



WACF/CA Meeting
June 14, 2018 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
DSHS Tacoma Office; Centennial Bldg. 1
1949 S. State St. 2nd floor – Room 212

Members Present: Brian Carroll, Karen Brady, Jeff Clare, Kerry Ann Shaughnessy
CA: Connie Lambert-Eckel, Darcy Hancock, Jenny Heddin, Luba Bezborodnikova, David Del Villar Fox, Doug Allison, Ruben Reeves, Pam McKeown, Jody Becker, Toni Sabastian

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions
1. Introductions		
2. Update on new DCYF Structure	<p>Connie reported that the dept. is on target for July 1st. It's anticipated that the Governor will do a press conference on July 2nd in Olympia.</p> <p>Jody Becker introduced herself and reported on the following new positions within DCYF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelli Bohanon, Director of Early Learning Programs • Steven Grilli, Director of Child Welfare Programs • Director of Family Support Programs – position posted • Region 1 Administrator - Jeff Kincaid • Region 2 - Dorene Perez • Region 2 Deputy Reg. Admin – Jenna Kaiser • Region 3 - Natalie Green • Region 4 - position posted • Region 5 - Joel Odimba • Region 6 - position posted <p>For a complete list of DCYF staff, see: https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/about/general-information/staff</p>	

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	<p>DCYF Headquarters will be housed in the 1500 Jefferson Bldg. Ross, Heather, Jody, and Connie will be located there.</p> <p>Jody reported that Frank Ordway continues to review and assess all of the various boards and committees that are in place across Early Learning, Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice to figure out where there are opportunities to overlap. His intention is to have more consistency and to make sure those committees are outcome driven. He wants to make sure they are engaging stakeholders in the process improvements.</p> <p>Jody is standing up an office of Youth Engagement on July 1st. It's currently only one person with the hopes of expanding over time. The Director of the Office of Youth Engagement is Greg Williamson. Jody's rationale behind the new dept. is harnessing all of the good efforts that are currently underway within CA and the juvenile justice serving arm. Also, connecting better with the provider community that's doing youth development and youth engagement. The juvenile system comes under Jody in July, 2019. She wants to make sure there's an engaged and thoughtful approach to really think differently on how the dept. serves adolescents, regardless of what system they came from.</p>	
<p>3. WACF's Expansion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WACF Priorities • DCYF & WACF Collaboration 	<p>Brian gave a brief overview of the history of how the Balmer and Gidden's foundations approached WACF to form a collaboration that started with 13 agencies and expanded to all WACF member agencies with the goal of recruiting and retaining foster families. He explained how it grew into tackling the negative impressions in society about foster care and families that are in the kind of crisis that some of our families are in. He and Karen explained the 3 initiatives moving forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment – Working with Diane Daley on heat mapping and market segmentation, creating a marketing plan based on the results of the data, creating one number people can call for referrals • Retention – How to measure where we are losing families • Advocacy – Hiring a Policy Analyst is in the plan <p>Brian reported that all of the WACF expansion lead to the hiring of an incredibly talented, and competent Jill May, who has extensive experience in the foster care system.</p> <p>Jenny asked what the goal number of homes is and what the timeline is. Brian explained that the goal is 1600 homes over the next 3 years. Jenny asked that we keep her informed with the timeline for forecasting purposes. CA might need to create a project position to help with new CPA licenses.</p>	

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	<p>Doug also reminded the group of the proviso funds for newly licensed homes for CPA's. He said there are still quite a few providers that don't bill him. He'd like to remind the CPA's that they should collect their incentive payments. Sometimes agencies that have multiple locations in the state will claim their incentive payments in some locations, and not others. Doug says he worries that the proviso won't continue because the data isn't there to show that there's any significant impact on an increase in newly licensed homes.</p> <p>Brian emphasized that it is very important to WACF as an association moving forward to make sure that the three divisions remain independent and have equal standing within the association. The funders are looking at improving the whole system and have offered to help fund the FPSS Division as well. He stressed that Jill represents WACF and is the main contact and that the Board will help with the planning and supporting the individual divisions. It's a big priority to grow membership, especially on in E. WA.</p> <p>Brian said that WACF wants to work with DCYF on projects or pilots to work on the things that are impacting all of us. He thinks that going back to six regions will help with the relationships and communities working together on problems.</p>	
<p>4. Families First Act</p>	<p>Jenny said there is almost no federal guidance on FFA. She said that one of the things they've been asking the feds for (especially for early adopter states) is to see if we can take our state plans directly to DC to test concepts and get approval.</p> <p>Karen asked about the Parent Child Programming. She asked if the interpretation is that money for the substance user comes through Health Care Authority, or if the whole family unit is supported by this money. Jenny responded that what FFA allows for is the ability to pay a foster care maintenance payment on behalf of the child that is located in a facility. The treatment dollars for the parent(s) would still have to come through the normal drug treatment route. Except, if there's also the FFA prevention dollars, you can pay for the alcohol or mental health treatment for parents. So, there would be a possibility eventually to have 4e engaged for both the parents and the child. Jenny said that definitely in the beginning, you can pay a 4e eligible maintenance payment on behalf of the child that's located in a facility.</p> <p>The dept is still unpacking FFA. There's been talk at DCYF that there needs to be a full-time position dedicated to FFA implementation.</p>	
<p>5. Performance Based Contracting</p>	<p>Jenny reported that Performance Based Contracts are moving under Edith Hitchings. Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability has been tasked with thinking of this in a broader sense. They have a person working full time to come up with a strategy on how to move towards performance-based contracting. Currently, it's an incremental approach. There are a lot of contract</p>	

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	<p>renewals being done right now (prior to July 1st) since they don't have to meet the performance-based requirements. This will buy the dept. some time over the next year to work through it.</p> <p>Doug added that there are no performance outcomes in the CPA contract. Doug has already tasked Michael to look at it and think about what kind of outcomes and performance measures would they put in the CPA contract?</p>	
<p>6. 2019 Decision Packages</p>		<p>We didn't get to this agenda item.</p>
<p>7. Next Meeting</p>	<p>Jody asked about the history of the WACF/CA quarterly meetings. She suggested that the next time we meet having some dedicated time to do some trust/relationship building by problem solving together to see how we can work on really concrete issues. Establish a charter for the group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How often we meet? • What we meet about? • How do they reinforce locally to make sure WACF's meeting with the RA's or the Deputy RA's? • Who needs to be at the table? <p>Jody will try to join the meeting Jill is having with Frank Ordway to determine the next steps.</p>	

Prepared by Linda Conchi