



Clark County Department of Family Services

Support & Retention Workgroup

Minutes for August 17, 2017

Kirsten DiNicola, **co-lead**
Sarah Broo, DFS CPS
Mark Lissor, DFS Visitation Sup
Megan Yapi, DFS Licensing
Andrea Cabeza, DFS Visitation

Agenda

- Review of July Minutes
- Changes in Group
- Back to School Event
- Foster Change Update
- Kinship Update
- Vine Update
- AECF workgroups
- S&R Goal review

Meeting Minutes

Update: Amanda Pearson is no longer with DFS and longer part of QPI S &R. Will need a new P & P representative on group.

Kirsten emailed DFS P& P supervisor and Denise to get update if new appointee will be coming on.

Back to School Event had a great turn out.

Kinship –CPR/Car seat classes will be free for kinship families provided they are obtaining license. Free classes for Foster Change members however, not as frequently. Free couponing classes to support families on a budget.

Foster Change- support group Tuesday evenings (well attended).

Vine is on hold as there as previous point person has left the Agency and no substitute has been put in place. Courier continues out of QPI communications.

Support and Retention QPI Workgroup

AECF work groups have been identified and began meeting 1x/month, sub-groups more frequently. At this time QPI will become a support to AECF. Two licensing groups have similar goals around support and retention for families, specific to resources and tools for families and staff- QPI S & R Co-leads will need to continue to keep in close communication as to not duplicate efforts and be available as a branch for support if asked. Denise updated Kirsten and goal #1 under S & R will be addressed by AECF, QPI work group is to continue to move forward with goal #'s 2-4. Co-leads will continue to get updates from AECF/Denise regarding what the larger groups will be doing and how QPI will support.

Review of S & R goals, no updates from any work on goals 2-4. At this time S&R will focus on goal # 3. New members to S & R from visitation, representing Fostering Relationship visitation program presented to the group.

- Discussed how supporting this program is a way to reach goal #3. Current obstacles:
 - having foster parents trained/ Fostering Relationships VC has been having info sessions at the VC to see if caregivers are interested in participating.
 - knowledge of the program to case managers/VC has been informing staff when families are appropriate for program and willing to participate
 - **Identification of In house information/training would need to be addressed 1st prior to foster families as we have several contracted agencies.**
 - having case managers return calls to visitation in a timely manor regarding next steps in the program after first 5 visits at VC and ready to move into community. This holds up the flow of visitation and there may be unforeseen obstacles to move into the community that only case manager knows. Case manager has final "ok" to move forward.
 - ways that case management can support new program: communication to parents and support to caregivers- prepping bio families to arrive early for visit

Discussed future training ideas for foster parent who are already licenced as well as incorporate in current licensing program.

- Megan Yapi to follow up with licensing for already trained caregivers
- Kirsten to contact Oscar and set up meeting with Oscar/cindy/mark
 - Identify where QPI left off with Fostering Relationships Visitation Program
- Ideas around pamphlets for folders once all training is out.