

Agenda- Combined QPI Subcommittee

November 9, 2018

Call in # 1-888-251-2909

Access Code 575-6299

This meeting happens every 2nd Friday from 9:30-10:30

Attendance- Liz Stetson (Fernley), Cat Martinez (Pahrump), Kevin Quint (Carson), Gimarie Pitts (Spring Creek), Cindy Stephenson (Elko)** (Secretary), Monica Cypher (Carson), Kathy McHan (Elko), Dixie Jeffers (Elko), Melanie Jones-Bluford (Carson), Hallie Kirk (Carson), Megan Soracco (Carson), Delmar Stevens (Yerington), Carroll Ann Adams (Fernley), Pam Sheets (Elko)

Business-

1. Ice Breakers - Liz

a. Workgroup – November 26, workers and foster parents throughout the region

- The Ice Breakers will be implemented after the workgroup has had their meeting. Then it will start a trial run in probably, Elko, Fernley and Fallon areas. This will give enough feedback that is needed to revamp the Ice Breaker meetings if necessary, before full implementation to all DCFS offices. There is NO set date for this implementation to start.
- Question from Gimarie- will there be information out regarding the Ice Breakers. Response from Liz – there will be an email with the information to all the workgroup participants.
- Question from Carroll Ann – What is the Ice breakers? Response from Liz- An Ice Breaker meeting is a meeting between the birth family, foster family to meet and discuss the needs of the child. There will be four worksheets: foster parent worksheet to discuss the routine of their home, sports, animals, meals, and other activities. The birth parent worksheet will give more information on the child, likes, dislikes, what makes them comfortable, etc. There is a child worksheet for the child to fill out if necessary. The last form will be an evaluation form to see what

went well and what didn't not go so well. Also, a co-parenting agreement form.

- Question from Pam – Do we have these forms available? Response from Liz – forms are not available now until everything has been approved and implemented. Then these forms will be scanned to the drives. Once forms are filled out forms will be scanned to drive to track the trends.
- Question from Carroll Ann – Do all the social workers/case workers know about this? Response from Liz – Yes and No. That is why the workgroups are going to do it first to make it more streamlined. Once that is done, then it will be implemented and an All Staff meetings will happen in each area and implement the Ice Breakers.

2. Comfort Calls - Liz

- a. Will implement around the same time as Icebreakers
- b. Procedures for the call have been developed, being approved by upper management.
 - Comfort Calls explained by Liz- They are calls between the foster parent, bio-parent and child to give them a chance to talk reducing trauma for all involved. It is the first contact once the child is removed from the home to discuss any special needs of the child and how to comfort the child. This should be done right away within the first few hours of removal if possible.

3. Caregiver Courier - Kathy

- a. What would you like to see included in the Courier?
 - Starting January 2019, there will be emails sent out to all foster families, on the QPI website and on the Facebook foster parents page, giving valuable tidbits to the foster parents. For example: information on PRIDE, IEP's, court system, and licensing, etc.. The more feedback the better as Kathy wants this to be beneficial to the foster parents.

- Statement from Megan – Social workers need to have these courier emails as well to make sure they know what is going on, and so social workers and foster parents can be on the same page.
- Statement from Kathy – Need participants by others to put in information regarding topics and expertise. Pam could talk about her specialty when working with bio-parents and foster parents, etc.

4. Transitions - Liz

- a. Betsey has made it a requirement that staff take on of the following two trainings: There has been good feedback from staff about the first training

Every Child Needs a Transition Plan

<http://centervideo.forest.usf.edu/video/qpi/florida/trnstionplns/start.html>

Promoting Developmentally Appropriate Transitions for Children in Care

<http://centervideo.forest.usf.edu/video/qpi/cuyahoga/appropiatetrans/start.html>

- By the end of the month all staff should take one of the two transition plan videos. New transition form will be implemented soon. They will first go to the supervisors. Form will include but not limited to child info, where child will be going, where they came from, visitation schedule (at least 4 visits already set), etc. This transition plan will help child from feeling so scared when having to go to a new family home, whether that be from bio-parent to foster parent or foster parent to foster parent.
- Keep in mind foster parents will probably see this form when child is placed.

5. Recruiting – Dixie

- a. Recent recruitments:

- September
- * 9/10/18 – Carson High School Open House, Open Hearts Booth Event in Carson City (targeted toward teens)

- * 9/15/18 – Panaca LDS Church Event (targeted toward the faith-based community)
- * 9/29/18 – Superhero 5K Run/Walk done in Winnemucca to raise awareness of child abuse/neglect; this event was put on by Humboldt AVA (She had some recruitment items, I recently sent her more to give away).
- October
- * 10/20/18 – Spook Night Booth in Winnemucca (K. Schmeling)
- * 10/24 & 25/18 – Panel Presentation in White Pine County (R. Savala, F. Cavender, C. Stephenson, etc.)
- * 10/26/18 – Trick-or-Treat Street Booth Event in Ely (F. Cavender)
- * 10/29/18 – Trunk-or-Treat Halloween Event in Fallon (K. Brown)
- * 10/30 – 10/31/18 – Trick-or-Treat Street Booth in Elko (R. Savala, C. Stephenson)
- * 10/30/18 – Boo-Nanza Halloween Booth Event in Carson City
- * 10/31/18 – Fernley Spooktacular Halloween Event (K. Brown)
- November
- * 11/1/18 – Adoption Day Event in Elko (R. Savala, C. Stephenson)
- * 11/3/18 – Adoption Day Event in Carson City
- Question from Liz- What has been done with the foster 1, recruit 1.
Response from Dixie – this hasn't been done yet.
- Statement from Dixie - Recruitment retention meeting happened but no new initiatives. Kevin is going to invite Kathy M. to meetings.
- Statement from Pam – Online just services.org. We are on it seeking foster parents. Is it possible to get other avenues for services for families or foster parents?
- Statement from Kevin – Lori Nichols already has one in there but Kevin will talk to Lori regarding updating this site information.

- Question from Kathy – Any dates for the next PRIDE training in Elko?
Response from Dixie – NO, none for Elko. Carson has one at the end of the month. Pahrump trying to set one up. Ely possible end of January at their hospital. Lori is on top of this and trying to get as much training information out.
- Statement from Dixie – Lori gives about 30- day notice on the upcoming PRIDE training. Elko radio announcements are going well.
- Statement from Cindy – Advertisements at the Elko movie theaters are good. We also had about 8 really interested people to possibly become foster parents in Ely from their panel. Lori has been in contact with many of them.
- Statement from Carroll Ann – it would be nice to have printed information on foster parenting to hand out after the new movie “Instant Family”.

6. Support Groups – Liz

- a. Betsey and/ or IFS can participate as guest speakers to address specific issues/problems
 - Statement from Kathy – Our last support group did well, we had 1 kinship and 2 foster parents attend. Meeting time was changed to 3-5pm and seemed to be better. Kathy will have Nathan Hornback to adjust times for meetings since he set up. Kathy called foster parents ahead of time for support group. Kathy going to ask Rosemary in Winnemucca to head up meetings in Winnemucca.
 - Question asked by Pam- Did one of her foster parents get contacted regarding the support group? Response from Kathy – Yes, message was left. She has had foster parents request to not be contacted. Response from Dixie – Kathy could you please provide the no contact of foster parent’s information to her.

- Statement from Liz – It is important for case workers/social workers to know when the support group times are, so they can help get the word out to their families as well. Possibly opening the offices for support group meetings, if needed.
- Statement from Pam – it would be nice if all the social workers were emailed this information on when the support group meetings will be.

7. Other ideas to move forward with?

- Statement from Liz – Since there are no other ideas now, we will adjourn the meeting. If you have something to add to next month's agenda please let Liz or Kathy know. Thank you.

Next meeting will be December 14th at 9:30am