



10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Thursday July 25, 2019
Meeting summary, Association Meeting
Amara
 Special Meeting with Ross Hunter, DCYF

<p>Members Present: Zenia Brar, Cindy Steele, Jeff Clare, Linda Thomas, Nikki Brown, Charlotte Booth, Jessie DiPardo, Harold Wright, Mark Fullington, Josh Fullington, Mike Canfield, Brian Pope, Christy Lunceford, Kathie Hansen, Galen Hansen, Jen Kamel, Steve Woolworth, Ray Deck, Jon Rylaarsdam, Jim Theofelis, Kymm Dozal, LaNaia Colbert, Karen Brandt, Jill May, Susan Brook, Rhiannon Brill</p>	<p>Members on phone: Carla Arnold, Trevor Melby, Debra Hatton</p>
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Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions
<p>1. Call to order</p>		<p>The meeting began at 10:30am</p>
<p>2. Approve minutes from June meeting</p>	<p>This was a special meeting so the usual agenda was not followed.</p>	
<p>3. Welcome Secretary Hunter and WACF overview – Jill May</p>	<p>After introductions the agenda focused on Division Overviews and Questions for Secretary Hunter.</p>	
<p>4. Overview of Family Preservation and Support Services Division – Charlotte Booth</p>	<p>Overview and Questions from FPSS Division</p> <p>a.) What plans are being made for the in-home services under FFPSA, particularly whether we should plan for expansion?</p> <p>b.) What is PBC going to look like for the in-home services? We have been told that the in-home services will be the first to go under performance-based contracts.</p> <p>Secretary Hunter started by thanking WACF for being organized and making it easier to go to the legislature, citing the BRS rate increase as a good example.</p>	

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	<p>Regarding FPSS: He talked about the need to increase the number of families referred to services, have better assessments up front, and ensure quality. With the EBPs we need to know there is model fidelity.</p> <p>Regarding Performance Based Contracting: He identified three phases or levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was a service delivered? 2. Was the service high quality? 3. Are the children getting better? <p>His intention is to have a clear, accountable, robust system. He wants to make sure that DCYF has standards and clarity on contracts.</p> <p>Regarding Rates: He talked about replicating the new BRS rate structure, which has a rate that assumes only 80% of capacity if used. That is, a rate high enough to cover costs of a program even when it is not full.</p>	
<p>5. Overview of Child Placing Agencies (CPA) – Cindy Steele</p>	<p>Questions from CPA Division</p> <p>a.) We're a year into the new Department, what are your observations on how CPA's are positively affecting outcomes for children?</p> <p>DCYF needs to figure out a better array of IL services throughout the contracted services. He acknowledged that he doesn't know as much about CPA services. DCYF will implement Binti that was funded by the legislature. This system could double the number of foster parents. DCYF is addressing the background check system. He discovered that there are a number of shadow systems occurring. There needs to be a social justice and disproportionality awareness when doing background checks.</p> <p>b.) As we move forward how does Secretary Hunter see CPA's contributing to the overall work of DCYF (our role)?</p> <p>He encourages us to continue to recruit foster families. He wants foster families to feel supported. He asked for feedback when foster families say they aren't being supported.</p>	
<p>6. Overview of Intensive Services (IS) Division – Nikki Brown</p>	<p>Secretary Hunter acknowledged that our partnering (DCYF-WACF) during the last legislature really worked.</p> <p>Questions from IS Division:</p> <p>a.) What are the plans in the short and long term to speed up background checks? This was addressed earlier in our meeting. He acknowledged that the system doesn't work.</p>	

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	<p>b.) What is the long-term plan for performance-based contracts regarding the youth who are unable to be placed or brought back from out-of-state due to the placement standards created by the accrediting bodies?</p> <p>In WA we warehouse kids who don't need therapeutic care. FFPSA won't let us continue this. DCYF is working on fixing the kinship care licensing issue. He thinks that we need to look at an alternative to group homes; maybe something other than BRS. The spectrum of placement has holes.</p> <p>Regarding the difference in the accreditation regulations and the new DCYF contract regarding which children can be accepted: He acknowledges that this is a problem and wants to resolve this. He thinks this needs to be worked out together, perhaps with a third party to conduct assessments. In the new contract there is a goal of a 10% reduction in length of stay. Another way to look at this as readiness to discharge. This year's contract is creating a baseline to know what the measures should be. He recognizes the disconnect.</p>	
<p>7. Adjournment</p>		<p>The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.</p>

Prepared by Susan Brook