

**Washington County DCFS Child Welfare
Quality Improvement Committee
Meeting Minutes
14 Sept. 2015
12:00 1:00 p.m.**

Mission Statement:

The Washington County Quality Improvement Committee (QIC), working in partnership with the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), advocate for the client well-being by identifying areas of Improvement and promoting changes within the child welfare system

Attending: Craig Bunnell (Chair), Martha Beacco (Ast. CW), Kelly Stapley, Mike Beacco, Tyler Goddard, Karen Goff, Lori Short, Jana Timmons, Vickie Schouten, Tami Fullerton, Ben Ashcraft, Cliff Farnsworth, Gloria Schow, Michele Mogensen

Excused: Lori Orton, Lindsey Boyer Dave Rabocci,

Visitors: Michele Mogensen, Cliff Farnsworth

Introductions/News/Announcements: Craig Bunnell is stepping down as Chair of QIC

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Kelly Stapley 1st, the rest of the Committee I.

Committee Member Reports:

- A. CJC:
- B. C.A.S.A.: Introducing
- C. Utah Foster Care:
- D. DJJS: Tami is addressing the County Commission at the County Building at 4:00 p.m. if anyone would like to attend. The Funding to keep the Shelter going has been solidified with \$65,000.00
- E. School District:
- F. Community Members:
- G. DCFS:

AGENDA:

Appoint a New Chair and Co-Chair – Gloria Schow nominated Ben Ashcraft as a Co-Chair no one apposed. Ben will accept Co-Chair at this time. We will re-evaluate the Chair at our next meeting. Dave Rabocci is interested as a Co-Chair but was not in attendance so we will address his name at the Oct. meeting.

QIC Meeting in Cedar - it was proposed that we hold QIC in Cedar City every other month or two months so that we have more participation from the Region. Tyler Goddard felt that if we could possibly look at doing something like that we may have more participation. Tyler was the previous Chair and he feels their program was very successful. It was also discussed to look at Skyping. Those that travel from Cedar it make it a 3 hr. commitment to participate in QIC. (2 hrs. driving for a 1 hr. meeting). Look at it as a possible sub-committee.

Action Item: Kelly Stapley will talk to Lori Orton

Future Agenda Items:

October: OSR/QCR Report

November: HomeWorks Saturation Observation
Kinship RFC & Foster Care RFC

Utah Foster Care Foundation (Ben and Cliff) –

How many Families in the past 15 years have been trained in the State of Utah? 10,000

DCFS use to train their own Foster Families. DCFS then contracted with the Utah Foster Care Foundation to train all potential Foster Parents.

In the last 5 yrs. the Utah Foster Care Foundation has trained 550 Families.

So. West Region has a Goal of 62 Families a year. Two years ago they did not reach their goal that had been set by one family.

Economy has been issue.

The Foster Care has three different roles.

- **Recruitment – Ben Ashcraft**

- Initial consultation
 - Advertising/Booths in the So. West Region Communities
 - Help create awareness
 - Families are not going to make money
 - Dealing with Families who maybe Naive about the system
 - Help Families make an informed choice.
 - Ben talks to families about Permanency, Reunification, Adoption and Guardianship
 - Keeping siblings together, mentoring bio-parents
- There is some on-line training prior to classes
Classes (CPR and First Aid)
Licensing
Families also have to provide supporting documents (Income verification, BCI & Marriage License

- **Training – Cliff Farnsworth**

- Pre-Service
- In-Service

Proctor Families look at the money aspect a lot of times. We want them to take care of the children.

Do Proctor Agencies get the same training that the Utah Foster Care Foundation Provides? No

That is a concern, where is the accountability and regulations for Proctor Homes?

Cliff has 4 adopted children and understands the committee's concern about accountability and regulations.

Utah Foster Care has less resources with Budget cuts.

Utah Foster Care Foundation is ONLY contracted with the State.

There needs to be a balance between the Utah Foster Care System and Proctor Agencies.

Proctor Agencies to higher level children and they should have more structure.

There is a check and balance for Proctor Agencies

The Cost for Proctor Agencies is considerably higher

- Provide Therapy
- Education

- What is the difference between Foster Care and Proctor Agencies?

DCFS contract out to other agencies

- Training Challenges (Webinars)
 - Access to the Families
 - Screening of Families
 - Questions that need to be answered
- Utah Foster Care has a new Curriculum almost a year ago.
 - There is training in different locations every month
 - try to get the training done as quickly as possible
 - Train in 9 counties
 - ST. George and Cedar City have a greater need for Foster Parents
 - Manti, Richfield, Beaver, Kanab etc.
 - When Cliff trains in these area's he does 2 weekends Friday night and all day Saturday.
 - Cliff does his training every month.
 - It's difficult to do on-line training with potential families
 - There is also a part time trainer
 - Subjects:
 - Orientation
 - Foster Care System
 - Childhood
 - Abuse and Neglect
 - Trauma
 - Manage Placement
 - Birth Parent
 - Adoption Issues
 - How to move forward and heal
 - By: Institute of Human Services (researched based training)
- 32 Hrs. of training
 - DCFS Guidelines
 - Fostering Healthy Children
- **Retention – Diane Callister**
 - Cluster Groups (Foster Families get together and discuss different topics and can earn training hours).
 - Provide Support (Kinship Families have been invited, not a lot of attendance)
 - Retain Families

There is always a need for families and diversity.

Community Members asked about other Programs in the Community and how they are trained. There was some concern expressed about other Community Programs and how they are run and what kind of training they receive.

The whole program is about the children, because the children are the ones who get hurt.

DISMISS: Lori Short will get back to Martha and let her know that we can still use the Conference Room at the Court House to hold our monthly QIC Meetings. Everyone was thanked for attending.

Next Meeting: 05 Oct. 2015

Public Comments (brief mention of items that may be included on future agenda's)

QIC Website: QIC website at <http://www.utahqic.utah.gov/>. --Carol Miller

Report Child Abuse

24-Hour Reporting Hotline

1-855-323-3237