



# Clark County Department of Family Services

## Child Welfare Services Workgroup

June 28, 2016

++

---

### Present

Mark Fitzgerald, DFS Lead  
Denise Parker, DFS QPI  
Heather Richardson, DFS  
Caleb Orton, DFS P & Ps

---

### Agenda

- Partnership Plan - update
- Information Sharing - update
- Normalcy
- Transitions
- Post Adoption Support
- Visitation
- Disruptions

### **Partnership Plan/Information Sharing Brochure:**

- EMG (Executive Management Group) has approved the Partnership Plan, the Policies and Procedures
- Training around same still needs to be developed
- Discussion and agreement that the P &Ps shouldn't be delivered until the training informing same is developed
- The State of Louisiana is adopting the Clark County Partnership Plan and Information Sharing brochure developed by this Workgroup
- Heather received the Workgroup's blessing to include the Partnership Plan and Information Sharing brochure in "welcome bags" she is developing for new foster parents
- 

Next steps: (1) Check in with Staci Brean regarding next steps and time frame for delivery of the training on the Partnership Plan and Information Sharing brochure  
(2) Denise has sent the Partnership Plan and Information Sharing brochure to the QPI Communications Workgroup to develop a strategy for implementation/roll out

### **Normalcy:**

- EMG is reviewing the Normalcy P &Ps on 6/28/16
- Denise has developed training around the Normalcy P &Ps and has delivered same to the legal community

Next steps: (1) Denise is going to refer the P &Ps, etc. to the Communications Workgroup for the development of a strategy of delivery and implementation

### **Transitions:**

- The Workgroup agreed that to get the attention this topic deserves, it is best for a subcommittee of the QPI Child Welfare Services Workgroup to tackle the issue
- Denise stated that in some states the development of P&Ps around Transition has been at the impetus of the legal community (CASA, CAP, Judiciary, etc.)
- Discussion around targeted recruitment
- Denise suggested CASA might be interested in chairing same
- Caleb suggested the inclusion of a review of ACTION's PCPA (Protective Capacity Progress Assessment) which he stated has embedded in it looking at what sending the child home would look like for the child in a child focused, individualized way

- Discussion around needing to ensure the child is ready, the birth family is ready, and the foster family is ready for and all are working together in support of any transition plan

Next steps: (1) Create subgroup – reach out to community stakeholders/partners

**PRIME (Placement and Referral Intelligent Matching Engine):**

- Denise provide a brief description and update. She stated it was presented by DFS Director Tim Burch at the National Foster Parent Conference which was recently in town and to a small group of individuals including licensing, placement and foster parents
- Projected roll out is in August
- This program is the first web-based program to assist in the process of “matching” the needs of children in care with the knowledge, skills, interests, and abilities of prospective foster parents

**Visitation:**

- Denise confirmed that a workgroup established by the Blue Ribbon Committee for Kids is addressing the issue of visitation and that an Action Plan has been developed
- Denise is participating in monthly nationwide calls on the topic of visitation
- Denise indicated that training of Visitation staff, etc. is currently underway
- There is still discussion around personalizing the ABC Visitation Program for Clark County including looking at staff and space requirements and determining whether there will be a “pilot” vs full implementation at first
- It is projected that ABC Visitation Program will roll out October 2016
- Denise indicated that the Blue Ribbon Commission for Kids is interested in the ABC Visitation Program

Next steps: (1) Denise will continue to provide updates

**Post Adoption Support:**

- The Workgroup agreed that this topic would best receive the attention it requires as a separate sub workgroup
- Denise indicated that there is an appetite at the highest level at DFS to establish a program after looking at statistics including that it accounts for some of the children currently living on Child Haven campus
- Discussion around exploring sources of revenue to support the program (adoption incentive monies?)

- Denise suggested exploration of using Child Haven, or a portion thereof, as “therapeutic childcare” for those children disrupting as they can’t be maintained in childcare

Next steps: (1) Meet with Lisa Martinez, DFS Manager  
(2) Assemble key individuals for the creation of a sub workgroup

Next steps: 1. Denise will work on getting an understanding of what the numbers mean for the reports IT ran for this Workgroup  
2. Lisa/Veronica will explore “differences” / “changes” in Medicaid services available to adoptive vs. foster children  
3. Workgroup members are asked to explore what might already exist in terms of “post adoption support” in the community

**Disruptions:**

- This sub workgroup has come up with 5 recommendations
- Emphasis is on “Placement Preservation Meetings” being convened at any hint of disruption
- In the event of a disruption occurring, there should be a “Placement Transition Meeting” to support what the next placement should look like for the child to be successful
- Denise stated that the meetings are being very productive

**The next meeting of the QPI Child Welfare Services Workgroup will be on Tuesday , July 26, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 1 p..m in the Lincoln Room at the DFS Office located at 121 S. Martin Luther King Blvd.**