

Agenda- Combined QPI Subcommittee

January 11, 2019

Call in # 1-888-251-2909

Access Code 575-6299

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

Attendance-

Betsey Crumrine, Kristie Garr, Cassie Vance, Liz Stetson, Dixie Jeffers, Cyndi Stephenson, Lori Nichols, Amanda Hayes, Mary Dunlap, Vickie Bowman, Rosemary Hufford, Kathy McHan, Laurie Jackson, Gaby Garibay, Delmar Stevens, Melanie Jones-Bluford, Carroll Ann Adams

Business-

1. Comfort Calls & Ice Breakers –

- Liz let everyone know that the comfort calls will be starting in Ely, Winnemucca, Elko and Fallon & Fernley areas.
- Kathy let everyone know that all children will be having comfort calls.
- Betsy asked if this is done at removal of the child.
- Kathy responded “correct”.
- Amanda asked is Ice Breakers done when moved from all placements.
- Someone responded “yes”
- Betsy had question around the Ice Breakers message in the courier in the 2nd paragraph, wants it to say Ice Breakers are done with biological parents and the foster parents.
- Kathy pointed out that a new foster parent may need to also get the info from the bio-parent and the new foster parent to get info
- Betsy asked Liz what Washoe County is doing with Ice Breakers.
- Liz responded that Washoe stopped doing the Ice Breakers due to it not working for them, so they moved to the ABC model.
- Betsy – we will need to see how it works. Everyone needs to be flexible with all the possibility that bio-parents may not be really involved.
- Liz agreed that it must be flexible.

- Kathy the Ice Breakers will be adjusted.
- Amanda asked What is the courier?
- Liz responded that we will talk about the courier when we get there.
- Liz asked if there were any other questions - None

2. Website updates

- Liz encouraged everyone and encourage all foster parents to check out the QPI website for training and other updates that have been happening. They have updated a lot of things on the website. All the Comfort Calls and Ice Breaker information is on the website and can be printed off. There is training that is not specific to Nevada but that is okay. If there are any training ideas that you feel is important let Liz know and any other more current training or information.

3. Caregiver Courier

- Kathy explained that the goal of the caregiver courier is to spread more information to foster parents and social workers. It will update on things that are new. The 1st quarter talks about the Comfort Calls, Ice Breakers, QPI conference, preferred communication for foster parents and social workers, PRIDE training, Advanced Foster Care, and social media.
- Betsy asked if there was a policy on social media and if it was done?
- Kathy explained that at the Elko all staff meeting it was explained that the foster parents could post picture with foster child as long as the social worker approved, and the foster child was not pointed out as a foster child.
- Dixie read the NAC 424.
- Betsy states that is in the courier. At some time in the area someone went ballistic that a photo of the child was on social media. The DA got involved and stated that the child cannot be specified as a foster child.
- Kathy stated that is how it is said in the courier that the foster child cannot be identified as a foster child.
- Liz stated the social worker needs to know it is their decision.

- Betsy stated they may need to staff this offline as it may be unreasonable to expect new staff to know all these things. Liz, Dixie, Betsey, Laurie will meet next week to talk about this and get a final answer
- Liz stated Kathy will get final draft then all social workers, staff, and foster parents a copy.

4. Foster Parents Support

a. Elko, Ely and Winnemucca updates

- Kathy there were five foster parent support meetings had about 4 families come, but usually it was only one family. Going to cut the foster parent support in person meetings and going to call them.
- Carroll Ann said they use to have support groups in Fernley at the bowling alley. One a month on Saturday she waited for about 45 minutes and no one showed up. Another time fire department was there to train and only one family showed up besides herself. It just didn't work there.
- Kathy shared that they even varied the time as it first was 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm and then 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm. With the earlier times they had four families then two and then one.
- - No support meetings in Fallon just talks to other foster parents instead.
- Kathy going to start a online and phone call support group with Nathan H and Jim.
- Betsy people are busy
- Vicky possibly the lack of child care.
- Kathy explained that they had activities for the kids, firemen came in and did stop drop and roll with the kids and did Halloween activities.
- Vicky said in Pahrump they had two foster parents ask the bio parents over for Christmas dinner.
- Liz- I love to hear good stories like that

5. Secretary –

- Liz stated that Cindy said she would be the secretary for the next 3 months.
- Liz asked for new ideas
- Betsy said to add new licensing admin to the meetings her name is Shelly Roering.
- Liz encouraged foster parents to join the meetings the more foster parents that join the more value it will be for them.
- Liz are there any other questions, comments or concerns?
- Kathy asked how are we going to get the names for comfort calls?
- Amanda asked if foster parents have a list of other foster parents?
- Carroll Ann, yes she has gotten a list for everyone in her area.
- Betsy about a year to a 1 ½ years their was a list of foster parents that went out to foster parents for their areas. Dixie can you make sure that goes out quarterly or at least bi-annually.
- Vickie will share that info with Dixie as she had to leave for another meeting.
- Betsy so the staff should be sending out an email to Kathy regarding the comfort calls.
- Liz is sending out email to help reinforce that Kathy needs to be aware of comfort calls being done on removals.
- Betsy will discuss this in the managers meeting on Monday also
- Betsy when are Comfort Calls starting?
- Liz for Fallon and Fernley they started this week on Monday the 7th and Elko, Ely and Winnemucca they started on Tuesday the 8th.
- Betsy stated that they are moving forward on the rewrite of the foster parent curriculum adding trauma informed care, LGBTQ, Bill of Rights, etc. Curriculum should be finished by 7-1-19. Over summer will be training the trainers across rural NV, licensing staff and AFC staff to be trained and able to teach by Fall of 2019.

Next meeting will be Feb 8th at 9:30am