

# MINUTES

**SLVR Quality Improvement Committee Meeting**  
May 21, 2024 @ 11:30am - 1:00pm

**Members in Attendance:** Annie Brown (Volunteers of America), Elizabeth Cave (Jordan Early Intervention), Lori Harding (LDS Church), Lisia Satini (Pacific Islander Health Coalition), Carma Heimingway (Fostering Healthy Children), Susan Knott (U of U), Chanci Loran (Canyons School District), Jennifer Orrison (Attorney General’s Office), Esmeralda Malili (Utah Foster Care Foundation), Christine McAtee (Parents as Teachers) Anna Mariz (Community Member), Sherri Pace (Utah Poison Control/Health Educator), Emily Sparks (Prevent Child Abuse Utah), Michelle Tonga (Waterford), Cydne Vaifanua (The Road Home)

**DCFS Liaisons:** Ray Harris (DCFS), Lesley Lundeberg (DCFS)

**Members Excused:** Lynette Godfrey (Guardian ad litem’s office), Sammy Holder (Children’s Service Society), Cara Stephens (Youth Services), Emily Harris (Holladay Psychological Services), Kim Joyce (Health Choice Utah), Tara Gailey, (Utah Foster Care Foundation), Tessa Nicolaides (Road Home), Susan Norton (Community Member/Foster Parent), Cheri Stringham (Guardian Ad Litem)

**Facilitator:** Christine McAtee  
**Minutes:** Hollie Willis

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Acceptance and approval of February 20, 2024 meeting minutes All

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Introductions all members-Welcoming of New Members All

**PRESENTATIONS-**

- **Christmas Box House Presentation & Tour** Jackie Drury (Youth Services)
- CBH is usually the first stop for children before entering a kinship home or foster home, if such a home isn’t initially available. Jackie Drury from Youth Services will give us a presentation about the process when a child is removed from their home as well as a tour of the shelter.
- 3 programs under Christmas Box house are Shelter Program, Crisis Intervention and Runaway Home Youth.
- Crisis & Runaway programs are for ages 8-18 yr old
- No eligibility requirements
- CBH offers a transportation program to school. For the shelter, the program will drive the children if it is deemed safe. If not, the children will go to school on campus. Crisis Center, the program will provide a bus pass if needed for the children to go to school

- Bilingual languages offered-Spanish & English
- Caseworker will process intake and take on average 30 minutes. Upon arrival, the client will receive a toy and blanket. Staff will cover rules which consist of managing aggressive behavior, safety is priority, focus on relationship building, touching for example asking for a hug or high five, not sharing belongings, eating only in kitchen, staying in your own room, staying in line of sight, no phones, no personal accounts on computers. Overview of rights and responsibilities & expectations of privacy.
- There is staff on site to cook, bathe, teach life skills, and body image. CBH partners with other programs to get the kids off campus for fun activities, allowing them to be kids. Example, zoo, rock climbing, hikes
- Provides a low key environment to allow clients to be to choose own interaction with others and staff
- Provide learning activities in the summer while out of school
- Capacity 60, but on average 25-30. 5-7 each building. Goal is to have children there no more than 14 days. Ratio is staff 1:4
- Cannot offer literacy programs because of the gap in ages along with the factor of different age clients residing at different times. Do provide structured programs, games, books, different spaces for different personalities depending on the needs of the child. Some may want a quiet corner to read while others want to play.
- Do not allow a lot of toys in rooms because there is not a lot of space and it makes it more difficult to search rooms and that is a safety concern
- Runaway youth programs work with parents on reunification options or another placement, like a relative. The youth has a right to come and go to attain services such as a shower, food, clean clothes or shelter. If the youth is there longer than 8 hours, the shelter is obligated to contact guardians. If they do not want to be involved, the shelter will make a referral to DCFS. If the youth leaves, the staff will provide them with narcan kits, backpacks, a flashlight and blanket. Youth 13 years and under, staff is required to follow if they leave premises and call police.
- Therapists are assigned within 24 hours of arrival
- Have full dental and nurse, well child visits on site.
- Garden to tend where the food is used for meals, art therapy, music room and an indoor gym in progress
- There are 110 “Safe Place Sites” throughout some of the state, such as a library or tax/bus stations where if a client see’s a symbol they can call CBH and they will come pick them up.
- “Milestone Program” approved for youth 18-22. This is a transitional program to help youth succeed & be independent from being in the system
- Donations can be made to “Christmas Box International” and “Shelter Kids”

## **FOLLOW UP ITEM-**

## **RECAP & FUTURE FOCUS-**

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## **Dates to Remember**

August 20, 2024

Next QIC Meeting

11:30 pm -1:00 pm

November 19, 2024

Next QIC Meeting

11:30 am -1:00 pm

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