



Clark County Department of Family Services

Name of Workgroup

November 25, 2014

Present

Mark Fitzgerald, DFS Co-Lead

Mike Pochowski, Foster Parent (present briefly but had to leave to pick up a child)

Dianne Brooks, Foster Parent

Annette Jordan, DFS Training Team

Agenda

- Transition Survey
- Information Sharing
- Partnership Plan
- DFS Visitation

Minutes

The QPI Child Welfare Services Workgroup welcomed Annette Jordan, DFS Training Team.

1. Transition Survey

- The Workgroup reviewed the status of the Survey. An Instructional Memorandum was distributed to all DFS staff.
- Mark will research how it will be distributed to licensed caregivers.

2. Information Sharing

- Discussion around the value of sharing a consistent message between DFS staff and caregivers regarding about what types of information they should receive about the children in their care.
- Discussed the limited types of information foster parents wouldn't be entitled to receive.
- Discussed encouraging caregivers to attend CFTs and Court Hearings to have the opportunity to receive more information as well as to share

information with the Team and the Court related to the child(ren) and/or their parents.

3. Respite

- No new information to provide at this time

4. Normalcy

- Provided update. No new information at this time.

5. Partnership Plan

- Discussed with Annette how best to introduce the Partnership Plan to DFS staff and caregivers in order to best capitalize on its importance.
- The Workgroup discussed delivery to DFS staff based on site based meetings scheduled by Managers as it is delivered as Policy
- Discussed video-taping the meetings for staff who are unable to attend and for caregivers to be able to review on the QPI website
- Discussed creating a brief overview for the town hall meetings currently reportedly scheduled in February 2014 to include: Brief history of QPI, the development of the Partnership Plan, the objectives/value of the Partnership Plan, a high level review of the Partnership Plan, and the process for executing individual Partnership Plans between DFS staff and caregivers

Next steps: (1) Mark and Annette will begin work on a Power Point presentation

6. Visitation Issues

- Input from two other caregivers was provided to the membership in attendance for review and consideration.
- Diane recommended that the DFS Visitation Center be more flexible and accommodating for foster parents' schedules
- Annette mentioned satellite offices. Diane had already mentioned the Methodist Church that still serves as an available site. Mark stated that historically the site had been underutilized.
- Mark reminded the members in attendance that the DFS Visitation Center is but one of a number of sites where visitation could occur which might be more accommodating and could be discussed as an option with the caseworker.

Next Steps: (1) Further information gathering at later meetings with possible brainstorming as to solutions

The next meeting of the QPI Child Welfare Services Workgroup will be on 12/16/14 from 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the White Pine Room , 121 S. Martin Luther King Blvd.

