

WACF – CPA Division Minutes

October 3, 2013

Meeting Location

YMCA

2100 24th Avenue S.

Seattle, WA 98144

(Action items in red)

I. Introductions

Jeff Clare – Youth for Christ

Jeanie Knox – Catholic Community Services of Western Washington

Paul Johnson – Friends of Youth

Carol Mikkelsen – Amara

Linda Thomas – Catholic Community Services of Western Washington

Jeff Judy – Olive Crest

Mark Fullington – Community and Family Services Foundation

Dani McCutcheon-Needhaman – Services Alternatives

Josh Hinman – West Sound/Youth for Christ

Claire Mathieson – Metrocenter YMCA

Rose Quinby – Metrocenter YMCA

II. Update on WACF

1. In the process of scheduling a meeting with Ruth Kagi on Child Welfare Legislation. Made request to meet with Association to talk through it. Ruth is meeting with the Association which represents our group but mostly the executive team members. If someone has a desire to be a part, contact Greg Dootson. Discussed having the group be about 4 – 6 people and to be strategic with who represents group.
2. Upcoming meetings- Oct. 15 is the all-member meeting at Ryther. Next all-member meeting is November 19 location not yet confirmed.
3. Exec team met with Seth Dawson to review his contract and whether or not it'll be good to continue that and consensus is it would be. Suggestion to have the November 19 meeting be an hour of business from 10AM – 11AM and then Seth is offering a training on legislative advocacy from 11AM – 1PM to help train providers how to do some advocacy. Maybe part of Seth's training could be on how to best utilize him at full capacity. **Jeff will give this feedback to the executive team.**

4. Dues paid Agencies- 22 or 23 with 3 or 4 saying yes verbally but haven't seen payments yet. Range of dues \$400- 1200. A suggestion was made to provide an opportunity to scholarship smaller agencies with limited resources. Especially those who represent diverse communities. **Jeff will bring up this issue to the executive team.**
5. It is vague on how voting works in terms of how many people voted and who had a right to vote in comparison to the total vote. There needs to be clarity in 1) making sure when there is a vote there is adequate time and info about it and 2) listing on website on how the vote was cast. This will be addressed at the next all member meeting at Ryther.

III. CPA Issues

1. Visitation contract hasn't been formalized yet. Carrie Kendig from DCFS is still working on this.
2. Placement crisis. There is a decrease in number of homes available from 6000 to 5100. Randy wants to hear about licensing issues related to this. There has been an update on DLR structure since there have been changes. Darcey Hancock is directly reporting to Randy. Conversation about how difficult it is to transfer licenses where agencies are starting from square one. Jennifer and Randy said they were unaware of this. He said he would report out in 30 days. Discussion on region 1 and use of CPAs versus State homes and Randy and Jennifer both support using CPA homes regardless of agency fee.
3. Consistency at PALs meetings among the regions. Could we have a formal request from the private agency leadership team to pre-post their agendas and to also post minutes from meetings for transparency, consistency and accountability purposes. Association will put this on the agenda for the next meeting and be prepared to discuss at the quarterly meeting with CA.
4. Recruitment and Retention contract. There are 4/6 areas showing growth and hitting projected growth marks. 2 fell short- sibling groups and youth ages 12 and older. **Jeff Judy will email us about what the 4 areas of growth are.** Many homes move on once their youth are adopted. There is more funding towards adoption to help children find permanency. Randy believes the most effective way to recruit is through relationship and at a grassroots local level. Randy wants to move to a place where new RFP is drafted and finalized sometime in March. Discussion of clearance turnaround times being a barrier, changes from Unified to non-Unified homestudy and licensing investigation turnaround times. Can we ask DLR for data on time frame for when investigations are open and then closed.
5. Parenting Plus and number of homes we have who have completed it. On average, out of the homes reported, only 20% had completed this training. Jeff Clare requests additional reporting from agencies who have not yet answered this question. Randy will take this back to Darcy. There is discussion of reprieve of the Parenting Plus requirement and a reformation of all trainings, even PRIDE. There is hope this will be an improvement.

6. Restoration of vendor rates (CPA agency fee). How can we be proactive and solution-oriented. What issues do we want to advocate for legislatively and what issues with CA do we want to be a part of. Is there a duplication of services of State and CPAs. Vulnerability if legislature has a difficult budget, who gets cut. What do we use the fee for? Could Seth use this as an example at his training on how we use the vendor rate? In this year, it is not something this group can work together on collectively. Maybe we can get examples of where the rate reductions have been, regroup and discuss again.
7. Can we pick one or less controversial issues to work on with DLR to lay a foundation. Another issue is could DLR have a regional licensor on call for late night placements. Maybe transferring agencies. Make sure first CPAs agree before going to DLR. Let's discuss transfer of license for next time as a starting point with recommendations from CPA licensors. Have licensors from agency write up what their understanding is of what is required currently by their regional licensor and then also write up their proposed change. **Claire will email her contacts of private agency licensors and report back at next meeting. She will give numbers for how long it takes to relicense from private agency to private agency and to state etc. is there consistency and also proposed change to policy.**

IV. In closing

1. Next meeting is November 7 9:30 AM – 11:30AM.
YMCA will host 210024th Ave. S Seattle, WA 98144 Room 3B.
2. Next month everyone bring their agency's process on transfer of licenses
3. Executive group talked about beginning in December or January to start to look at how we market ourselves in a way that attracts more people to better represent the communities to join Association. What does the Association offer? Could we offer some kind of scholarship with no attachments so that everyone who wants to can participate? What are the barriers for having other people join? Let's really clearly communicate what this group is and the value of it. **Jeff Clare will bring a version of the document for next time for what we do for recruiting new members. Jeff Clare can bring up the membership dues question.** Have an empty chair to represent missing voices. What about sole adoption agencies?