

DFS Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location:	Clark County Department of Family Services, 121 S. Martin Luther King Las Vegas, NV 89106
Date:	February 21, 2019 8:30 am – 10:00 am

	Membership:	Present	Absent
Public: Matthew Vosburg, Foster Parent	Dr. Lisa Morris-Hibbler		X
	Dr. Tammy Malich		X
	Shelia Parks	X	
	Crystal Bomar	X(Phone)	
	Judge Frank Sullivan		X
	Andre Bailey		X
	Matthew Cox	X(Phone)	
	Dashun Jackson	X	
	Donna Smith	X(Phone)	
	Denise Tanata		X
	Carly Aldis	X(Phone)	
County/Department Management:	Tim Burch	Administrator	X
	Paula Hammack	Assistant Director	
	Jill Marano	Assistant Director	X
	Eboni Washington	Assistant Director	X
	Judy Tudor	Assistant Director	X
	Mari Parlade	DFS Strategic Initiatives Manager	X

Agenda Item 1:	Call to order and welcome	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was called to order at 8:38 am and roll was called by Chair 	
Agenda Item 2:	Public Comments	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
Agenda Item 3:	Approval of December 20, 2018 Minutes (For Possible Action)	CAC Members
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved 	
Agenda Item 4:	Welcome CAC Reappointed/Appointed Members & Perform Office of Oath	For Possible Action
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee welcomed new and reappointed members who were in attendance, Sheila Parks, Crystal Bomar, and Carly Aldis. Sheila Parks was sworn in and took her oath of office before undertaking her duties – other members will make arrangements to have their oath of office conducted on another day. 	
Agenda Item 5:	Department of Family Services Report Out (Information only)	DFS Management
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Prevention: Implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) DFS is focused on keeping children at home using the Title IV-E Waiver with wraps and support services DFS received clarification from the Feds that every state has to comply by 2021 and that DFS can opt in at any point between October 1, 2019 and October 1, 2021 	

- There are state-wide workgroups for all of the core areas that meet weekly and are working on a 5-year plan
- DFS will continue to work with the Northern partners on an array of service readiness in order for the entire state to move forward
- Title IV-E Waivers across the nation will end in September and DFS is making assessments to extend and continue prevention efforts
- DFS received clarification on the modeling licensing standards released by the Feds, where some of the standards are similar to what DFS already has in place (i.e., a requirement for a carbon monoxide detector on every floor of a home and CPR for all foster parents)
- **(2) Intervention & Accountability (internal & external communication)**
- DFS has been meeting with the Ombudsmen discussing complaints and outcomes and how they will be handled
- Several internal communication outlets were implemented to update staff on a regular basis (DFS Net and YouTube updates)
- DFS is going to use some of the same ideas for external outlets (i.e. getting information out to foster parents and youth)
- QPI and Foster Parent Champions started focus groups who are working with staff, foster and adoptive parents on their challenges, needs and feedback on external communication – they will compile all information for reporting and make a presentation to the committee in the future
- Additional representatives will be invited to participate in the focus groups at a later time (i.e., Foster Change and CASA)
- A list of the roles on the focus groups will be provided to the committee
- The Dean of the School of Urban Affairs, UNLV Journalism department is assisting in setting up effective external communication, utilizing digital technologies
- **(3) Youth Supports: Transitional Aged Youth Supports**
- DFS has joined in the youth homelessness issues of the community and is part of the 100-day challenge of HUD
- Nevada Project for Homeless Youth is the lead agency and with assistance from Social Services to provide wrap services
- DFS will work with them on sustainability of the housing and some financial coaching
- HUD vouchers are available for youth, in which the youth would have to meet all eligibility requirements
- DFS has a family reunification vouchers program through the housing authority
- DFS met with Charles Schwab, Inc. who will be providing financial coaching to staff to be certified to assist our youth on how to manage and budget their money in order to be successful as young adults
- DFS has been partnering with Mad City Money, a project of the Nevada Federal Credit Union, to provide youth some real-life experience on how to manage their money and pay bills (i.e., rent, groceries, utilities, cell phone bill, etc. on a monthly basis). Upon completing the project, youth will receive \$50 towards opening a checking/savings account with the credit union
- IL youth are selected to participate in the Mad City Money program
- DFS will follow up on how this is being marketed to youth, if this project is conducted in Northern Nevada, how the youth who did not attend will receive this information, and if there will be some classes offered to the youth on Mad City Money
- DFS is working to provide an avenue to have a financial literacy training for youth who didn't attend the Mad City Money program by: 1) holding an event for youth to attend; 2) having a "Train-the Trainer" model for youth to be Champion trainers for this initiative and sustainability purpose and; 3) to work with Charles Schwab, Inc. who has offered a Pathway Class – this is a work in process and has yet to be confirmed –

	<p>this will assist with having the same training information transfer within the department and, ensure that youth receives the same information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFS provides a critical thinking class series for the youth to attend called, ThinkLaw (a program to teach critical thinking and problem solving, etc.) – the classes are being promoted to the youth through IL workers when developing their IL transition plans and, in the Foster Parent newsletter called Caregiver Courier • DFS is working on an Independent Living FACEBOOK page to get more information out to the youth • Information was presented on an organization called Klothes4kids. The owner is 16 years old and received a grant to start this business. He is supportive to the foster care system by providing clothes for youth 		
Agenda Item 6:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>CAC Discussion &/or Recommendations on the Top 3 Priorities (delineated in Section V)</td> <td>For Possible Action</td> </tr> </table>	CAC Discussion &/or Recommendations on the Top 3 Priorities (delineated in Section V)	For Possible Action
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	Please see information in Section V		
Agenda Item 7:	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Informational items/Announcements</td> <td>(Information Only)</td> </tr> </table>	Informational items/Announcements	(Information Only)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any changes to policies regarding foster parents’ quarterly home inspections and monthly visits will be communicated to them, which will include implementation dates - any concerns will be brought to management’s attention • The topic “Policy Changes Update” will be added as a standard agenda item for the DFS Report Outs 		
Agenda Item 8:	Comments by General Public		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew Vosburg, Foster Parent, voiced his concern regarding communication, youth lacking basic skills and support from the case workers 		
Agenda Item 9:	Adjournment – 9:56 am		
	Next meeting will be Thursday, March 21, 2019 @ 8:30 am		