

CHILD WELFARE ADVSORY (CWAC) FRONT END COMMITTEE Minutes

10:00 A.M. April 7, 2016

Messiah Lutheran Church, 40 Houbolt Road (old #19901), Joliet, IL
1(815) 741-4488

Attendance List

| | NAME | AGENCY | E-MAIL |
|----|---------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Amy Still | Webster-Cantrell | astill@webstercantrell.org |
| 2 | Timothy Snowden | One Hope United | TSnowden@onehopeunited.org |
| 3 | Nora Harms-Pavelski | DCFS Child Protection | NORA.HARMS-PAVELSKI@ILLINOIS.GOV |
| 4 | Kathy Grzelak | Kaleidoscope | Kgrzelak@Kaleidoscope4kids.org |
| 5 | Linda Moore | DCFS Intact | linda.i.moore@illinois.gov |
| 6 | Laura Rios | Catholic Charities of Chicago | LRios@catholiccharities.net |
| 7 | Michelle Arnold | Ill. Collaboration on Youth (ICOY) | Marnold@icoyouth.org |
| 8 | John Schnier | LSSI | John.Schnier@LSSI.org |
| 9 | Bill Steinhauser | Bethany for Children and Families | Bsteinhauser@Bethany-qc.org |
| 10 | Kate Buchanan | Childcare Association of Illinois | Kbuchanan@cca-il.org |
| 11 | Chris Kelly | Center for Youth and Family Solutions | ckelly@cyfsolutions.org |
| 12 | Melissa Ludington | CHASI | MLudington@childrenshomeandaid.org |
| 13 | Marc Smith | Aunt Martha's | MDSmith@auntmarthas.org |
| 14 | Johnikutty Joseph | DCFS Intact | Johnikutty.Joseph@illinois.gov |
| 15 | Amy Roman | Children's Home Association of IL | Amy.Roman@illinois.gov |
| 16 | Brigid Luke | Evangelical Child and Family Agency | Brigid.Luke@illinois.gov |
| 17 | Anne Gold | DCFS Intact | Anne.Gold@illinois.gov |
| 20 | Jody Grutza | DCFS Strategic Planning | JODY.GRUTZA@ILLINOIS.GOV |
| 21 | Alissandra Calderon | DCFS Communications | ALISSANDRA.CALDERON2@ILLINOIS.GOV |

Introductions and Co-Chairperson Appointment-Kathy introduced Michelle Arnold from ICOY. Kathy Grzelak is our new Co-Chairman with current Chairman Nora Harms-Pavelski.

Review of February Meeting Minutes-After reviewing the minutes Bill moved to accept the minutes and Chris seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

Workforce Development Representative-Some of the local universities have integrated Foundations training into their social work program. The agencies would like the foundations training to be more technically oriented and have them do more of the social training for their employees. *All members should be receiving the curriculum for the Foundations Intact Training via email.

Completion of Charter- A copy of the current charter is in the back of the meeting packets.

Additional Representatives to this Committee- Amy Still from Webster-Cantrell is an official member of CWAC as of December 2015. Some members would like to have a representative at these meetings from DCFS Daycare Services. There is a daycare representative that has

attended the State-wide Front End Meeting. Nora said that daycare is a separate department of DCFS that has a very small staff. POS wants to ensure good coordination between all services for clients. Nora will check on the feasibility of having them come to every meeting. Protective Daycare is a part of the business unit. Nora would like to see a representative on CWAC from the family advocacy contracts. The representation could be expanded to include members from QA, Family Advocacy and Extended Family Support.

Goals and objectives-The agencies that will be represented are determined by factors that include geography, special areas of interest, and the total number of seats for this group. John would like an expectation that members attend. The charter says members should not miss three meetings in a row. *Wendy Payne should be removed from its list of members. *It needs to be more specific regarding the time and duration of meetings. *It should also be specific about who takes minutes. There was also a discussion about rotating membership.

It was suggested that the objective of CWAC go beyond the current discussion and information sharing format and become a workgroup. The workgroup could develop written reports on specific issues to include methods of implementing the recommendations. Chris asked if this group's recommendations are taken to the full CWAC Meeting. Kathy reported that they are indeed.

Date and Location of Future Meetings-The group would like to meet every other month and extend the time to 10 am to 3pm with a 30 minutes lunch break. Kathy and Nora have a conflict with the May meeting date. The next meeting will be July 7, 2016 at the Joliet DCFS Field Office. This location will enable members and others to attend via conference call, if needed. Tim requested that there should be specific work items chosen, sent to members in advance of the meetings to allow time for preparation. Nora has reserved the Joliet Field Office for the July meeting. *John will inform Messiah Lutheran Church that we will no longer meet at this location and thank them for the use of the meeting space for such a long time. POS will continue to meet at 9:15 am prior to the full meeting at 10 am. John gave the history of why CWAC has met at the church in the past.

Contracts-Anne said that the intact capacities for the Southern region has been increased. *Laura would like to know the capacity changes as soon as possible to make any needed changes to their budget. John wanted to know if DCFS has researched the cause for southern region caseload increases. Nora suggested that "Mind Share" may be able to get more analysis on caseload changes. Melissa asked if other agencies caseloads will be decreased to account for the increase in the southern region. Anne explained that statewide there has been an addition of 50 cases from last year. Amy from Webster-Cantrell, is concerned that her agency is not getting enough referrals. Anne is waiting for the case capacities for FY 17 to be finalized before she can share this information with the group.

Predictive Analytics-this will be available for Child Protection to use as a tool. They are getting close to providing information. The focus is on preventing child death cases. The data has been mined. They are looking for trends and trying to determine what can be done better. We now have 9 questions/factors to determine which cases are at a high risk. We need to catch bad cases before child death or serious injury.

Brigid worried that APT requires so much information that it is too burdensome. Anne explained that it is difficult to get information from any other source than POS. Anne suggested that Brigid's APT monitor should give her a call. Nora added that DCFS is trying to fix SACWIS until a new software program can be implemented. *Anne will provide disruption reports to Brigid's monitor. Kate asked for a timeline to have predictive analytics for intact. She hoped that CWAC could have access to the staff preparing the analytics, to make suggestions for items to look at. Nora pointed out the data team is from Florida and DCFS pays for their time.

Update on coverage areas-This topic relates primarily to Cook County contracts. In Cook, an agency can determine whether they will cover part or all of Cook County. Downstate, an agency can clarify the counties that they are willing to cover. Amy asked if it was true that an agency can negotiate the counties that their contract covers. Anne explained that it was true that an agency can add counties, but the contract capacity of an agency will not change. This can lead to staffing issues and increase a caseworker's travel miles. It is very hard to predict future caseloads.

Update on the hiring of child protection staff-Nora spoke and informed us that DCP vacancies are being filled in a 10:1 ratio. Southern region is stable, but the rest of the regions have had an increase in needs. There is a shortage of applicants. CMS is 4-6 months behind in grading applications. The Director had CMS get a special review for DCP applications. The Governor has stopped requiring his approval for headcount before hiring. Sim training is newly available. The first classes went through in January. The Labor Board approved hiring law enforcement degrees for Child Protection but not for Child Welfare. There is a shortage of Spanish speaking workers.

Intact, Therapist Trauma and Safety Plan Training-*All members will receive the Intact Training curriculum. There will be an opportunity for comments to be submitted. Safety Plan training is subject to approval at a meeting with Deputy Ruppe and the legal team. It is not yet out to the field. CWAC input will be welcomed in the near future. This training will be done by DCP staff. POS is currently getting information on Therapists trauma training and credentialing. Chris is happy with the process.

Data, Status of data group, Statistics on Out of Home Safety Plans-Marc compiled a wish list for data reports. Anne sent the list back out. Anne reviewed all of the data reports that were in the packets with the group.

Instructions for the case extension review process -Doryce was unable to attend today. Chris feels that no more work is needed on this project. Even though the contract required this process, it is not currently in place. Bill said the program plan is out of date. Anne was asked by the OIG to add some clarification items to the 302.388 including links for references. Nora explained the process required to update procedures and the problems that can be involved in the process. Bill suggested that DCFS eliminate the redundant work.

Status of APT monitoring sharing review results with POS agencies and Dashboard exceptions requested by POS-It was suggested that APT Monitors communicate on a weekly basis with their assigned agencies. Chris would like to see consistency in the expectations of agencies.

She would also like to request that APT monitors take into account items that are beyond the control of individual agencies.

Update on BH Consent Decree Implementation Plan-Jody Grutza from DCFS Strategic Planning arrived at 12:15 pm. She is the Deputy who is responsible for BH activity. Everyone introduced themselves to Jody. Jody was accompanied by Alissandra Calderon from the DCFS Communications Department. The upcoming CWAC meeting for all CWAC Chairmen will be an all-day event. Their goal is to provide clear expectations for all CWAC committees. They are working to provide a template for meeting agendas, to improve the overall organization and to initiate a CWAC email address to improve communication. Jody reviewed the Transformation Summary. The BH plan will be reviewed by the judge every 4 months. 80 % of the BH plan was already being done. The biggest change will be the addition of immersion sites. This should move decision making to the front lines. This plan should be fully in place by January 2019. There will be a state-wide summit in July for judges, DCFS, POS, Alumni, and DHS. 500-750 people are expected to attend. There will be opportunities to complete CEU's. The email address for Strategic Planning is DCFS.StrategicPlan.gov.

Bill added that the budget crisis is doing permanent damage to social services. He is reminded that Prevention is not the mission of DCFS.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.