



## CARTF

The SPRINGHILL SUITES, BOISE

Table Rock Board Room

November 11, 2011

### MINUTES

**Kirt Naylor** - Child Advocate Attorney (Chairman)

**Dr. Bart Adrian** – Pediatrician

**James Baugh**-Children with Disabilities-**Absent**

**Phares Book** –Psychologist

**Doug Giddings**-Idaho County Sheriff

**Marcia Hernandez** – Foster Youth **-Absent**

**Patti O' Dell** – Homeless Education Liaison

**Jill Robertson** – Parent -

**Jennifer Tachell** – Educator (Vice-Chairman) -

**John Adams** - Public Defender-**Absent**

**Shirley Alexander** - DHW, Family & Children Services

**Susan Bradford** – Pediatrician

**Hon. Steve Clark** - Civil Magistrate Judge-**Absent**

**Jennifer Gose**- Prosecuting Attorney

**Stacy McAlevy** – CASA- **Absent**

**Hon. Mark Rammell** - Criminal Magistrate Judge-**Absent**

**Debbie Stallcup** – Juvenile Justice-**Absent**

**Molly Vaughn** – Victim Services Coordinator-**Absent**

Doug Graves – LETR Director

Tammy Perkins – Governor's Office –**Not Attending**

Amy Wernsing-Governor's Office –**Not Attending**

Mindy Peper - Administrative Support

Lindsey Russell – Governor's Office **Not Attending**

8:00- Kirt Naylor calls the meeting to order

Naylor welcomes Mindy Peper as new administrative assistant for CARTF and introduces guest, Leann Simmons from Idaho Voices for Children.

Task force reviews September 2011 minutes. Naylor asks for motion to approve minutes. Giddings makes motion and Alexander 2nds to approve minutes. All in favor of minutes.

### **Idaho Voices for Children- LeAnn Simmons (executive director) and Margaret Henbest (board member and former legislator) [idahovoices.org](http://idahovoices.org):**

Naylor welcomes and introduces guests. CARTF has been working with IVC on the child mortality review legislation. Today IVC will give CARTF an overview of their mission and projects.

CARTF introduces themselves to guests. Henbest asks who is not being represented today at CARTF. Naylor reviews those who are absent.

Simmons reviews the organization. According to new stats in Idaho, almost half of young children are in poverty. Poverty rate however is not as bad as some large metro areas. IVC was formed to be a voice for children. Formed to take a comprehensive look at lots of child related topics and how they are connected opposed to single topics. They look at areas of childrens health, education, and safety. They look at the problems and ask what is the best solution. Utilize

many experts and look to unite the community around children and families. Work to raise awareness, educate, and unite the community.

IVC Basics:

- Established in 2005.
- Affiliated with Voices for America's Children
- State and local membership
- 800 individual advocates
- nonpartisan, data driven, collaborative
- 16 board membership
- Annual Children's Champion

How IVC Partners with Others and is Funded:

Work with other non-profit organizations who have some portion in advocacy for the improvement of children's lives in Idaho. Act as an umbrella organization. Some of those organizations include Idaho School Board Association, Casey Family Program, Idaho Children's Trust Fund, Idaho Kids Count, and so on. The organizations pay membership fees.

IVC funded through membership fees, private donors, corporate sponsors, and grants. Find it is hard to get national funders to fund Idaho because difficult to show progress.

Why do we need IVC?

- Education--Kids need access to same high quality education across the state.
- Poverty-- Poverty rate in Idaho has increased 14% since 2000. 48% of children in Idaho live in low income families.
- Safety-- Idaho is the only state that does not have Child Fatality Review legislation. A child in Idaho dies before its first birthday every 3 days.
- Health--47,000 children are uninsured. 26,000 of those qualify for S-CHIP but are not enrolled. CARTF asks why? IVC states there are many reasons. Some many not be citizens. Some parents don't want govt. enrollment. Some parents are not aware of benefits. Sometimes because parents can't get act together to fill out the forms.

How IVC Works:

- Committees research and evaluate issues, policy, and legislation
- Advocate policies through public education and awareness
- Engage a lobbyist to advance children-focused agenda to the legislature

Not lacking in ideas but in resources so must tackle some of the issues and partner with other organizations for the other ideas and support them.

IVC 2010-2011 Accomplishments:

- de facto custodianship legislation on behalf of grandparents

- childcare health and safety rules; improve staff to child ratios

#### IVC 2011-2012 Policy Priorities

- establish a statewide child fatality review process
- address issue of 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading proficiency
- reduce number of youth who start smoking
- reduce childhood obesity

#### IVC Conclusion

Always looking for more people to stand with IVC and be a voice for children.

Henbest discusses her perspective from the board of directors. It is avenue to work on children's issues. The strength of the board is made up a diverse group from all walks of life who are well-rounded and interested in improving the lives of children in Idaho. Found in her time in the legislature that Idaho often passed laws that made life more difficult for children.

#### **Death of Children in “Faith Healings”:**

Adrian states that he has been a member if CHILD inc for 20 years and that is how he got to know Rita Swan, who lost her son to illness when he didn't get medical care because of their church affiliation. In their grieving process they formed CHILD Inc.

There is a group called the Followers of Christ who are prevalent in Canyon Co and also in Oregon. Two children in Canyon Co died last spring of Pneumonia and also a 17 year old who was removed from the hospital ER after a car accident and later died. This lack of medical care was based on their religious beliefs. Swan would like to help Idaho change some of the laws to prevent these kind of deaths in children.

DHW has a lot of experience with the Followers of Christ believers. DHW get calls from schools or others who says a child is not getting medical treatment. If it isn't life threatening, nothing is done. However, there has been 4 or 5 calls where a judge has been brought in immediately to order the parents to get medial treatment for the kids. DHW works with the leaders of the church. The hole in the system is when there is no referral to have someone respond. As long as there is a referral there is a statute to help. CARTF asks if there was a a change to the law that had penalties for a child dying or impairment due to the withholding of medical care based on religious exemptions, there might be motivation for the parents to seek care.

Task force discusses the current statutes regarding child abuse, neglect, and religious exemptions.

CARTF suggests it would be very difficult to change this but would suggest taking it to some legislators for input. IVC points out that one problem might be the religious exemptions for immunizations. CARTF points out that there will be some worried about the slippery slope of going in this direction.

IVC says they will keep this issue on their radar screen.

Naylor thanks IVC for taking the time to come and speak with us.

### **Inventory:**

Green coloring book- whats my job in court

Blue coloring book- what happens in court -- green books for 1000 is \$2779, 2000 is \$3942, and 3000 is \$5104. The break in price is at 2000 books. Graves to order 2000 green coloring books from ESP. Hold off on blue coloring books.

Graves says he can check with ESP on price of Care Enough to Call (English version) books-- order 1000 to 2000 depending on price break.

Prosecutor's award is done online.

Magnets, pens, Care Enough to Call (Spanish version) brochure-- reevaluate this inventory and ordering in January 2012

### **MDT Grant Review:**

CARTF looks over the 2011 Canyon County grant report. Peper to keep track of the report and track who has recently received money so CARTF can insure money is distributed evenly.

Graves states that there was an MDT approval issued to Bear Lake County but they have reported there are some medical issues and they have withdrawn the request. They have been told they will need to reapply for future monies. They did not access the funds so no reimbursement is needed.

### **Mental Health Issues Update:**

Tabled until February 2012 when Alexander and Stallcup are both present.

### **Review 2012 Meetings:**

CARTF reviews dates for 2012. Move September 2012 meeting from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>. CARTF will either combine the October 2012 meeting with the conference or cancel it. Peper will email everyone with the new dates. October date should be on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Strategic Plan Goals 1 to 3 and 5-6, Alexander:**

- Goal 1 a-d can remain. Goal 1f can be marked as accomplished. Goal 1e can be accomplished and removed.
- Goal 5 strategy about the CAC is good. Also add a strategy about the CAC's reporting on their activities and needs.
- Goal 2 a and b remain ongoing. Goal 2d should be removed but 2c should have ongoing follow up for the next three years. Add to 2c that we can continue to support and assess the process of educational neglect and invite representatives from home schooling and DHW to report on the impact that this legislation has had.
- Goal 3 b can be removed. Leave goal 3c. Goal 3h should stay but data may not be reliable. Change the strategy to evaluate the DHW process to identify Native American children in the child protection process. Add another strategy that broadens to all minorities and cultural effects and move it to Goal 6. Have this strategy include educating the task force on cultural perceptions and how they affect child abuse. Goal 3i should remain. Add a strategy that explores and assesses how the court system address the jurisdictional party in a child protection case. Goal 3j should remain ongoing. Goal 3k is unknown at the time.

### **Annual Conference Review, Graves:**

CARTF reviews conference numbers, budget, and evaluations. CARTF feels conferences went well and very specific to the mission of CARTF. Saved money by not providing lunch.

Advantages and disadvantages to having conference in 3 locations:

Better turnout

Harder to coordinate and can be more expensive depending on speakers

Might consider Twin Falls as another location to offer conference

Bradford suggests a nice letter for all the speakers- Naylor will complete this activity

### **Website Updates:**

Peper will oversee these 2 tasks-

add Rogers PPT to website

add a link to Idaho Voices for Children

### **Idaho Child Mortality Review, Naylor**

IVC and members of CARTF have been working together on legislation. Purpose of the CMR team is to educate and reveal trends to be used by legislators to take action. There is no subpoena power but there are legal ways to obtain records. The organizational structure is that CARTF or other governor appointed entity will be the board that oversees the CMR. Local or regional teams will report to CARTF. CMR will be funding neutral, limited in its organization, but effective. Question asked why not track all deaths opposed to just those that are unintentional or accidental. Agreed it could be a good idea to get the numbers from the Bureau of Vital Statistics and include in the reports.

Naylor asks everyone to review the draft and get input to Naylor. The next step is to take this draft to the governor's office and the DHW director and then to the lobbyist for IVC and get feedback from legislators.

Meeting is adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Next meeting will be held January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. at Springhill Suites

## Action Items:

### Peper

- ✓ track MDT grant monies
- ✓ update 2012 meeting dates and email to CARTF
- ✓ with Graves, order green coloring books and get price quote for Care Enough to Call English brochures
- ✓ Gain access to CARTF website and update with annual conference presentation and add IVC link
- ✓ Set up January meeting

### Naylor

- ✓ receive input from CARTF on CMR legislation
- ✓ write thank you letters to 2011 conference speakers

### Alexander

- ✓ Update 2012-2015 strategic plan and bring copies to January meeting
- ✓ with Stallcup, prepare for February update on mental health issues

### Graves

- ✓ with Peper, order green coloring books and get price quote for Care Enough to Call English brochures

mdp