

Missouri State Foster Care & Adoption Board

Jefferson Building
10th Floor
Jefferson City, Missouri

June 6, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: Karen Anderson, Linda Hosman, Michelle Martin, Kelly Schultz, Nicki Steinhoff, Derek Williams

Children's Division Support Staff: Elizabeth Tattershall, Julie Lester, Sarah Bashore, Yvette Wandrey and Rebecca Rademan

Absent: Amy Guyett and Tim Decker

Guests: Crissy Mayberry, Lacey Dyke, John Head, Alicia Johnson, Mary Stutterheim, Dana Lopez, Phyllis Hackman and Katie Brown

Introductions: Michelle Martin

Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m., Michelle Martin welcomed the attendees and introductions were made along with an overview of the agenda.

From the Desk of the Director: Julie Lester

Julie Lester provided an overview of the current initiatives within Children's Division along with the progress made. Julie Lester informed the board about the support of the new administration and the events that have been occurring.

CD Practice Model Updates: Julie Lester

Julie Lester provided a copy of the House illustrating the new Practice Model being utilized within the Children's Division. Each circuit has or will be having community overview meetings where the Signs of Safety information will be shared within the circuit. Workers are not just being trained; they are being provided support to assist them along the way. The feedback thus far has been positive. The Children's Division is working through the issues that have come along with the new approach. Kelly Schultz informed the group about the new Juvenile Office Standards and the process of having all responses in writing. Differential Response has been implemented with new guidelines in some circuits. Team Decision Making has been kicked off in Southwest Missouri. Courts and others are excited about it. St. Charles, Jasper and Green are the three site areas involved in the Team Decision Meeting Evidenced-Based Practice Evaluation. Julie Lester went over the process that will be utilized for Team Decision Meetings. The board had a group discussion on the process and how things will work.

Amy Martin discussed the video Life in Limbo from Fostering great ideas. The video shows how the perspectives for each individual involved in the foster care system. The agency will be looking at ways to tie in the training for employees.

Policy Updates: Elizabeth Tattershall

Elizabeth Tattershall updated the board on the new policy/ memos:

- CD 17-14** Surveillance Cameras
- CD17-15** Parents of Foster Youth Residing in the Resource Provider's Home
- CD17-26** Policy Revisions Related to Educational Stability & Support for Children & Youth in Foster Care

Trauma Training for Resource Parents (RPC): Elizabeth Tattershall

Elizabeth Tattershall provided an overview of the Trauma Training for Resource Parents (RPC). Elizabeth Tattershall explained the training and the allowed hours. Elizabeth Tattershall provided answers for the questions of the board members.

Legislative Updates: Kelly Schultz

Kelly Schultz provided an overview of the legislative update for 2017. Fifty-Five bills were passed. Senate Bill 160 was passed. Senate Bill 128 was passed however there will need to be revisions in the next session. (Note: Senate Bill 128 was vetoed by Governor on 07/14/2017)

*****WORKING LUNCH*****

Morning topics reviewed during lunch.

Board Vacancies: Michelle Martin

Michelle Martin discussed that those with pending board applications would need to reapply with the new administration if they have not already done so. Current vacancies include 2 in the SW Region, 2 in St. Louis City, 1 in St. Louis County, 1 in Kansas City, 1 in the NW Region, and 2 in the SE Region. Michelle Martin reminded the members to read the regulations regarding being a board member. Michelle Martin also encouraged the members to talk to families about becoming a member and provided information on how to properly resign from the board. Michelle Martin requested all names of individuals that are interested in joining the board be sent to her.

Area Updates: Board Members Additional Topics/Questions: Members and Guests

Julie Lester informed the board that the budget for 2018 has not been signed or approved

Kelly Schultz informed the board about the daycare letters that were sent out to providers informing them of the new training requirements. A group discussion was held about the providers needed. Contact information for the Early Childcare Unit was provided to the board members who requested the information.

Kelly Schultz discussed the Juvenile Officers issue and who they need to contact with issues concerning a Juvenile officer. Juvenile Officers Performance Standards board is an oversight group that will oversee the complaints and advise the judges of the issues in writing.

Julie Lester informed the board that the Childrens Division has been selected by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau for being a test pilot area for Financial Literacy for foster youth. The contract was awarded to ICF. ICF and the Children's Division are working on train-the-trainer curriculum. The curriculum is Your money, Your Goals. This will be for foster parents, foster children and staff.

Nikki Steinhoff informed the board about the Adoption Resource Family Funds with the 30 Days to Family has performed an evaluation with two separate surveys the results are waiting to be published. The results show that any child that had 30 Days to Family was a savings for the state around \$10,000 a child.

Derek Williams asked about ear piercing. The Children Division informed the board that a discussion needs to be had with the parents and FST.

Derek Williams requested information surrounding safety plan failures. The board discussed the information surrounding safety plans and the checks and balances of a safety plans.

Nikki Steinhoff informed the board about the book Telling The Truth to Your Adopted or Foster Child, Making Sense of the Past by Betsy Keefer Smalley and Jayne E. Schooler. She encouraged each member to read it.

Dana Lopez requested information about 1) caregiver reports, 2) obtaining a new social security number for adoptive children, and 3) preference of foster families with custody of the child in last 6-9 months and late incoming grandparents. The board had a group discussion surrounding all the topics.

Kelly Schultz advised the board that pre-adoptive parents need to be reminded that Children's Division attorney fees have always been \$100.00 an hour and have not changed.

Meeting was Adjourn at 2:26 PM by Michelle Martin.

Next Meeting: September 5, 2017
 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
 Jefferson Building 10th Floor
 Jefferson City, MO

2017 Meeting Dates

September 5, 2017
December 5, 2017