



**WACF CPA Division Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2019 9:30am – 12:00pm
Ryther - 2400 NE 95th St, Seattle, WA 98115**

<p>Members Present: Mark Fullington, Josh Fullington, Rhiannon Brill, Zenia Brar, Nicole Mazon, Jill May, Jeff Clare, Ralph Rowland, Anna Thompson, Kris Sanborn</p> <p>Guests: Holly Luna, Becky Taylor, Melanie Meyer, DCYF</p>	<p>Members on phone: Mike Canfield, Mikaela Chandler, Shawn Sivly, Joanne Stimson, Wes Patterson</p> <p>Guest: Julie Pettit, DCYF</p>
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Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions
1. Agency Introductions		
2. CAFAS – Check in	<p>The feedback on the CAFAS training was very positive. Some agencies reported that they feel much more confident about completing assessments and that there was a lot of engagement and interaction in the room. There was very good attendance.</p> <p>One of the challenges was staff trying to decide how far back they should track.</p> <p>Jill asked if there would be interest in some kind of peer-to-peer sharing possibly quarterly.</p>	<p>If you have topics you'd like to cover, let Jill know.</p>
3. Updates from Jill	<p>Jill met with Doug Allison and some of the items discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Time in visitation and whether that would be coming out of the contract. The answer was yes, it will. • There are still ongoing conversations about the CPA contract changing. • Access to FAMLINK - there was not much progress made on that. • There's still work to do around getting the R5 collaboration model rolled out statewide. 	<p>Jill will invite Erika Russell to the next meeting.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be good for members that have IL contracts to do some collaboration and what potential advocacy could look like for that contract. They are going to RFP that contract. <p>Jill met with Luba and she is in favor of looking at the CPA Contract and how we partner and work together on recruitment. They had a good conversation about the use of data and what our role could be in recruiting families vs what the state's role will be in recruiting families. There needs to be better attention on families, more targeted recruitment for DD kids that could be in foster homes and finding families for those higher-level kids.</p>	
<p>4. 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Holly and Becky, DCYF Recruitment & Retention</p>	<p>DCYF has been working with their data people to develop a dashboard and it should go live within the next week. It will be able to provide the following:</p> <p>Phase 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> data around existing resources characteristics of kids that are coming into care characteristics of kids that are currently in care whether or not they're placed in their communities whether or not they're placed with their siblings demographics of caregivers down to: zip code, county, region, office, school district (of provider) <p>This will help them target their efforts and see where gaps are in specific communities. This information will be available at the RDS meetings.</p> <p>Phase 2:</p> <p>The behavioral characteristics of children - They are having a hard time getting that kind of data from families and will continue to work on that. They also need to figure out a way to enter skills and abilities of resources so they can do a better job of matching kids and care givers.</p> <p>One small drawback is that they can't share actual counts outside the agency so it will be presented in percentage forms in the RDS meetings. They still need to figure out how to present the data at those meetings by region, or zip code.</p> <p>Becky asked the group the following questions: Q1: What resources and supports does your CPA provide to caregivers, how are they accessed and what are the most utilized resources?</p> <p>Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> respite (non-BRS same as state, BRS – additional 2-4 per month) Wishing Well, Tacoma – connect them and inform them about it 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support dinners once a month • TBRI - Trauma focused parenting program (4 Sat. sessions) with childcare • Trainings, workshops, support groups (with child care when possible) • Fun events and parties (corn maze, pumpkin patch, Christmas parties) • Mockingbird Hubs and constellations • Case-management (feedback from families says this is most important) • Substitute care provider • Answering the phone/being available • Helping families navigate resources (Wishing Well, Treehouse, Fostering Together support groups) • Helping foster parents navigate relationship with birth parent • Helping foster parents with hard conversations with social workers or education providers and to articulate what the need is • Peer certified foster parent coach does orientations and provides coaching • Visitation – Staff they know and see regularly (have a relationship with) in their home. Outside visitation providers don't have that relationship. <p>Q2: Which resources and supports are not currently provided or provided infrequently to caregivers? (Where are the gaps, barriers to providing these supports)?</p> <p>Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of response from DCYF case manager • Not receiving enough information on child that is placed so it causes agency to spend a lot of time trying to gather information • Bureaucracy – person identified to help family as a support but no code to activate payment • More robust support with grief and loss • Families with higher level kids seem to have more frequent investigations. Could be approached more collaboratively. • Concern about permanency timelines • Internally, gap in serving kinship families • Funding to reduce timelines • Turnover of social workers • Care Communities (building a group of people around the family) primarily happens currently in churches – examples: Promise 686, a Second Chance • Another resource – FPAWS is building a volunteer program with high school students to help foster families 	
<p>5. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Melanie Meyer and Julie Pettit, DCYF - Adoption</p>	<p>Last summer Jill travelled to Washington DC with a group from DCYF to a meeting about getting older youth and youth that are harder to place adopted.</p>	

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	<p>The group from Washington state has been working on a plan to start moving these kids.</p> <p>Melanie reported that DCYF currently has a Permanency Grant and other funds as resources and support to adoptive families. If you have a child that needs a specific EBP to help them work with their family that wants to adopt them, DCYF can pay for some services early and post adoption services.</p> <p><u>2017 Legislative Match Guidelines – If kids are adopted at the following ages:</u> 0-4 yrs. old: 80% (Max negotiation for adoption support % of foster care costs) 5-9 yrs. old: 90% 10+ yrs. old: 95%</p> <p>Federal rate for adoption out of foster care: 42.6% of IV-E match, plus the above percentage depending on age of adoption. Adoption support through 18th birthday, or as long as they're in full-time high school. A child who's adopted at the age of 16 yrs., can get adoption support through college. Or, if they're in a barrier program or working 80 hrs./month they can get support through 21 yrs. old.</p> <p>Melanie and Julie asked: How can DCYF help CPA's and BRS providers with permanency? How would you want it messaged? (Trainings, info sessions, pamphlets?)</p> <p>Some barriers and ideas were discussed including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social worker turnover/retention – when that happens it leaves kids feeling hopeless • Attorney training – What it means when a child is adopted, what permanency looks like • Kid oriented – what your options are • Having kid be able to talk to kids that have been through it • Make sure there's a family lined up to take the kid before training them on their options • Partner with providers to place child with family (relative search) how can provider and social worker work together? <p>The group thought it would be a great idea to create a Myth Buster flier.</p>	<p>Next steps: Melanie and Julie will create a flier. If you have input, contact them at:</p> <p>Melanie.meyer@dcyf.wa.gov julie.pettit@dcyf.wa.gov</p>