



CARTF

SpringHill Suites, Boise

November 3, 2017

## **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

## **WELCOME**

McDonald makes a motion to approve the October 2017 minutes, Rammell seconds, all in favor and so moved.

## **CONFERENCE DEBRIEF**

Wickard and Debra Alsaker-Burke have talked about possibly collaborating on next conference.

May consider a lighter topic (perhaps CASA topic) during lunch and move the CFR Team report to morning.

CARTF should begin to think about topics and speakers for next conference.

Possible topic could be neurobiology behind the difference of effects of neglect versus abuse on a child and sustainable child development and how we can use this information to improve outcomes based on better case plans.

## **CFR TEAM UPDATE/ MATERNAL-PERINATAL DEATHS UNDER MIDWIFE**

CARTF recently received an email as well as a conversation between Wickard and Tammy Perkins (Governor's Office) regarding the issue of maternal and perinatal deaths under midwife care in northern Idaho. The question is can the CFR Team review these cases. Barton says that several problems arise—is child stillborn, how is coded, is it considered unattended, etc... Somehow, it would have to be flagged to be caught by the CFR screening subcommittee.

Barton says she would like to hear what Abbott has to say and see if there is a way to pull these for review. The review, however, would be two years from now. CARTF discusses the strength of fatality review cases as it hinges on the strength of the coroner investigation/report. Wickard and Baugh suggests CFR Team writes a position statement regarding systemic errors and communication breakdown as well as suggestions for solving the problem. It should not specify one person or another but rather the profession.

Barton working to present the CFR Team annual report to various groups. Baugh suggests that each year we look at report and ask who needs to see this report this year and then send them a letter and report and point them to the page(s) that apply to them.

### **DHW REPRESENTATIVE**

Unsworth is getting a couple names together for us and we can take up this topic in February.

### **NATASHA LATTIN, ID CASA STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Lattin introduces herself and the new position that she is in. The ID CASA board has a broad representation from throughout the state and several disciplines. The board is working on several projects to include facilitating communication throughout the state and with national offices, training new CASA volunteers and how to increase retention of CASA volunteers, developing a master calendar for training, funding awareness, consistency in training from CASA district to district, sharing policy updates, and so on.

Nationwide CASA has 1000 programs in 49 states. Idaho mandates that children under 12 in a CPS case must have a CASA representative. Idaho has 7 CASA programs that covers 40 counties. In 2016, there were 419 CASA volunteers serving 1792 children. About 30% of eligible children are not served by a CASA volunteer. Each CASA program in Idaho is a non-profit and they are steered by their board as well as national CASA standards.

Lattin covers what a CASA volunteer does, the challenges that CASA faces, the benefits and outcomes of CASA on children, communities, and foster care system.

Wickard asks what recruitment looks like. Lattin states that it is a little different for each local CASA. Barton says in her area that they do marketing and presentations. However, her best recruitment is by word of mouth. She feels well over 70% of recruitments are by other CASA volunteers bringing on new recruitments, and the retention of those new volunteers are much higher.

CARTF discusses the relationship, accountability, and expectations amongst CASA, Idaho Supreme Court, state legislators, local courts, and local agencies.

CARTF discusses taking a position and recommendation to the governor after the OPE report and findings comes out.

### **WINTER PLANNING**

January 5 – DHW as party in CPS cases, conference final numbers and ideas for next conference

February 2-- YES program manager, DHW Representative Nominees, maternal and infant deaths?

March 2— Debra Alsaker-Burke

April—Tamara Pitz

Tammy Perkins would like to see CARTF hold one meeting up north.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The governor's office would like CARTF to take a position on whether DHW should be party to CPS cases based on how this issue is affecting handling of CPS cases. CARTF discusses several points of view and historical background on the issue. McDonald suggests that this is not an issue that the team should look at from a legal point of view, rather, take a position from the mandate of this task force to keep the best interest of the child in mind. Baugh says we shouldn't render a legal decision rather a policy recommendation.

### **ADJOURN**

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

#### **PEPER:**

- Reach out to guests for winter/spring
- Prepare conference wrap up for January meeting

**CARTF will meet January 5 at 9:00 AM at SpringHill Suites in Boise**