



CARTF

SpringHill Suites, Boise

February 5, 2021

MINUTES

Joshua Wickard- Public Defender (Chairman)
Michelle Weir- DHW, Family & Children Services
Dina Flores-Brewer-Children with Disabilities
Sheila Sturgeon Freitas, PhD- Mental Health
Doug Giddings-Idaho County Sheriff
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
OPEN- Prosecuting Attorney
Tahna Barton – CASA
Hon. Mark Rammell- Criminal Magistrate Judge
Nadine McDonald – Juvenile Justice

Mindy Peper – Task Force Support

ABSENT

Guests: Shane Duty, DHW-YES Program

Welcome

Wickard opens the February meeting. Tachell approves the January minutes with minor corrections, Giddings seconds, all in favor and so moved.

Wickard mentions the Central Intake presentation from last month, perhaps there is a way CARTF can support the mandated reporting law, perhaps a PSA or pamphlet. CARTF discusses possibilities.

Sub-Committee Updates

Grants- Peper reports the grant app and webpage is just about done and should be live today.

Conference- Peper updated that the grant app and added a conference page to the website. Peper will forward the information to CARTF and CFRT to register and share with their contacts. The subcommittee will debrief shortly after the conference and then bring recommendations to the April meeting.

Presentation- Shane Duty- YES Program Manager

Peper will send PowerPoint slides from the presentation to CARTF.

To be in the YES system of care a child needs to be recognized as having a qualifying diagnosis of a severe emotional disorder and at a level of a 1 on the CANS. With a CANS and CDA diagnosis, the individual qualifies for entrance into YES Medicaid expansion because of a behavioral need which gives access to behavioral health services as well as other services. CANS is practical tool that gives common language for assessing trauma and the level. The state has one contractor that fulfills the need of independent assessors in the state of Idaho.

McDonald asks, in regard to the process and kids that are not court involved, how do we get them involved and able to access services a little easier. Duty

reports that this is a trend that they see. Sometimes parents think they have to get the kids involved with the court system to get them the help they need. YES is designed to reach those kids who need help and they do not have to be involved in the court system to get that help. The best answer for those families is to get them in touch with the independent assessor, Liberty Health Care, who does the diagnosis assessment, and then they have to do an income assessment, and from there they will be assigned a targeted care coordinator through Optum. If a family is not income eligible for Medicaid, they can still be eligible for the YES system of care. The family would pay 5% of the care, and then division of behavioral health will come alongside and help make sure the family has access to the services. This is fairly unique to Idaho and not common across the country. Another resource that may help is calling your regional Children's Mental Health office.

Sturgeon Freitas asks about the Katie Beckett and the services and the overlap. Duty says that there are some services that are exclusive through YES that are not available through Katie Beckett.

Helpful resources: <http://idahoiias.com/Programs-YES.html>
<https://youthempowermentservices.idaho.gov/Portals/105/Documents/GettingStartedYES.pdf>

Clark asks if probation or social workers are aware of the process to get started. Weir states that they are working on a streamline process for making sure youth in foster care are referred to YES. Duty says they are open to hearing when there are groups that are not aware of this process and how to get the word out. McDonald asks what is being done to expand services in rural Idaho. Duty agrees and unfortunately there is not a great answer. This is a frequent topic of conversation with Optum. They have to come up with creative solutions, like telehealth services, which works well with certain services. McDonald asks if there is any discussion going on that deals with changing the funding model to help get more funds for rural services, which costs more to bring services to. Wickard thanks Duty for sharing with us.

We will plan to hear from him again at a future meeting.

Legislative Update, Michelle Weir

The hearing for the statute changes to the Families First Act has not been scheduled yet. So, no new update.

There is another piece of legislation making its way through committees, HB 3 and HB 77, to change the definition of child neglect. This has significant impact because it changes the definition of neglect and adds what cannot be considered neglect- such independent activities as a child walking to school, a child who is left home for a reasonable amount of time, in regards to a child who is of

sufficient age, etc. That age however is not defined. Also removes the proper and well-being pieces of neglect definition.

HB 4 is in regard to parental rights and restrictions that are in the code. Effects children in compelling intervention.

HB 52 is to prohibit conversion therapy to children and state funding of such. This will make changes to the Youth Mental Health Act.

Weir updates CARTF about Idaho Foster Youth Awareness Day.

Sturgeon Freitas reports there are two other bills out there that affect her field- one regarding mentally ill commitments, changing them from 5 to 7 days.

Review Goal 3

- a- change for next go around- due to not having an annual conference, we didn't do it in 2020- last award in 2019; change to develop a process to recognize stakeholders in the cps- 2021-2023
- b- keep-Publications and publications subcommittee- ordered new resources; went through resources and changing some into web only resources; updated the website; streamlined the ordering process
- c- keep-Deb Alsaker Burke visited with us in June 2020- looking at adding a representative from Supreme Court Committee to CARTF
- d- remove; had ongoing conversations
- e- keep- change reduce to research the impacts of trauma to children in their role in court; Wickard asks can we put out a request to research this issue? Weir states there are some options for this. In this grant cycle we relied on publications to help us reach youth in courts to help understand the process and reduce trauma.
- f- Keep- had program manager from central intake visit us in January 2021.
- g- remove- reviewed under the purview of the child fatality review team
- h- keep- discussed within the task force; discussing the effects of COVID on 2020 and the impact on child welfare
- i- keep- did not have foster youth panel due to COVID but will have them back in 2021; plan to have a foster parent come and visit in 2021

New Nominations/ Changes to Task Force

CARTF discusses forwarding the nomination for Madison Miles on to the Governor for consideration to be added to the task force as our child protection attorney representative. We have received her letter of interest and her resume for consideration. She is in a statewide position and will bring that perspective to CARTF. Robertson makes a motion to send the nomination for Madison Miles on to the Governor, Giddings seconds, all in favor and so moved. Peper will walk her through the application process and invite her to the March meeting.

Weir mentions that we have been looking at adding on representation from Administrative Office of the Courts- Child Protection Committee. Debra Alsaker-Burke was in that position and often brought valuable information to CARTF. Alana Minton is now in that position. This is a good fit for us to have this perspective. Minton is also on our CFR Team. Wickard mentions in the last federal meeting there seemed to be a big push for collaboration, and this would certainly be beneficial for understanding the judicial handling and increase our capacity to offer appropriate trainings and such on the judicial side.

Clark asks if there is any conflict of interest? CARTF discusses this point. There are times when any one of the task force members might have conflict and this can be managed by not taking a position; also, the leadership of the AOC-CPC is in agreement.

This issue is tabled until next month. Weir will follow up with these express concerns.

NEW BUSINESS

Peper will schedule all action items first on the agenda from now on.

Sturgeon Freitas asks what follow up is needed for the letter we received from Dr. Hunstburg via Galen Carlson. Wickard will follow-up with the letter.

Next Meeting: March 5, 2021

Upcoming Meetings/ Agendas (May 20 to April 21)

~~Plan future speakers- October~~

Suicide Prevention Council- April 2021

Three-year CARTF strategies- November/January/ February/March- a goal a month- Peper write report to review in April.

~~Changes and ideas to publications and process- November~~

~~Deb Alsaker-Burke- June~~

~~Tabled grants and nominations~~

~~Central intake- Jan~~

~~YES- Feb~~

Foster youth panel- not during COVID

~~Citizen Review panel- October meeting, annual~~

CASA

Casey Program

~~INCAC- attending September meeting~~

~~Conference Update- Grossman or every other year~~

~~Appointments and Executive Order Updates~~

~~Approval of final CFRT annual report~~

~~Upper Valley Child Advocacy Center- March~~

Budget update and report

Legislative update

CFRT Update

Subcommittee updates (grants, conferences, publications)

What team members are seeing around the state

Standing agenda items.

Adjourn