



CARTF

Springhill Suites, BOISE

Clearwater III Room

May 9, 2014

MINUTES

Kirt Naylor - Child Advocate Attorney (Chairman)

Bart Adrian, MD – Pediatrician

James Baugh-Children with Disabilities

Phares Book, PsyD –Psychologist

Doug Giddings-Idaho County Sheriff

Marcia Hernandez– Foster Youth

Patti O' Dell – Homeless Education Liaison

Jill Robertson– Parent

Jennifer Tachell– Educator (Vice-Chairman)

ABSENT

Mindy Peper - Administrative Support

Tammy Perkins – Governor's Office –Not Attending

GUESTS: Falen LeBlanc (DHW), Lisa van Morris (DHW), Ashley Kuber, James Rupp, IFYAB

Joshua Wickard- Public Defender

Miren Unsworth- DHW, Family & Children Services

Susan Bradford, MD – Pediatrician

Hon. Steve Clark- Civil Magistrate Judge

Jennifer Bergin- Prosecuting Attorney

Tahna Barton – CASA

Hon. Mark Rammell- Criminal Magistrate Judge

Debbie Stallcup – Juvenile Justice

Molly Vaughn– Victim Services Coordinator

WELCOME, OPENING

Tachell opens the meeting. Rammell motions to approve April 2014 minutes, Stallcup seconds, all in favor and so moved.

CARTF/CJA Financial Report, Unsworth

Tabled

CARTF resignations and possible nominations

Stallcup has two recommendations—Nadine McDonald, Chief PO for Idaho County and Lael Hanson with Ada County Probation Services. Both are very interested and enthused about the possibility of serving here. Stallcup brought letters of interest and CV for each nomination. Stallcup feels either would be a great fit but she would like to see Nadine do it for the purpose of representing northern Idaho. Giddings says she will be here if she says she will- she is very committed.

Stallcup motions we accept the letter of interest of Nadine McDonald for Stallcup's replacement. Adrian seconds the motion. Further discussion. All in favor and so moved. We will request Naylor to write a letter and Stallcup will thank Hanson and let her know the choice was made due to geographical representation.

O'dell is also resigning and retiring and moving to Georgia. She has a recommendation for a Homeless Youth representative—JoAnn Gemar, homeless coordinator in Twin Falls County. She is compassionate, kind, and hard-working.

Bergin says she has a wide base of knowledge. O'dell will bring her letter of interest and CV to the June meeting.

Strategic Planning/ Upcoming Meetings

Most people agreed we could cancel the November 7 meeting and so it is cancelled.

Prosecutor Awards

Bergin discusses some of Julie Sturgil's background. Says she is very dedicated. Wickard asks what the criteria is and Peper provides him a brochure. Stallcup and Bergin discuss the history and criteria of the award. Barton discusses what she knows about Sturgil. Bergin will abstain from voting since she is in her office. Naylor votes for Sturgil by email.

Task force discusses Herzog and reviews his nomination letters. Bergin states he has helped in the past with the Twin Falls Prosecuting Office when they had some questions.

Stallcup motions to accept the nomination of Sturgil, Book seconds the motion, all in favor and so moved.

Wickard asks if there has been any discussion about an award for those who work in the trenches of CPS that are not necessarily prosecutors. Bergin states there is or used to be a similar award that came from the Supreme Court Child Protection Committee.

Conference

Peper discusses that we will not be able to get Laura Van der Lootsky for October. Perhaps we would like to book her for 2015. Anne Tierney had other suggestions but it would require moving the conference to a different date as well.

Stallcup says she knows a speaker, Dr. Thurber, that would be great for follow-up to the trauma topic we had last year. He discusses the brain and trauma and also discusses talk-therapy and bio feedback. Bradford suggests that perhaps there is someone from Idaho that could summarize the use of psychotropic medications in children and correlation with foster care, poverty, and Medicare.

Tachell discusses having the IFYAP attending the conference to speak to audience and share their stories. Would be great to have today's guests and more.

Idaho Foster Youth Advisory Panel, Falen LeBlanc (DHW), James Rupp (Board Co-Chair), Ashley Kuber (Board Chair)

Task force introduces self and then learns about the advisory panel. Kuber and Rupp discusses what their experience has been in foster care and after. This will be followed up with Q and A. A handout has been provided.

Youth panel shares their personal history and experiences with CARTF.

Dr Adrian asked what helped them keep their eye on the goal. Kuber states that the difference in temperaments certainly helped her make the right choices. What made a difference for her were people in her church that were supportive and offered to help in various ways as well as teaching her and her siblings things she was not learning at home, teaching kids tough love and expecting accountability, and also learning through and leaning on sports. Rupp states that sports helped him get threw as it helped him realize that he was good at something and helped him feel in control. He is also driven by wanting to give his own family those things that he has never had. Rupp states that having people say he can't do something has fueled the fire but it helps to have people in his life consistently telling him that he can do it, that he can make something out of his life.

Kuber states that DHW focuses on reunifying with the family but Kuber did not want to reunify. She felt the case worker nor DHW listened to her wishes. After 4 months they were reunified. She feels many steps were missed. Her aunt was her foster parent and she felt safe. Kuber feels that DHW should have gathered more background and figured out the root of the issues. Doing drugs and alcohol was covering up something else in her dads life and that trauma is usually generational. Kuber did not have an attorney appointed to her as is now for kids over the age of 12. Rammell asks if writing a letter to a judge would help. Kuber says telling a judge what she wants in front of her parents is intimidating, but writing a letter might help. Kuber says sending the parents, lawyers, CASA worker, and case workers out of the courtroom helps. Kuber says the letter can sometimes miss the emotional aspect. Rupp says a letter is difficult because there is not necessarily any feedback. Kids might feel judges don't care and are on the side of the parents. Kuber says telling the kids you care about them and that they have a voice helps—giving the kids the confidence to speak up helps.

Bradford asks Kuber to speak to her interaction with the medical community. Kuber feels anyone working with children in CPS should be trauma-informed--teachers, principals, nurses, doctors, etc. She felt she was written off regarding her Crohn's Disease.

Bergin asks Rupp about his experience in the Bannock House. Rupp states that he feels being at Bannock House made him feel shut off from people and often he couldn't get ahold of his case worker. Being in a group home felt more isolated and often the feeling is like you don't have anyone to go to when in need of support. His experience with running away and no one noticing felt like no one cared. Because of Rupp's story of not feeling like anyone cared when he ran

away, DHW is working on protocol that would change this awareness. Training of the front-line workers makes a difference as how run-aways are sought for.

Stallcup suggests that it would be really great for the panel to talk to the new juvenile detention/correction officers coming into the detention training at POST Academy. Rupp says that his experience going into detention was scary and the unknown created his reaction. It would have been helpful to know how long he would have to be there upfront.

Rupp was recommended as a homeless youth and that has helped quite a bit. O'dell asks what the school system could do to help identify and help homeless youth. Rupp says trust is a big issue so having some way to ask for help and trust the people in the school. Kuber says it might help to meet with all the student's teachers at once and discuss what is needed to help that student meet their goals.

There are 14 youth on IFYAB who are from all over the state- they speak with community groups throughout Idaho. They also work with Native American tribes, Casey Family resources, current foster youth, state representatives, and so on.

Currently, the board is working on peer-to-peer mentoring groups for current foster kids, foster kids bill of rights, and sibling bill of rights.

New Business

No new business

Adjourn

Next meeting will be held June 6, 2014 at 8 a.m.

June Agenda Items:

- JoAnne Gemar nomination to CARTF for Homeless Youth representative
- Conference speaker

Action Items:

Peper-

- Cancel November meeting
- Follow-up with Prosecutor award for August IPAA meeting
- Print nameplates for Wickard, Gemar
- Ask Naylor to send letter to McDonald
- Update website
- Mail Bradford an application

Tachel-

- Email Falen LeBlanc about youth panel presenting at annual conference

Naylor-

- Send letter to McDonald