



Washington Association  
for Children & Families

**10:00 a.m. – Noon, Tuesday January 19, 2016**  
**Meeting summary, Association Meeting**  
**Lutheran Community Services**  
**4040 South 188<sup>th</sup> Street, SeaTac WA 98188, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**

<b>Members Present:</b> Chuck Cole, Joanne Stimson, Charlotte Booth, Jessie DiPardo, Scott Hanauer, Brian Carroll, Susan Maney, Kristin Zinsky, Tom Rembiesa, Rose Quinby, Scott Hanauer, Carol Almero, Susan Brook, Julianne Peterson, Erin Larson, Ifeanyi Chukwu, Linda Conchi	<b>Conference Call:</b> Linda Thomas, Paulette Caswell, Jeff Judy, Tina Marcus
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<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Decisions</b>
<b>1. Welcome &amp; Check-in</b>		The meeting was called to order by Tom Rembiesa at 10:00 a.m.
<b>2. Minutes of the previous month's meeting</b>	A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written.	The minutes were approved as written.
<b>3. Financial Report</b>	Jessie reported that the bank balance is \$35,200 with approximately \$10,000 committed to the Georgia State University for the SafeCare Train the Trainer program.	
<b>4. Rate Restoration and CPA Plan</b>	Jeff Judy gave an update on the Host Home Program. Bills have been filed in both the House and Senate. Everything seems to be going well and he anticipates legislation will go through. Jeff Judy and Jeff Clare have met with several Representatives including Rep. Kevin Parker, Rep. Hans Dunshee, and Rep. Tom Dent. They also have an upcoming meeting with Rep. Bruce Chandler who is a key Representative to talk to on the CPA Rate Restoration issue. Senator O'Ban is supporting it on the Senate side.	

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	<p>Brian reported on a meeting called by Rep. Kagi and six other Representatives before the session opened that focused on the crisis in foster care, recruitment and retention. The Governor’s office was represented, Jennifer and Darcy were on the phone, several foundations were there including Balmer and Giddens. POC staff also attended. Representatives there, especially, Rep. Dent focused a lot on foster care issues. All acknowledged CPA Rate Restoration work and said something needs to happen this session.</p> <p>Brian gave us an update on SB 6229 (on streamlining foster care licensing). The hearing on the bill went well. Linda Thomas (Catholic Community Services) gave eloquent, detailed testimony and provided knowledgeable answers to Sen. O’Ban’s questions. Brian and Jennifer Struss also testified. O’Ban publicly stated that he will be moving the bill after DSHS and the stakeholders have had a chance to work out some needed changes in the language. WACF pledged support and will work with CA to get the bill’s language worked out.</p>	<p>Members should talk to their Legislators and ask them to please include the CPA Rate increase in the budget.</p> <p>We are still searching for champions for the BRS Forecasting and the FPSS issues.</p>
<p><b>5. Legislative/Administrative Lobbying Issues</b></p>	<p>Charlotte pointed out that the divisions probably have issues that are more administrative advocacy, rather than Legislative advocacy. For example, things that they’d like CA to change or licensing. In upcoming years, when WACF puts together its platform, it might be a good idea to add the administrative advocacy items as well.</p>	<p>Items to be added to the Administrative Lobbying bucket and the ongoing CA meeting agendas:</p> <p>For FPSS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requiring CA to track and report what services FAR families are getting</li> <li>• Background checks</li> </ul> <p>For BRS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like data on the statewide number of BRS youth in care</li> <li>• Number by type of BRS care, and length of stay</li> <li>• No Decline</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Background Checks</b></p>	<p>Charlotte reported that the Background Check group continues to meet and they will be interested in SB 6229, which Brian previously mentioned. The Centralized Background Check Unit is formed and will hopefully, speed things up quite a bit.</p>	
<p><b>7. Bylaws vote</b></p>	<p>There was a motion and a second to approve the amended Bylaws.</p>	<p>Motion carried.</p>

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<b>8. Legislative Rally for Feb Association Meeting?</b>	There was discussion on the past February Association Meetings being Legislative rallies in Olympia.	It was decided that we did not get enough turnout in the past so the February Association meeting will remain at LCSNW.
<b>9. Training Event Ad Hoc Committee - Update</b>	Tom reported on the Children’s Justice Conference and we surveyed the room to see how many would be able to attend the event in May, in Spokane. Since it didn’t seem like the attendance would make the conference worthwhile, other suggestions were taken. Paulette Caswell recommended The Refresh Conference sponsored by Overlake Christian Church February 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> .	It was decided that each WACF member organization would receive one Refresh Conference registration to be reimbursed by WACF.
<b>10. FPSS Division Report</b>	Charlotte reported that CA now says they have enough money to cover EBP Training for this year and Tim Kelly recently announced several upcoming trainings. Tim Kelly has asked for a meeting with WACF on EBP Sustainability. The meeting will be February 11 <sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at Comprehensive Life Resources in Tacoma.	
<b>11. CPA Division Report</b>	Joanne reported that CPA is focusing on their Legislative agenda and asking people to contact their Legislators. The CPA Division assisted with the Licensing Bill (SB 6229). They had a request from CA about possibly having a foster parent forum around runaways. The CPA Division also put together another survey on foster care reductions that was sent out in early January.	Paulette asked for members that have not responded to the survey to please respond.
<b>12. BRS Division Report</b>	There’s been an Ad-hoc committee formed to work on developing a qualitative message about why BRS providers are struggling. This is to supplement the BRS one-page summary. Rose would like assistance on how to move BRS Forecasting issues forward and will talk with Brian, Laurie and Seth. Jenny contacted Rose hoping to form a workgroup or have a meeting to talk about BRS rates.	
<b>13. Check-Out &amp; Adjourn</b>		Meeting adjourned at 11:57

Prepared by Linda Conchi