

DFS Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location:	VIA: Microsoft Teams - Clark County Department of Family Services Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 211 703 055 261 Passcode: wTDtGZ Download Teams Join on the web Or call in (audio only) +1 725-696-5982,571411262# United States, Las Vegas Phone Conference ID: 571 411 262# Location: CC Government Center 500 S. Grand Central Pkwy 5 th Floor DFS Exec. Conf. Rm# 5022 Las Vegas, NV 89155
Date:	March 21, 2024 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Membership		Present	Absent
CAC Members:	Dashun Jackson	X	
	Donna Smith	X	
	Shelia Parks	X	
	Judge Stephanie Charter	X	
	Ali Caliendo	X	
	Pamela Roberts	X	
	Brandon Ford	X	
	Kim Abbott	X	
	David Johnson	X	
	Christopher Merritt	X	
County/Department Management:	Jill Marano, DFS Director	X	
	Wonswayla Mackey, Deputy Director	X	
	Patrick Barkley, Deputy Director	X	
	Lisa Martinez, Deputy Director	X	
Public:	Sarah Schaerrer, District Attorney Civil	X	
	Gwynneth Smith, DA	X	
	Marla McDade, DCFS Administrator	X	
	Jennifer Bevacqua	X	

Agenda Item I:	Call to order and welcome	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was called to order at 8:34am by Chair DaShun Jackson and roll was called. 	
Agenda Item II:	General Public Comments	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
Agenda Item III:	Approval of February 15, 2024, Minutes	(For Possible Action)
	CAC February 15, 2024, Minutes - Approved	
Agenda Item IV:	CAC Membership nomination and voting	(For Possible Action)
	<p>CAC Membership nomination and voted new officers, the current vacate positions: Chair, Vice Chair and Deputy.</p> <p>Donna Smith volunteered and got nominated to be Chair. David Johnson volunteered and got nominated to be Vice Chair. Ali Caliendo volunteered and got nominated to be Deputy Chair.</p> <p>CAC members voted</p>	

<p>Agenda Item V:</p>	<p>Priority Item: Mental Health Crisis in Foster Care</p> <p>Marla McDade Williams, DCFS shared she does not have any updates.</p> <p>Donna Smith inquired about Magellan contract and or updates.</p> <p>Marla McDade Williams shared Magellan has initiated services on February 1st; they have a website where they take referrals. There is a priority population in Clark County and in Elko County for consideration, the plan is to expand statewide. Magellan is working closely with DFS to ensure they have access to the system and population from out of state.</p> <p>Donna Smith inquired since Magellan started on February 1st, have they initiated services we are in mid-March what's the status and what's the respond have been.</p> <p>Marla McDade Williams shared it's been slow there not met certain targets that were identified. We can ensure the Referrals network gets shorter and receive services that they intended to deliver.</p> <p>Jill Marano shared DFS updates a total of sixty referrals have been created for children that are involved in the department. DFS started creating referrals the second or third week in February, currently we are waiting for the assessments to be done. Jill shared she will be meeting with Civil District Attorney on releasing information and child welfare information with them. When they are entering the system and the department does not have custody.</p> <p>Kim Abbott inquired about Magellan not meeting certain targets, asked if Marla could elaborate.</p> <p>Marla McDade Williams shared referrals did not get connected when they should have. It's contract targets that they have not met, which are not relevant to this group.</p> <p>Ali Caliendo inquired for services and community providers working with the same population how can we connect with the referral process or is it only open to DFS.</p> <p>Marla McDade Williams shared a link Welcome to Magellan of Nevada Magellan Healthcare this website assist with the eligibility process with the criteria.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item VI:</p>	<p>Department of Family Services Report Out</p>	<p>(Information only)</p>
	<p>PREVENTION:</p> <p>Wonswayla Mackey shared the department is wrapping up prevention services for Family First Prevention Services Act. In preparation and implementation, the Safe at Home model. The prevention services will be under one umbrella like Housing prevention, Safe at Home, CARA and Thrive by Five program. Reorganization changes will be occurring to house prevention services.</p> <p>Kim Abbott inquired if there is a FFPSA timeline after the internal process are to involve community partners to be included in the process for input.</p> <p>INTERVENTION, ACCOUNTABILITY, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:</p> <p>Jill Marano shared DFS internal communication within the department has been conducting bi-monthly DFS Huddles the last six months. Two staff workgroups were created from the DFS Huddles consistency within the agency and daily operations.</p>	

David Johnson inquired if foster parents would be involved in the workgroups to provide feedback.

Jill Marano agreed in the development of community partners to provide feedback.

Sway Mackey shared a new Guardianship policy has been implemented. The new pilot program has been created to review families who have temporary guardianship before the court. The purpose of this new unit will be assessing families who are seeking guardianship under 159A guardship.

Donna Smith asked Patrick Barkley about the double inquiries from the Super Bowl. Did it increase the number of people to sign up for licensing classes.

Patrick Barkley there has been a lot of people who signed up for foster parent classes. The department had to extend foster parent classes even further.

TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH SUPPORTS & INDEPENDENT LIVING:
 Lisa Martinez shared changes from two LifeSet units into one, the additional unit from LifeSet was moved to Independent Living. Current staffing issues, four vacancies; two are family services specialists (case caring) and two vacancies are family support assistant (not case caring). A total of 443 youth are in the Independent Living program, ages 14–17-year-olds. Three staff transition from LifeSet to Independent Living, we have 100 youth on the waitlist. 37 out of the 443 youth are currently in the LifeSet program but will be transitioning to Step-up program. The three supervisors in Independent Living are Nymisha Johnson (LifeSet), Shuanndy Alvarez (IL) and Isabel Iraheta (IL). Next month will present an overview of the Independent Living aging out process.

EDUCATION:
 Chris Merritt, CCSD Director of wraparound services shared the CCSD navigating additional funding for school’s district wide to expand resources, currently partner with Hazel Health and Care Solace. In the process of recruiting licensed social worker in every single school.

CAC members complimented Chris Merritt being the new CCSD representative member to the CAC.

David Johnson inquired about an easier transition for foster parents to be able to access infinite campus. He provided his personal experience dealing with foster children and the school district. Since homework is a voluntary especially when the children come from Child Haven since they don’t have structure. He is encouraging for a school transition package to assist the foster parent when the children are being placed.

Agenda Item VII: Report Out of what the scope of Citizen Advisory Committee role is.

Sarah Schaerrer, Deputy Attorney is not able to discuss about the CRP. Sarah shared the Clark County ordinance 2.07.040 - Citizen Advisory Committee; review sections E and F. Section E #1 Meetings shall be held quarterly and not monthly. Section E #2 A special meeting can be called by the chair or vice chair. Section E #3 The majority of the committee members must be present to meet quorum. Section F The chair of this committee will report out to the Policy & Fiscal Affair board concerning about the facilities, services and resources provided by the Department of Family Services. The CAC member may with the authorization of the board review and report on stated on the Ordinance 2.07.040 section F #1-3.

Kim Abbott mention the CAC ByLaws frequency of the meetings are in direct conflict with the Clark County Ordinance.

	<p>Sarah Schaerrer shared the ByLaws are voted on by the Citizen Advisory Committee. The ByLaws can be changed it would need to be Agenda item for the next CAC meeting for the CAC members to vote on to be an action item. Specific changes would need to be provided to staff to make the adjustments to be approved on the following meeting.</p> <p>Sarah Schaerrer shared the criteria for Agenda items to have enough details to meet Open Meeting Law. Agenda items should be sent two weeks before the next CAC Meeting. Sarah offered to hold an Open Meeting Law presentation for the new members to prevent Open Meeting Law violations.</p> <p>Chair Donna Smith called for a special meeting to be held on Thursday April 18 at the regular . Discuss topics Open Meeting Law, information about the role of the CRP and more detailed topics on the regular report out from the Department of Family Services.</p> <p>David Johnson shared to place agenda items DFS report out current process that’s ideal, tracking and resolution disputes involving foster parents. Having consistency huddles with external as well CCSD coordination items. Making it for possible action the recommendation to the DFS/JJ fiscal and policy affairs committee.</p> <p>The next DFS/DJJS Policy & Fiscal Affairs Meeting will be held May 16, 2024, at 12pm.</p>
Agenda Item VIII:	Next Meeting Date
	Next meeting will be Thursday, April 18, 2024 @ 8:30am via Microsoft Teams or in-person.
Agenda Item IX:	Comments by General Public
	None
Agenda Item X:	Adjournment
	Meeting adjourned at 10:07 am