



9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Tuesday November 19, 2019
Meeting summary, Association Meeting
Matt Griffin YMCA
3595 S 188th St, SeaTac, WA 98188 – Safeco Room

Present: Jill May, Jim Theofelis, Carly Baughn, Jeff Carlson, Paul LaRose, Cindy Steele, Nikki Brown, Derek Harris, Chris Knowlton, Dave Newell, Jeff Clare, Nicole Mazon, Kris Sanborn, Jay Priebe, Susan Brook, Amber McPhee-Millard	Members on phone: Charlotte Booth, Mike Canfield, Amy Woodward, Dong Nam, Jessie DiPardo, Laurie Lippold, Mikaela Chandler, Ray Deck III
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Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions
1. Call to order/Agency introductions		The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m.
2. Approve minutes from the September meeting		The motion to approve the minutes carried.
3. Financial Report	There's no new income at this time of year and the association is operating on revenues received earlier in the year. Grant money was set aside as deferred revenue and is drawn down as needed. We just filed our 990. The approx. bank balance is \$416K.	
4. Division Updates	<p> FPSS Division – The division met in person this month with Taku Mineshita, the new program manager at DCYF for the combined in-home services contract. His supervisor Barb Putnam also joined. The group was able to present some concerns they have with the combined in-home services contract and the measures that are being selected for performance-based contracting. </p> <p> The division members agreed to produce a position paper on the use of CANS-F related to performance-based contracting. The division would like an assessment tool that's valid and reliable that is science-based. They don't feel that the CANS-F is reliable and don't think it's appropriate for child welfare since its original use was for mental health. They also don't think having a therapist post an assessment (CANS-F) on a website is really a measure of the family's engagement. They would like a measure that has something to do with what the family does such as goal setting with their therapist. </p>	

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	<p>A series of regional meetings are being held by DCYF. A major topic at the meetings is performance-based contracting. In-home services are coming under performance-based contracting. Jill attended the meeting in Yakima and various division members are attending the rest of the regional meetings. Jill reported that at the Yakima meeting they talked mostly about baseline and the need for "good" data. Uploading of CANS has been sporadic and difficult so they are trying to get more uploads to get a better baseline. Taku and Barb have been very collaborative.</p> <p>CPA Division – Three of the administrative priorities for this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working towards getting collective data to show the value of Child Placing Agencies. Most private agencies in the division have begun using the same child assessment tool, CAFAS – Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale. The CAFAS training had a good turnout and was so successful that the group hopes to do more trainings as a group in the future. • Recruitment efforts – Recruiting and retaining families of color. • Record sharing – Accessing data needed to safely serve kids. They have a workgroup that is working on trying to get access to some areas of FAMLINK. <p>Earlier in the year, several CPA's in Region 5 saw their partnership and collaboration with DCYF going in the wrong direction. CPA's were being perceived as care providers instead of agencies. In some areas it was very difficult to get information and CPA's were asked to leave meetings. Members of the CPA Division had several meetings with Joel Odimba and his team. It was a very positive experience. After 4-5 months a document was produced by R5 leadership for their staff that spelled out the partnership with CPA's and information sharing. One of the major things identified was that the DCYF policy did not match what is listed in the CPA Contract or the WAC. There was some conversation about Doug Allison writing a draft of what was accomplished in R5 and sharing it statewide.</p> <p>Intensive Services Division – They do not have a legislative ask this year but some of their administrative priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background checks – they're focusing on having a centralized unit. They're asking for background checks to be portable within agencies and between agencies. • Better continuum of care between preventative to residential and also residential and back down. They're trying to figure out how the three divisions can be more collaborative. • Comparing Family First with some current WAC's and asking for changes: 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Remove some of the education experience requirements for group care ○ How chemicals and hygiene products are having to be stored in group care, hoping to make it more age appropriate ○ Youth being able to self-administer and keep some medications in their room (acne cream, birth control) ○ Reporting requirements – making sure they’re developmentally appropriate for younger youth vs older youth <p>Crosswalk of accreditation, licensing and contract requirements. Luba is interested in working on this crosswalk.</p> <p>There is good collaboration happening with CWAC, WACHYA and WACF around background checks and licensing. Some members had the opportunity to meet with Jess Lewis, the new Director of Adolescent Programs at DCYF last Friday. The program currently has a small staff and are trying to figure out what will fall under Adolescent Services. It’s encouraging to have them.</p> <p>There is a lot of concern about the 90% acceptance rate in the new contract, especially with BRS providers. The 90% is holding residential and foster care to the same standard. In addition, the environmental risk assessment from accrediting bodies on youth coming into care contradicts the 90% acceptance rule. Doug will come to the December division meeting to address some of the concerns about the contract, challenges of implementing Family First and the perception by DCYF of the BRS rate increase.</p>	
<p>5. Member Meeting Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year in Review • Foster Care Funding Collaborative (FCFC) • Future of WACF 	<p>Year in Review: Jill went over some of the accomplishments and changes over the last two years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of FAR • BRS Rate Study • Ballmer and Gidden’s Funding • Hired Executive Director • Membership has gone from 35 members to 47 members • BRS Rate Increase • Hired contract lobbyist • Jill was asked to join the Joint Commission • Increased name awareness <p>Jill has done a great job and WACF is in a very different place now than we were a year ago. Our relationship with DCYF has been collaborative and they prefer having one voice (WACF) instead of individual agencies.</p>	

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	<p>Foster Care Funding Collaboration: Jill gave some history on the Foster Care Funding Collaboration (FCFC) and talked about the success of the project. It's a great collaboration, the data collected has been very useful and it's an exciting way to recruit families.</p> <p>Future of WACF: The business model that was created for WACF showed the association being self-sustaining on dues, state contracts and perhaps some other funding by the end of FY 20. This was unrealistic and is not where we are today. Our current funds will run out approximately December of 2020.</p> <p>Jill is a member of the National Organization of State Associations for Children (NOSAC). She has done some research on what other state association models look like and has reviewed several factors of agencies across the country including how dues are assessed. For WACF to remain sustainable, we will need to look for other funding opportunities and increase dues. The Board will work on a different model and present to the membership in January.</p> <p>You can download Jill's entire presentation, Member Meeting 11.19.19, on our Membership Resource Page.</p>	
<p>6. 2020 Legislative Session</p>	<p>Amber McPhee-Millard, our lobbyist, did a presentation on the 2020 Legislative Session. Here are some of the highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be a short, supplemental session • Session starts January 13th and end March 12th • House and Senate Committee Days are this week • The Governor's budget will be released in December • There will be advocacy opportunities <p>WACF's Legislative Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPA rate increase • In-home prevention travel time reimbursement increase • Background check timeliness? <p>You can download Amber's entire presentation, 2019.1110 WACF Legislative Preview Presentation, on our Membership Resource Page.</p>	
<p>7. Adjournment</p>		<p>The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.</p>