WACF – CPA Division Meeting - March 6, 2014

**Present:**

Jeff Clare, Youth for Christ, Tacoma

Jeff Judy, Olive Crest

Jeanne Knox, Catholic Community Services Tacoma

Cindy Steel, Catholic Community Services Tacoma

Heather Perry, Ryther Child Center

Susan Maney, Children's Home Society

Susan Brooks, Lutheran Community Services

Todd McNeal, Hand in Hand

Carol Mikkelsen, Amara

**It had been a while since this was done, so Jeff asked each of us to share what our agencies did and what was new. Notes are in brief, not comprehensive illustrations of agencies.**

* Todd: Hand in Hand (Snohomish) focuses on systemic reform, engaging the community to make change. Operating Safe Place, volunteer-staffed, 72-hour shelter for children new to care. Also has receiving care contract in Snohomish which is working quite well. Currently focusing on new project addressing children in the sex trade; one long term goal to have a shelter; could be a 7-10 year project
* Jeff J: Olive Crest has several programs – Mental health services; foster care; Safe Families (3 days to 6 months of temporary care provided by volunteer families; and the State Recruitment and Retention project which Jeff states is currently working well
* Jeff C: YFC Tacoma has a foster care program, receiving care contracts in Pierce and King County (and looking into one in Thurston), provides Incredible Years classes 6 times per year, and does a small amount of FPS, primarily for families YFC is already working with
* Jeanne and Cindy: Relevant to child welfare, CCS Tacoma has programs in international foster care, community-based foster care, and foster homes specially trained to provide care for fragile infants. They also have the PICC contract, providing intensive in-home based services.
* Susan B: Relevant to child welfare, LCS has a refugee and Immigrants program (foster care), permanency planning foster care and adoption, and ILS services. Susan notes they tried Incredible Years, investing in training staff, but did not receive referrals
* Susan M: CHS has a foster care program in Wenatchee, runs FCAP in Seattle area, offers child and family counseling services in multiple areas across the state, can provide Incredible Years, Triple P and Enhanced FPS; has Wendy's Wonderful Kids adoption recruitment contract; in Seattle, does home studies for international adoption and some domestic; and statewide provides early learning and early head start. They also continue to advocate for child welfare reform. Also, CHS has sold their NE Seattle building and is looking to move soon.
* Heather: Ryther's outpatient mental health component has been growing significantly; they now have braches in Bellevue and Mukilteo as well as their main facility in Seattle. They have a program for Autism Spectrum children/youth – mainly children w/Asperger's (summer camp), their CPA offers therapeutic foster care – a small program with 9 homes taking placement primarily of children coming from their sub-acute program. They treat the family, use in-home BRS, most children/youth reunify. They currently have 1 remaining HUB model, self-funded, w/hub family serving their 9 therapeutic homes. Fidelity to model not maintained in terms of distance between homes as this isn't really possible with therapeutic family recruitment. Also, Ryther currently remodeling!
* Amara: Permanency/foster care/adoption. News – Amara is working to replicate Safe Place model in King County -- the volunteer-staffed, 72-hour shelter for children new to care -- have been working with Todd from Hand in Hand and are now in development stage.

**Update on CA/WACF Quarterly Meeting**

* Jeff gave an update on this meeting, although notes from the meeting have not yet been distributed or posted (Jeff to check in on what happened to these)
* Meeting was positive, productive, more efficient than past meetings – we had provided CA staff with written handouts prior to meeting and were delighted to find that CA staff had read these and were prepared to discuss/respond
* CA staff in attendance included Jennifer Strus, Randy Hart, Randy Roberts, Darcey Hancock, Tim Kelly, Doug Allison, and their new finance person, Jenny (whose last name we could not recall today, but who made a great first impression). Also, CA staff all arrived on time and stayed throughout with the single exception of Jennifer who was there for the majority of the meeting.
* Randy set the tone by stating his belief that a provider's association was valued and needed.
* Greg facilitated the meeting, with all 3 divisions having adequate time to discuss their chosen agenda issues
* CPA Division successful in getting across need for some consistency in message across licensing regions -- as examples of inconsistent messages (and their effects) were shared, it became clear that CA staff were surprised – that this was new information. A good first step, we will be following up with Darcey and likely at future quarterly meetings.

Re: transfer of licenses – Darcey was ready to report that the FBI clearance piece was already taken care of – families will no longer have to get re-fingerprinted when licenses are transferred. Similarly – the re-admin-approval of previously approved clearances will not be required unless the original admin approval process was deemed inadequate or unless there is something specific about the individual that warrants more caution. In any case – this looks like there has been some progress. As well, Darcey was surprised at the number of requirements on our list – she seemed shocked that her regional licensors were requiring all of the paperwork we're submitting.

* WACF exec team debriefed and would like to change format of future CA/WACF quarterly meetings enough to add a 'positive' among each division's items for discussion – something about which we can thank the department or share our appreciation or praise for success, etc.

**Update on CCT, or Caregiver Core Curriculum or Pre-Service Training (replacement for PRIDE)**

* Jeff C. already sent around Carol's notes from the curriculum committee meeting she attended last week
* Carol pointed out that Josh has been attending these all along, she's only attended one
* We discussed how we might help the Alliance/CA with logistics for the May Training the Trainer for private agencies – but this was not really clear to us as we don't have access to all private agencies and it will be open to more than WACF members. Carol will discuss w/ Sheri Rego to get a better sense of how we can help.
* Also discussed unanswered questions including the validity of PRIDE training (taken earlier or taken in the future).
* Note from Carol: I forgot this at the meeting, but Josh and I are scheduled to discuss our helping with TOT logistics with Sheri Rego, when we jointly attend a meeting on March 27th.

**Update on WACs Revision**

* Jeff C was contacted by Randy Roberts (CA project manager in charge of WAC revision project). Randy responded to Jeff's earlier request that we be able to review the draft revisions. Randy will be sending these to us for review in the next several weeks when the latest version is ready.
* We discussed how we might review these, noting that we don't want to 'overdo' the review and in that way delay the process any further. There will inevitably be individual WACs that folks aren't happy with and these will vary between individuals – so how do we make use of this opportunity, have a voice where it's important, quiet our voice where it's less important, etc.
* It was suggested that the next WACF full membership meeting might be the best place to discuss how to approach this opportunity in a way that will add value.

**CPA Contract**

* At last month's meeting we planned to begin a joint review of our current CPA contract in readiness for the new contracting period. The thought was that we might have more impact on the contract itself if we proactively came up with suggestions during the revision period, rather than reacting to the 'done deal' contract that comes to us often too late for any consideration or change
* We discussed whether this was a full membership discussion or just our Division and ultimately decided that while other divisions have contracts, the CPA contract is distinctly ours – no reason not to work on this separately.
* We began a review of Exhibit B State of Work by line item, guided by a few questions, but we didn't get far before our scheduled meeting end.
* It was decided we would prioritize this project at our next CPA division meeting in April, asking all members to review pages 33 through 44 Exhibit B Statement of Work section of the current CPA contract within their agencies prior to the April meeting, coming ready to answer the 4 questions for each item/area. The four questions as they relate to the statement of work tasks/requirements
  1. **What do we(at our individual agencies) actually DO (in this area)?**
  2. **What DON'T we do?**
  3. **What is required of the State (related to this area) that does NOT happen (or does not seem like it can or will happen in the future)?**
  4. **What is required of the Contractor (CPA) that does NOT happen (or does not seem like it can or will happen in the future)?**
* When we're done answering these questions for each line item or area of the Statement of Work, we'll need to discuss what we would like to see changed (and will discover if we are on the same page in our desires).
* Ultimately, we'll address a 5th question regarding the changes we'd like to see – namely **"What if anything is at risk if we ask for this change/these changes?"**

**Upcoming Meetings:**

* Next full membership meeting of WACF, at LCS from 10-Noon on 3/18
* Next CPA Division Meeting – 1st Thursday – place TBD (maybe LCS, maybe Amara – we hope to use the new phone that WACF is purchasing to make call-ins more clear and loud from both ends)

*Respectfully tho hastily submitted, Carol Mikkelsen*