



# Clark County Department of Family Services

## Communications Workgroup

Minutes for Friday, 19 February 2016

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### Present

Anne-Marie Abruscato, Mojave Adult, Child and Family Services  
Anya Earl, SAFY  
Shannon Earls, DFS  
Elizabeth Freeland, DFS  
Kevin MacDonald, DFS  
Caleb Orton, DFS  
Brandy West, Eagle Quest

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### Agenda

- Introductions
- Communications Workgroup Face Page
- Caregiver Courier
  - March issue review
  - April issue articles
  - Upcoming spotlight feature subjects
  - Education Corner topics
  - Mental health awareness article topics
- Communications Workgroup outreach
- Additional items

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### Meeting Minutes

#### Communications Workgroup Face Page

- Reviewed Face Page – no changes suggested.

#### Caregiver Courier

- *February Issue*
  - The February 2016 issue received many views. It had the second highest number of clicks of any issue (at least since these web analytics data have been collected).

**QPI Communications Workgroup Meeting Minutes, continued**  
**Friday, 19 February 2016**

- *March Issue*
  - The Egg Hunt is only open to licensed caregivers, so this event will not be showcased.
  - Discussed possible educational topics for Leslie Murdock. Suggestions included:
    - Summary of services provided by CCSD foster parent liaisons, and a listing of their contact information
    - Appropriate conditions for a special education referral
    - The difference between an IEP and a 504 Plan
    - Tutoring funding/resources
    - Parenting tips on keeping children academically engaged (goal is to identify a foster parent who could write this article)
    - Steps on how to register a child in a new school
  - Spring Celebration
  - Spotlight on Quality: Judge Sullivan
    - Video spotlight
  - Dr. Zeanah Webinar
  - FAAYT meeting (Anya will check status)
  - Independent Living submission (Anya will check status)
  - Discussed adding a list of free community events. Also discussed doing this as a regular feature, since they have previously been so popular.
    - Events/resources for caregivers for Spring Break (Brandy)
    - Spring holiday events (Shannon)
  - The March issue will be distributed on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The goal is to have a draft available for review by management by Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>.
- *April Issue*
  - Spring Celebration photos
  - Spotlight on Quality: Erika Evans (foster/adoptive parent)
- *May Issue*
  - Spotlight on Quality: Foster Kinship (Ali Caliendo)
    - Video
- Other Spotlight ideas:
  - Foster Parents
    - Video, shoot at Spring Celebration
  - Possible foster parents to spotlight: Kimberly Domingo, Bowen family, Fuentes family
  - Possible foster parents to write articles: Banal (article about teen boys?), DeJesus (article about FAS?)
  - Possible caseworkers to spotlight: Erika Evans, Mihanee Williams, Shuanndy Alvarez, Jill Anczelowitz
  - Possible agency staff to spotlight: Marc Lavigne (Eagle Quest), SAFY Clinical staff
  - Possible relative caregiver – Kevin will check with Brenda
- Misc. topics for future Couriers
  - Mental Health awareness: idea shared to review the trauma informed parenting modules as an ongoing feature, with a clinical summary of the topic and then a caregiver writing about how they interpret/utilize this approach. Anne-Marie to write first summary and share with group so that a foster parent can be identified.

***QPI Communications Workgroup Meeting Minutes, continued***  
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**Communications Workgroup Outreach**

- Members will consider caregivers and agency staff to invite to future meetings.
- Idea shared to take pictures of this and other workgroup meetings to showcase in Courier.
- Internal communication – ensure caseworkers are clear about the workgroups so they can attend (and so that they can invite foster parents that might like to participate). Kevin will talk to Denise about any parameters on worker attendance.

**Other**

- Since November, data show that readership and clicks have increased.
- Kevin will check to ensure that it is easy for new readers to join mailing list.
- From now on, agendas and minutes will be emailed to members prior to meetings.

**Next Meeting**

- 9:30 a.m. Friday, 18 March 2016 at DFS Central, 121 S. Martin Luther King Blvd. | Storey Room