

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

10:00 a.m. – Noon, Tuesday April 21, 2015
Meeting summary, Association Meeting
Lutheran Community Services
4040 South 188th Street, SeaTac WA 98188, Third Floor

Attending:

Charlotte Booth, Institute for Family Development
Brian Carroll, Secret Harbor
Chuck Cole, Janus Youth Programs
Linda Conchi, WACF Staff
Jessie DiPardo, Service Alternatives (phone)
Greg Dootson, LCS
Rod Johnson, CFSF
Rose Quinby, YMCA (phone)
Shawn Sivly, Friends of Youth
Linda Thomas, CCS
Julianne Peterson, Amara
Kristin Zinsky, CCS
Jeff Clare, Tacoma Youth for Christ
Kymm Dozal (phone)
Ifeanyi Chukwu, Washington National Counseling
Scott Hanauer, Community Youth Services
Charles Shelan, Community Youth Services
Thomas Rembiesa, Youthville
Paulette Caswell, Bethany Christian Services
Jim Theofelis, The Mockingbird Society
Anne Snook, Olive Crest
Susan Maney, Children's Home Society of Washington (phone)
Stephanie – Olive Crest? (phone)
Laurie Lippold, Partners for Our Children (phone)
Ben Berres, Partners for Our Children
Abraham Ray, Partners for Our Children

Call to order: Greg

Minutes of the previous meeting:

There were minor edits to the attendees and dates of next meetings, then, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Financial report: Greg for Kim Current bank balance is \$15,814.50. There is one check outstanding to Erika.

Legislative Report: Brian

As it stands today, of the following; rate restoration for BRS, Foster Care, CPA fee and FPSS fee and travel time, plus the added issue of BRS being returned to the caseload forecast, BRS is the only one included in the House budget. The House Budget includes a 7% increase for the first year followed by a 3% increase the second year. That amounts to 9.6 million dollars, of which, 7.3 million is new state money. BRS is not included in the Senate budget. Brian distributed a call to action letter with suggested wording for the BRS vendor rate increase and caseload forecasting. On the back of the letter is a list of the current budget negotiators names and e-mail addresses. WACF is urging our members to contact the current budget negotiators as well as their legislators to convey the message. Since the budget negotiations between the House and the Senate could take a very long time, we need to continuously get our message across.

At this point, we are abandoning trying to get a CPA increase and FPSS into the budget.

Charlotte was very pleased to say that both the House and Senate budgets retained the entire funding allotment for CFI and FRS.

Jim Theofelis added that the Homeless Youth Act passed and the last group of extended foster care passed and is in both the House and Senate budgets. Another bill that they were fighting for died but got amended onto the larger bill 1889, and that is a bill on the use of anti-psychotics with kids. Originally, the bill required kids under five years old that were on more than two or three anti-psychotics to have a second review. This new bill will say that the first time a kid is put on an anti-psychotic drug there will be a second review and it covers all kids up to eighteen years old.

Nominations of 2015-16 Officers

Current nominations are for President and Treasurer and the new officers will take office July 1, 2015. The Vice President and Secretary have one more year in their term. The division chairs are also up for election and each division has selected their slate for Chair and Vice Chair. Greg called for any nominations from the floor. There were no volunteers or nominations so the nominations were officially closed. The nominating committee presented the following slate:

President: Tom Rembiesa, Youthville

Treasurer: Jessie DiPardo, Service Alternatives

FPSS Division: Charlotte Booth, Institute for Family Development – Chair

Kerry Ann Shaughnessy, Youth for Christ – Vice Chair

CPA Division: Joann Stimson, CFSF – Chair

Paulette Caswell, Bethany Christian Services – Vice Chair

BRS Division: Rose Quinby, YMCA – Chair

Ryan Kiely, Excelsior – Vice Chair

The nominating committee moved that the slate be presented to the association for vote. The electronic vote will go out on April 23rd and voting will close on May 4th. Each agency will get only one vote. Quorum will be the number of people that participate.

Spring Event:

Charlotte recommended that we scratch session 4. Members of the board will be on hand to answer any questions and we will have brochures available. Linda reported that the number of registrations after advertising that each member agency could use a second complimentary ticket is now twenty people.

Suggestions for WACF/CA meeting agenda

- Status on DLR integrating more with CA
- What are the drivers for the crisis in foster care? Is there a crisis? What steps are being taken to alleviate the crisis?
- Major focus for meeting will be on licensing, homes and availability. What can we do in collaboration with CA to deal with obstacles and roadblocks?
- Divisions will discuss it more at their next division meetings.
- It was mentioned that the new restrictions on degrees is an issue for CPA case managers and others.

Divisions:

BRS – In meetings with Darcy, BRS was asking that they be creative in finding ways for them to pay for things. The main purpose of the meetings was to get rules for extended foster care.

CPA - Jeff got an e-mail from a DLR program manager; they are updating their practices and procedures policies around licensing foster homes and regional licensing and asked for participation on a review committee. Contact Jeff if you'd like to be a part of that workgroup. Jeff stated that there is no update on the flu shot and that there's been a letter in draft for several months that hasn't gone anywhere. There was some discussion about a letter that came out from Darcy that will be shared with CPA.

FPSS – Charlotte reported that the division did get some very good results coming out of discussions with Tim Kelly about FPS redesign. The FPS rate increased from \$49/hr. to \$65/hr. They did not change the part where they only pay half rate to drive. We will have to go back to the legislature for that part.

Partners for Our Children (POC):

Jeff Clare introduced guests Ben Berres and Abraham Ray from Partners for our Children. Ben and Abraham did a presentation on the Data Portal - a web based reporting application which displays information about children and families involved with the Washington Child Welfare System. The technology was created with the basic focus to give back time to providers and help providers connect and collaborate. The FIN (Family Impact Network) Pilot will be piloted in Eastern Washington starting in June.

Adjourned 12:10pm

Next Association meeting May 19th, 2015

Next quarterly CA-WACF meeting: June 17, 2015 at LCS