

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:	July 16, 2026 8:30 am – 10:00 am

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

Agenda Item I:	Call to order and roll call	
	Meeting called to order at 8:30 am by Chair, Judge Pickard. Quorum was confirmed.	
Agenda Item II:	Comments by General Public	
	None	
Agenda Item III:	Approval of May 21, 2026, Minutes	(For Possible Action)
	Minutes were approved with the amendment, following formal motion and second.	
Agenda Item IV:	Discussion of 2026 CAC priorities and if adjustments should be made	(For Possible Action)
	1. Family of Origin Judge Pickard led detailed dialogue on reunification efforts, diligent search for relatives, mentoring services, and the need to improve transition communication between NIA and Permanency units. Concerns were raised regarding relatives who engage late in the case. CASA and department efforts	

	on fictive kin placements were discussed, highlighting their importance over distant blood relatives who lack connection. International family placement services were noted, including agencies capable of conducting home studies abroad. 2. Children Child Placement Statistical Report CCFS reported monthly intake numbers, hotline call volume, and placement statistics. Intake averages were high due to community stressors, school break, and increased JJ overlaps. A significant portion of calls required priority-one responses. The department continues focusing on reunification and accurate data tracking. Services and Programs for Older Youth The committee discussed trainings offered by the Nevada Supreme Court related to extended foster care (ages 18–21). Opportunities for agencies to attend upcoming sessions and access recorded materials were mentioned. CASA and other agencies reported on collaboration efforts for youth transitioning to independent living. High Needs Youth & Mental Health Discussion included overlap with JJ, new IDD specialized homes opening through Eagle Quest, challenges accessing Medicaid services, and the need for coordinated support for parents during reunification. Improved collaboration between CCFS and Juvenile Justice. Judge Bailey’s courts and diversionary programs were acknowledged for supporting autistic youth and FAS cases. CCSD Updates Settlement reached for dyslexia-related cases; additional services are now available. 3. Sibling Placement & Child Haven Only one sibling group currently remained separated on campus. CASA emphasized their role in facilitating sibling visits. CCFS discussed active reviews of separated siblings and monthly oversight meetings. Safety concerns at visitation centers were reviewed, with security support available as needed. Visitation Center Safety No significant new incidents reported. Safety issues largely stemmed from parental behaviors but are managed with security and coordination with county police. Ombudsman Reporting Removal Previous concerns about transparency in Ombudsman reporting were resolved. The committee unanimously voted to remove this item from future agendas after determining it was no longer an active issue.
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	Respite Care & Foster Parent Support Updates included expansion of Foster Parent Champions, availability of mentoring support, and potential comfort calls to improve transition periods for incoming placements. Upcoming presentation to County Commissioners on recruitment plan.	
Agenda Item V:	Clark County Family Services Report Out	(Information Only)
	- Deputy Director interviews completed; appointment forthcoming. - Child Haven population fluctuating between 89–111. - Increase in removals attributed to community growth, economic stress, summer-related pressures, and JJ youth whose parents will not retrieve them. - Hotline receiving ~24,000 calls YTD; high number of priority-one cases requiring six-hour response. - Leadership changes within IL program. - New licensing manager appointed. - Awaiting final approval of updated licensing regulations. - Confirmed policies are posted online and additional policies are being prepared for publication.	
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)
	None	
Agenda Item VII:	Next Meeting date September 17, 2026, at 8:30am or to be set	(For Possible Action)
	Next meeting is September 17, 2026; passed unanimously	
Agenda Item VIII:	Comments by General Public	
	Foster parent champion hotline number was shared: 702-455-1149.	
Agenda Item IX:	Adjournment	
	Meeting adjourned at 9:14am.	