



CARTF

Virtual

January 7, 2022

MINUTES

Joshua Wickard- Public Defender (Chairman)
Michelle Weir- DHW, Family & Children Services
OPEN-Children with Disabilities Representative
Sheila Sturgeon Freitas, PhD- Mental Health
OPEN- Law Enforcement Representative
Melissa Osen- Foster Youth
James Curb – Homeless Education Liaison
Jill Robertson – Parent
Molly Vaughn– Victim Services Coordinator

Jennifer Tachell– Educator (Vice-Chairman)
Susan Bradford, MD – Pediatrician
Jennifer Bergin- Child Advocate Attorney
Hon. Steve Clark- Civil Magistrate Judge
Madison Miles- Prosecuting Attorney
Tahna Barton – CASA
Hon. Mark Rammell- Criminal Magistrate Judge
Nadine McDonald – Juvenile Justice
Teresa Vance- Administrator of the Courts Representative

Mindy Peper – Task Force Support

ABSENT

Guests:

Welcome

Tachell welcomes everyone. CARTF reviews the November 2021 minutes. Vance makes a motion to approve the minutes with minor noted changes, Clark seconds, all in favor and so moved.

Subcommittee Updates

Conference- Tachell gives update to CARTF. Discuss doing one day live and one day virtual. Still working out the virtual day agenda but will probably have a focus on human trafficking. We are also thinking about doing a day in the life of a child protection case. CARTF discusses this idea of having some of our task force members being part of the discussion panel. If you have any ideas or additional thoughts, just let the subcommittee know. Bradford mentions that it would be great to record the conference and then share the link and put it on our website. We plan to contract with a company to do the virtual day.

Publications- no update. Weir mentions that St. Luke's is going to provide CARTF with some safe sleep publications and we can add them to our free resources that can be ordered. We can add it to our website as a .pdf, too.

CFRT- last meetings were Dec 15 and Jan 5. They have caught up on SUIDs and suicides. One more meeting January 26 to finish 2019 reviews. Then they will start on the 2020 cases. They reviewed 14 SUIDs and every one of those cases included some aspect of unsafe sleep practices.

Grants- grant cycle opens Feb 1. Subcommittee will be meeting to update scoring matrix. Also creating a face sheet. Peper sent final report for INCAC for 2021 Cycle One.

CFR Team Nomination

CARTF discusses resume and nomination for Cristi Litzsinger. She is replacing Kara Stevens. McDonald makes a motion to appoint Litzsinger to CFR Team, Rammell seconds, all in favor and so moved.

Bylaws

CARTF discusses most recent bylaw change. Clark brings up couple points about using Roberts Rules of Order as well as referencing in the bylaws a way to change the bylaws themselves. Decide not to reference Roberts Rules of Order. Regarding changes, CARTF can suggest changes but ultimately, they have to go to governor for final approval. Do we need to mention this in the bylaws?

Weir mentions that the change made in the bylaws is specific to members waiting for re-appointment and serving in their role until appointed again but does not apply to new members.

McDonald makes a motion to approve bylaw changes with new revision date and a section for approved by governor date and to send them on to the Governor's office for approval. Tachell seconds, all in favor, and so moved.

Might be helpful to send in all the nominations in a single packet to Sarah—make it more streamline and easier. Weir and Peper will work on this.

Legislative Update

No legislative updates at this time. McDonald shares that she viewed the December legislative oversight meeting on child protection. It was very insightful. There is a shortage of social workers, there is a shortage of foster families. It is a crisis. They are meeting again this week possibly. CARTF needs to stay on top of this legislative session regarding child protection. McDonald shares the link to the meeting in the chat. McDonald says there were also some reports from the citizen review panels as well.

Continued Discussion on Strategy 1

CARTF continues discussion on Goal 1 E- the process and commitment to collecting information on county MDT's. Perhaps should re-write it to say that we engage more with MDT's in person. Wickard mentions we should add the CAC's as well.

Peper suggests that we change it to "CARTF will engage with county MDTs and CACs by inviting them to task force meetings and trainings, going on site visits, and supporting and partnering in training that focuses on our priorities through funding, disseminating information, and promotion." Weir says let's add "Continue support and enhancement of Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) in each Idaho county in accordance with Idaho Code Section 16-1609 and Children Advocacy Centers (CAC)." Wickard says perhaps we

keep the part about gathering information and develop a subcommittee that can start to look at this process. Weir, Madison, and York are willing to serve on the subcommittee.

Tachell says let's add in "CACs" and take out word "annually".

Members also mention adding enhance and improve the relationship with MDT's and CAC's.

Peper and Tachell will take all these ideas, finesse the language and rewrite the strategy, and bring to the February meeting for a vote.

Discussion on Strategy 2

CARTF reviews Goal 2. Freitas asks how tied are our hands on 2a because of IDHW hands being tied and does it change any of the language? Madison mentions that they are very aware what they can and can't say but does not think it will tie our hands regarding CARTF to making recommendations.

Suggested that we add to 2a, "if appropriate" regarding making recommendations.

Discuss CARTFs history about making recommendations on legislation. York mentions maybe we should have a subcommittee focused on legislative. McDonald, Vance, and Freitas would be willing to help with that subcommittee.

Executive Order/ Vacancies Update

Wickard gives update from our federal partners. He has reached out to the federal side of our group. They say we are okay to keep working, spending money funding programs, and fulfilling strategies. Wickard also talked with her about the funding issues, the fact that we have extra money due to COVID and not having ability to use the money. She said a lot of task forces have pivoted and are now using their funding on other things like CACs, materials, research, etc. She suggested that we can add a task or goal during our 3-year cycle. They had a positive and good discussion.

Weir gives an update from the Governor's office. Unsworth is helping us out with office. Sarah at the Governor's office says that this is across all the boards and committees. She is working to figure out what the hold up is and she is committed to getting it resolved.

Weir gives update on our budget. We are looking good. We have \$67,000 left in this cycle, to be spent by end of September. And next grant cycle we have until end of 2023 to spend the money.

McKinney-Vento Update

Curb updates the task force, stating that the McKinney-Vento program serves those that have lost their homes. In the vast majority of cases, families in this situation are doubling up with friends or family members in their homes. Though these families are temporarily housed, in many cases this situation cannot last due to rental constraints or

conflicts between the families. Further compounding this situation is the fact that the easiest way to track students in this situation has been taken from us. In the past, the easiest way to keep track of these families and students was with the School Food Program. In the past families could state their living situation and then receive free School Breakfast and Lunch. Now that the School Lunch Program is free to all students there is no longer the need to identify students as homeless in order to receive free meals. Though we are quickly approaching 300 identified McKinney-Vento students, we are sure that there are many more that qualify but they see no benefit to being identified.

The McKinney-Vento program is proud to offer school supplies, backpacks, clothing, coats, and boots to students in need. We are very grateful to the generosity of the community to assist these students and families in need.

Winter/ Spring Planning

January (virtual)- update from Robertson and Curb about McKinney-Vento conference; annual conference discussion; strategy 2 and revisit Goal 2; legislative update; bylaws; update on executive orders and appointments and vacancies.

February (virtual)- strategy 3; legislative update; frontline social worker perspective; Roger Sherman from ICTF; subcommittee updates

March- Weir will invite foster youth advisory panel; Wickard will invite a former parent involved with foster system and reunification; strategy 4; legislative update; subcommittee updates

April- Weir will look into inviting Citizen Review Panel; McDonald update on probation services and protocol on children who disclose when in custody, victim compensation discussion; legislative update; annual conference; CFRT Annual Report

May- grant cycle one decisions; annual conference; CARTF Annual Report; Court Improvement update

New Business

Supreme Court CIP program has appointed a chair and there will be a meeting in March to go over a new court rule that resulted from the last legislative session.

Adjourn

Next meeting will be February 4, 2022. This will be virtual.