

CCFS Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location:	VIA: Microsoft Teams - Clark County Family Services Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device. Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 299 538 190 133 2 Passcode: ht33os9Zf Download Teams Join on the web Or call in (audio only) +1 725-696-5982,,83394576# United States, Las Vegas Phone Conference ID: 833 945 76#
Date:	May 21, 2026 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Membership		Present	Absent
CAC Members:	Alison (Ali) Caliendo		X
	Angela Cook	X	
	Christopher Merritt	X	
	Dashun Jackson	X	
	Donna Smith		X
	Madyson Wier	X	
	Judge Margaret Pickard	X	
	Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod	X	
	Shelia Parks	X	
	Tammy Malich	X	
Clark County Management:	Abigail Frierson, CCFS Interim Deputy Director		X
	Wonswayla Mackey, CCFS Deputy Director	X	
	Lisa Martinez, CCFS Deputy Director	X	
	Stacie Dastrup, CCFS Deputy Director	X	
	Robynn Bell, CCFS Deputy Director	X	
Public:	Laurie Iscan, Deputy DA	X	

Agenda Item I:	Call to order and roll call	
	Meeting called to order at 8:09 am by Chair, Judge Pickard. Quorum was confirmed.	
Agenda Item II:	Comments by General Public	
	None	
Agenda Item III:	Approval of March 26, 2026, Minutes	(For Possible Action)
	Minutes approved unanimously	
Agenda Item IV:	Discussion of 2026 CAC priorities and if adjustments should be made	(For Possible Action)
	The committee reviewed several priority areas including Family of Origin, Mental Health Services, Medicaid code changes, CCSD issues, visitation safety, Ombudsman office, and licensing updates.	

	1. Family of Origin / Reunification - Reunification efforts are improving with data showing 264 parental reunifications, 1,358 relative placements, and 210 fictive kin placements for April. 2. Child Placement & Service Access - April child admissions totaled 391 with approximately 351 releases. Children undergo acuity screenings and are referred to clinical services as needed. - Important Medicaid prior authorization updates were shared by Madyson Wier, including changes to therapy billing codes and misunderstandings among providers. - CCSD / School Issues Chris Merritt will provide detailed data on expulsion rates and school-of-origin issues in future meetings. 3. Placements - Visitation Safety Discussion focused on safety inside and outside visitation centers. Committee agreed that only police-involved incidents should be tracked. Department protocols remain in place. - Ombudsman Office The committee discussed public perceptions of the Ombudsman Office. Department reported consistent responses and no systemic issues. - Licensing & Respite Updates State will codify new relative licensing regulations. Leadership updates include vacancy for Resource Development Manager. Respite usage varies case-by-case. Motion introduced and passed to amend 2026 CAC priorities: Under Section IV #3 strike the following: Safety at visitation centers, Transparent reporting from the Ombudsman's office and Execution on partnership agreement then add "Sibling Placement Orders" as a future agenda item due to concerns about extended stays at Child Haven and placement challenges.	
Agenda Item V:	Clark County Family Services Report Out	(Information Only)
	- Stacie Dastrup announced she will become the new Director of Family Services. - Child Haven census remains 70–80 children with expected summer increase. AL Chu cottage continues to have placement challenges. - Licensing updates: changes in leadership and will conduct interviews for a Manager over Resource Development and Training.	

	Independent Living program updates: currently 24 youths in the queue to determine if eligible for the program. 93 foster youth graduating on June 10; volunteer support requested.	
Agenda Item VI:	Identify Emerging Issues to be addressed at future meetings and receive updates on activities of the CAC members related to their duties as committee members	(Information only)
	Topics flagged for future agendas include Medicaid coverage updates, visitation safety, and sibling placement orders	
Agenda Item VII:	Next Meeting date July 16, 2026, at 8:30am or to be set	(For Possible Action)
	Next meeting is July 16, 2026, at 8:30am; passed unanimously Judge Pickard recognized Sheila Parks for her upcoming retirement and years of service. Event scheduled for May 28 at Child Haven Gym.	
Agenda Item VIII:	Comments by General Public	
	None	
Agenda Item IX:	Adjournment	
	Meeting adjourned at 9:06am.	