

Recruiter's Meeting

Date: 05/19/2020

Time: 11am – 12:30pm

Agenda:

1. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Name, Pronouns, Agency, and Title
2. Summary of last meeting's discussion
3. COVID-19: Discussed Challenges and Strategies
 - a. Challenges discussed at the last meeting are still present (technology, not having face-to-face interaction with our families and kiddos, basic needs, employment, etc.)
 - b. New challenges:
 - i. Not being able to meet with applicants in person changes the dynamic of licensing
 - ii. FPs who are not tech savvy and their being a learning curve to adjust to everything being online
 - iii. Not knowing what the expectation will look like from LD when things "return to normal" for licensing requirements (CPR, TB test, home inspection, etc.) – concerned about a huge backlog for our staff to complete in a short timeline and still ensuring we are being as safe as possible
 - iv. FPs not being able to have their normal monthly respite (most agencies only doing respite in emergency situations) and concerns about FP burnout
 - c. Strategies: Many agencies are implementing virtual support: virtual orientation, virtual visits, virtual support groups for families and kids
4. FCFC/WACF Updates (*Shawn, Friends of Youth*)
 - a. Jill May is having weekly calls with LD to stay updated on licensing expectations/changes during covid
 - b. Discussed potential challenges for when we return to in-person activities
 - c. Discussed how doing things virtually has changed our work (pros and cons) and what we want to continuing doing virtually moving forward
 - d. Discussed CPA rates – need to advocate for an increase as the rate has not increased in years - CPA cost analysis is on hold currently
 - e. DCYF has implement 6-8 workgroups to discuss how to work with changes due to covid
 - f. Jill will keep us updated on future implementation of Binti (the state is planning to purchase a licensing software called Binti)
5. RDS Updates (*all*)
 - a. Any updates on the restructuring of RDS meeting?
 - i. Everett, Kent, MLK, King West RDS meetings have continued as normal (virtually)
 - ii. DCYF is working hard to start a Mockingbird Hub going in Kent
 - iii. We should be getting the data from RDS meetings moving forward
6. Agency Updates (*all*)

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- a. Across agencies we noticed we stopped getting HubSpot referrals in April, but have seen some come in again in May – possibly tied to WA Fosters not doing paid media in April
- b. YMCA
 - i. 55 licensed homes
 - ii. 8 in-home respite providers
 - iii. 3 families in home study phase – 5 approaching home study
 - iv. Starting a virtual support group this week
 - v. Hosted online orientation with 8 new caregivers
 - vi. Working on starting a virtual “game room” for our kiddos
 - vii. Doing a donation and thank you card drive with YMCA staff for our families
 - viii. Inquiries have spiked in the last 2 weeks after being down for a couple months – averaging at about one a day
- c. Friends of Youth
 - i. 17 licensed homes
 - ii. 3 new families licensed in late March!
 - iii. 2 families in the home study phase
 - iv. 1 cert packet submitted
 - v. Inquiries have increased recently
 - vi. Sent their annual gift card, post card and flower for FC Awareness Month - This year they delivered an LED flower instead of real flowers 😊
 - vii. Starting an online support group this week
- d. Amara
 - i. Clinical staff are overwhelmed with current caseload and many also have children at home so Amara has made the choice to not match new families with social workers at this time - They are still currently accepting applications, but not doing new home studies - They have detailed information on their website and anticipate this will last at least a few months
 - ii. They are continuing to do their information meetings virtually and have had great turnout! 24 families attended in April
 - iii. Continuing with support groups online, including the LGBTQ support group
- e. CCS
 - i. Received funding for paid media for their refugee program
 - ii. 2 new licensed families since we last met!
 - iii. 2 cert packets submitted with many more families in the process
 - iv. Launched online orientation through Zoom
 - v. Started a weekly mindfulness opportunity for FPs (30 minutes) with one of their staff who is a mindfulness teacher – about 10-15 FPs have been joining in!
- f. CYS
 - i. 1 new licensed home and 2 submitted packets to the state
 - ii. Holding virtual orientation soon
 - iii. Sent weekly gifts to FPS during the month of May!
- g. Holt International
 - i. Continuing to respond to inquires
 - ii. Highlighting foster parents on social media this month
 - iii. Have done some Facebook live events! Are planning to host another with an alumni of foster care at the end of the month
 - iv. Have sent cards and care packages to their families this month

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v. Hosting online support groups for their families

7. Ideas:

a. Mapping out our service areas and areas of expertise

i. Kymber sent google spreadsheet on 5/5/2020:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZxzMxB3wf6SaxAslomNVDgxVH-Et2tZK0rScXK29qn0/edit?usp=sharing>

ii. Please send Kymber a gmail address and they will give you editing permission

iii. Please complete for your agency before our next meeting and we will review and finalize together – Can then share with Fostering Together!

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday 6/16/20 11am-12:30pm

9. Closing & Last Thoughts

a. Book Recommendation: Boundaries by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend

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