



WACF CPA Division Meeting Minutes
March 7th, 2019 9:30am to 11:30am
Lutheran Community Services
4040 South 188th Street, SeaTac WA 98188, 3rd Floor

Members Present: Jeff Clare, Jill May, Renee Johnson, Donna Anderson, Sojim Huckleberry, Katie Bass, Susan Brook, Rhiannon Brill, Kris Sanborn, Deborah Collins, Shawn Sivly, Mark Fullington, Mike Canfield, Cindy Steele, Joanne Stimson

Members on phone: Paul Lwali, Mikaela Chandler, Wes Patterson, Zenia Brar, Ray Deck, Ezechiel Bambole

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions
1. Agency Introductions		
2. DCYF sharing information with CPA's - Update	CPA's were invited to the R5 Leadership Team meeting. Some real progress was made. There will be a follow-up meeting next week with Joel Odimba to look at the policy expectations and how they support or don't support the WAC and the CPA contract. R5 is working on a tip sheet for state workers on their expectations for partnering with CPA's. They have acknowledged that everything listed on their DLR checklist for CPA audits should be made available to CPA's. They are also working on a request for information sheet on a state form to reduce confusion possibly caused by receiving RIF's on several different forms used by CPA's. They are open to CPA's creating a communication tool to share information on what CPA's do, their values and how a partnership could look like. Jill has asked for some bids on creating a tool and she will get back to the group.	
3. Tracking data/outcomes – Update	<p>Jill got bids from a couple of data experts to assist with data reporting. The hope is to create a data dashboard so that we can look at the collective data.</p> <p>Jill was asked to look into CAFAS as a child assessment tool for WACF to use to assess and collect data. Jill asked the group, 1. Do we want to use CAFAS? 2. Should members be able to opt out? The consensus was to move forward with</p>	Jill will send out some demo videos and call each CPA to see how many assessments your agency will need.

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	purchasing CAFAS. Jill will try to get a 2-yr. license and WACF will pay for the licensing fee and each assessment.	
4. CPA Public Policy Update - CPA Rate Increase - CPA Rate Study	The bill (CPA rate study and contract review) died, but is now being carried as a proviso. We have sponsors in both houses. We also have Rep. Sullivan doing a proviso of \$1.5 million for an incremental rate increase.	Please email both Rep. Sullivan and Senator Van De Wege thanking them for their support. Please also email your local legislators asking them to support these two provisos.
5. Sharing Practice Ideas: Topic: Engaging with Birth Parents	<p>The group decided to revisit the topic of birth parent engagement. Jeff asked the group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What barriers do you experience with your foster parents that prevent them from having a more positive and meaningful relationship with birth parents? 2. Give an example of a situation where you feel stuck with a family in this area and don't feel like you're making progress. <p>Some of the barriers mentioned were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster parents experiencing allegations by birth parents • Not enough information about birth family engagement in the CCT trainings • At the time of placement, not having court orders or court reports • Systemic barriers of getting contact information on birth parents because of a safety threat or perceived safety threat • Anxiety about reaching out to birth parents due to personal experiences or fear of losing the child • Biases that make foster parents struggle to see that birth parents can change • Foster parents feeling competitive towards birth parents • Lack of time (transporting kids) • Systemic barriers within DCYF depending on the individual social worker (some better at sharing info than others) • State workers changing constantly 	Jill will work with Aylse Hagel to schedule a time she can come to the CPA meeting.
6. SAFE Home Study Mtg	Next meeting to discuss the SAFE Home Study will be April 17, 10am – 2pm. We can have up to 10 people there.	Please let Jill know if you'd like to attend.
7. Comprehensive Review of CPA Contract - Discussion	There was an initial meeting to look at the contract and make suggestions. There will be a follow up meeting soon, so more to come.	

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8. Licensing/LGBTQ	There was an article that came out in the Seattle Times last week and some federal attention being given to this topic. Simultaneously, a couple of agencies informed Jill that DCYF asked them if they are licensing LGBTQ families, and if they are a faith-based agency, if they are excluding other faiths. DCYF is paying a lot of attention to both sides of this and talking about changing the WACS. WACF wants to be part of the conversations and bring concerns to the table.	
9. FPAWS - Fundraiser	The FPAWS fundraiser will be October 22 nd at the Museum of History & Industry in Seattle. They plan to bring lots of media to the reception. FPAWS is working on shooting a short documentary on the successes of foster parents, birth parents and foster children.	

Prepared by Linda Conchi