



CARTF

SpringHill Suites, Boise

February 2, 2018

MINUTES

Joshua Wickard- Public Defender (Chairman)

Bart Adrian, MD – Pediatrician

James Baugh-Children with Disabilities

Sheila Sturgeon Freitas, PhD– Mental Health

Doug Giddings-Idaho County Sheriff

Melissa Osen– Foster Youth

JoAnn Gemar – Homeless Education Liaison

Jill Robertson– Parent

Jennifer Tachell– Educator (Vice-Chairman)

Jennifer Bergin- Attorney

ABSENT

Mindy Peper - Administrative Support

GUESTS:

Lisa Nordstrom- Child Advocate Attorney

Miren Unsworth- DHW, Family & Children Services

Susan Bradford, MD – Pediatrician

Hon. Steve Clark- Civil Magistrate Judge

Galen Carlson- Prosecuting Attorney

Tahna Barton – CASA

Hon. Mark Rammell- Criminal Magistrate Judge

Nadine McDonald – Juvenile Justice

Molly Vaughn– Victim Services Coordinator

Approve minutes from January 2018

January minutes were not available for review. Approval of minutes was tabled to next month.

CARTF Support Update

Miren Unsworth shared an update on the contract for support for CARTF. The contract has been awarded to Jaalanai, LLC, a Washington, DC based small business. Anthony James will provide support to the Task Force. He will be in Boise for the March 2018 meeting. Joshua and Miren or Michelle will have a conversation with him about logistics and how support will look moving forward. Task Force discussed the details of contracts and support options for CARTF. An additional concern is with the Child Fatality Review Team -- Mindy would often field inquiries to the CFR team, and we aren't sure if the new contractor will be able to field inquiries, as he is from out of state and not familiar with the CFR team, even though that duty is a part of the contract. Joshua and Michelle/Miren will continue to work to find the best solution for CARTF and the CFR team.

Legislative Update

Miren gave a legislative update from the Department point of view. They are wanting to update the 18-year-old information management system that the Department uses. They have asked JFAC for continued funding for the upgrade. They have also asked for immediate approval for 13 more staff: 2 supervisors, 7 social workers, and some people with business expertise to help manage the upgrade. The Pocatello office is extremely busy. There has been a 66% increase in opioid-involved removal cases since 2014.

There is a lot of conversation about the faith-healing issue but no details on any specific legislation as of yet. There is also a cohort of people in north Idaho working on some legislation about protection of anonymity for folks who make referrals/reports to DHW.

YES Program Manager: Pat Martelle; Brenda Bielke

Task Force introduced themselves. Pat Martelle introduced herself and shared about YES. Youth Empowerment Services is a result of the Jeff D lawsuit from 1980. Scope of work is scheduled to continue through 2020, but work will very likely continue beyond the mandated time. YES fulfills 8 objectives from the settlement of the lawsuit. A system of care to coordinate services across child-serving entities, specifically DHW, State Dept of Ed, and DJC at this time. Blue Cross, U of I, and St. Luke's are also interested in working with YES. In order to truly coordinate care, they need to have all stakeholders involved in working with children involved. They are working on getting enough resources to work with regions across the state.

The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) is a tool used to communicate with all child-serving entities. It is a way to share information among and between entities. It identifies the child's greatest needs and strengths, based on answers to questions and also an interview. (The CANS is intended to replace the CAFIS.) It suggests the level of care that is recommended for the child based on the results of the questions and the interview. Ultimately the goal is to coordinate care between entities to help the child work his/her way out of the systems.

BSU estimates that there are about 21,000 students with serious emotional disturbances in Idaho. Many are already receiving support services, but between 1000-6000 will have more intense needs and need more intensive supports from multiple agencies (DHW, DJC, mental health, etc.). YES seeks to streamline and coordinate the supports and services so kids get what they need.

A common struggle across the board is not only the scarcity of mental health providers, but the scarcity of those who accept Medicaid. The Medicaid process is cumbersome for practitioners. Even some of the insurance companies that have good physical health coverage often do NOT have good coverage for mental health services.

They have a website. Additional information is available on the brochures shared with the Task Force. There is also a complaint line so as they make changes and adjust the services, stakeholders and others have a resource to share feedback.

Despite the mandate of the settlement terms, Idaho is rural and getting resources to the outlying areas/children that need it is extremely difficult. There are a lot of services that YES wants to provide, but there is a definite shortage of workforce in our state to provide the necessary support. YES has a workforce development group that is working on this issue. There are no easy answers.

Regardless of whether they qualify for Medicaid, youth are entitled to the services that YES provides. Presently, in Idaho, DJC and/or Child Welfare often end up as default mental health treatment options. It is expected that YES coming on board will provide a proper avenue for children and families that need support in the area of mental health.

The Parent Network is a group of parents who have children with SED. There are at least two parents in every region of the state. They support each other and help the practitioners to shape the policies for YES. There is more information on the website.

Task Force members shared connections and resources with Pat to help get the word out about YES and what they are doing. Brenda Bielke is our contact person if we need more information

CFR Team Update

Latest report (2015) is complete and will be out in the Spring. There were 163 deaths, 103 of which were reviewed by the team. There were two faith healing deaths in the stats from 2015, and suicides are continuing to rise in the age 10-17 group. SUID deaths are still higher than the national average; many times this is due to unsafe sleeping environments (e.g., too many blankets, co-sleeping, dog beds used as baby beds), and often the condition of the home was deplorable. A question raised by the CFR team was why there is no investigation into the condition of the parents in the cases where the home environment is questionable.

In some cases of MVA, deaths occurred due to improper restraint (i.e., in the car seat but not buckled in).

Jerrilea Archer has been attending the meetings, but isn't able to be there for every meeting and the team wonders if there needs to be a second representative from law enforcement on the team so that the LE perspective is represented.

Another hurdle is getting a medical doctor to consistently attend the meetings. EMS does not attend either. Coroners are represented by Dr. Groban and Dr. Sonnenberg, but they are retired and don't consistently attend. Dr. Warren has been nominated to be a part of the team, has attended meetings. He has a forensic background. A pediatrician is also needed to be on the team. Dr. Bradford is interested in getting involved and will attend a CFR Team meeting to see if it's a good fit. EMS is also needed, as the expertise is valuable.

Judge Rammell moved that Dr. Warren be accepted onto the CFR team. Dr. Adrian seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Conference Planning

Sheila has done some checking into speakers for our next conference. Doug Graves and Heather Simonich would be willing to come and share about child trauma and how

to mitigate the impacts of trauma through trauma-informed practices and screeners. The only cost would be for Heather's travel from North Dakota. Heather has developed a curriculum that is being used in schools in other states and also in Emmett.

A human trafficking conference was held and Russell Strand (a retired federal special agent) talks about how to interview victims of trauma using a trauma-informed approach.

There is also a judge in Colorado who speaks about what he practices in the courtroom for trauma-informed practices.

Task Force agrees that we'd like to check the availability of Russell Strand to do the full day conference and get him booked if he's available. Tachell will reach out and get more information.

DHW as Party to CPS Cases Discussion (continued)

Tabled for March meeting

March Planning (Dr. Huntsberger is scheduled in March), meeting up north?

We will wait to see about a meeting up north until we meet our new Administrative Support person.

Dr. Huntsberger will join us in March.

We will continue the conversation about DHW as a Party to CPS cases in March.

New Business

Barton asked a question about redacting referral information when someone makes a report. Some legislation has been put forth and she has been asked to write a letter of support and she is seeking information before deciding about whether to do that or not.

Adjourn