

Agenda- Combined QPI Subcommittee

March 8, 2019

Call in # 1-888-251-2909

Access Code 575-6299

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

Attendance-

Liz Stetson, Cameron Hopkins (IFS), Shelly Roering (Carson City), Debby Hill (Foster parent), Michelle Nemirow (Foster Parent), Melanie Jones Bluford (IFS), Lori Nichols (Licensing), Kevin Quint (AFC), Goldie Clark (Foster Parent), Kathy McHan (QPI/ Foster parent), Kimberly Schmelling (Winnemucca), Monica (Carson), Brian Hutchins (Foster parent), Jessica Hetland (Elko), Vanessa Iniestra (Elko), Carroll Ann Adams (Foster Parent), Dixie Jeffers (Licensing), Tim Provost (Carson)

Business-

1. Comfort Calls & Ice Breaker successes – Liz and Kathy
 - a. Liz provided updates on CC and IB – good feedback from workers, foster parents and birth parents in the two areas (Fernley/Fallon and Elko/Winnemucca/ Ely). Participants, overall, feel the calls and meetings are helpful and help set the stage for a partnership. Liz will be presenting at the Carson and Pahrump staff meetings in April to train the staff on CC and IB. They will start doing them in these areas by May 1.
2. Caregiver Courier – Kathy
 - a. Synopsis from AFC from Kevin Quint about the program, who qualifies etc,
 - b. Snippet of Social media policy/ Where to find it
 - c. Upcoming training/ where it is – upcoming in Fallon in March, Winnemucca, Pahrump April 12-14, Carson April 13, 14, 27 (have not formally started recruiting for that yet but will be soon)
 - d. Will be sent out within the next week, sent to people for approval by today
3. Foster Parents Support – Kathy
 - a. Elko, Ely and Winnemucca updates

- i. Elko cancelled last month due to construction and sick children. Will be another one this month. Pam Sheets called Kathy this week with a couple of foster parents who need extra support.
- ii. Anyone who needs extra support, please call Kathy or Liz
- iii. AFC coaches have offered to support foster parents as well, even if the children do not qualify for AFC. Coordinate with IFS to make sure other clinical services are not doing different things, we are supporting one another. Are trying to create a seamless team.
- iv. Licensing in Elko – FP who had a concern reached out to licensing and licensing reached out to Kathy to assist in providing support to the fp.
- v. Faye working on something in Ely, partner parent in Douglas/ Carson – Lori – not up and running, is kind of crashing and burning, having a hard time getting it up and running. It is to support trainees after they go through the pre-service training. Partner parents have done a good job reaching out but it is not consistent enough. Within a week after training, Lori is calling trainees to give support to turn in the application packet, any concerns, answer questions. It is a great idea, but it is hard to find the people to do it and be consistent.
- vi. Michelle- used to get together with other foster homes regularly and would go to parks, McDonalds, etc. It dropped off over the past few years because people come and go, and things happen. It would be wonderful to get together again for more support and to meet with each other, bounce ideas off each other etc. Carroll Ann would love to see this in Fernley again. Time is a struggle, can't come up with a time that works for everyone. Lori - Have had a really hard time throughout rural nv to get these groups started. Through recruiting are trying to get the support going, foster parents are the best recruiters and if they are not happy, they are not going to recruit additional people. It is so important for recruitment and retention. Kevin – division doesn't want to run a group,

but if we can offer non-controlling support to help get things organized and going, then organically letting the foster parents do it, it would be appropriate for us to facilitate and coordinate. Carroll Ann - When in Fernley would do one-hour training (different people coming to do the training) and then would get one hour of their 4 hours required. It had to do with timing, littles needing to go to bed early, meetings too late, finding a time that would work best for everyone. Michelle-need separate times, like one for people who can meet in the middle of the day, one for on the weekends for people who work etc to not have to worry about kids being up too late, missing work etc. People don't necessarily want to always come to a meeting that revolves around training, just want to go somewhere to chat and kids have fun. Needs to be more of a support group, not a training. Kids running around can distract from the training. (Kathy- in elko provided an activity facilitated by adults for the kids to do while the training was going on). Goldie – never been disappointed with the support she has received from the different DCFS offices and Kevin, etc. stand by her when she makes decisions. Debby- have had the same experience with workers.

4. Ideas to move forward

- a. The faster we can get things started, the smoother it will run. We need to not cancel meetings if most of the people will not show up, need to still have it even if one person shows – Liz will reach out to fp's to try to get something going in a couple of areas, Kevin will assist/ support
- b. Foster parents encourage others to participate, be on the same page, support one another, access the trainings on the QPI site
- c. Trainings and docs on the website updates – please let Liz or Kathy know if there is something (topic, training) you would like to see on the website to better suit your needs. Michelle – not a lot of information on the medical signs/ symptoms

of different diagnoses (Michelle's son had swollen optic nerves, doc asked if he may have FAS, this is a sign of that).

Next meeting will be April 12 at 9:30am