardize investigations. Investigations are 45 days.</p>	<p>I/D</p>		<p>FP Basic Rate: Office of Financial Management (OFM) projects rates across multiple agencies in developing a methodology to be consistent. Ross Hunter will defer to OFM to decide.</p> <p>DLR-Licensing will add to Supervisors agenda to update expectations and training for staff on sharing info on allegations.</p>	

	<p>If a safety allegation investigation brings up a licensing violation, DLR is required to address this (pertains to Minimum Licensing Requirements “MLRs”).</p> <p>Discussion of DEL’s weighted WACs project is still on-going; it looks at 100 issues on DEL licensing (Heather Moss)</p> <p>What kind / strength of data can currently be produced on average number of complaints. DCYF wants to demonstrate transparency of internal Quality Assurance (QA) and consistency of practice across the regions via statistical reports.</p>			<p>Reuben working on Fact Sheet for DLR-Licensing</p> <p>Ross Hunter will report back on findings</p>	
	<p>CA: APSR Item 29 – Service Array Tim Kelly Increasing resources provided within the foster home to support child and placement stability (e.g. recreational activities/resources, foster parent supports, child support)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foster youth training on key life skills moving to adulthood <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Supporting FPs when taking older kids and training FPs w/ young kids on covering the basics early b. Sex education c. Treehouse/Mockingbird resources – what’s available in other areas like Treehouse Little wishes program? d. Scholarships for camp e. Help kids find hobbies/activities for enjoyment 2. Resources in FH to support youth activities, not just organized sports, like the Treehouse programs on graduation, senior pictures, scholarships 3. Consider centralized clearinghouse to serve kids with resources statewide 4. “Need From the Heart” Spokane 5. Crime stoppers helps provide toys through FPAWS statewide 	I			

Next Video Conference Meeting: Monday, October 15 2018; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.