

**Nevada Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)
Differential Response Steering Committee Meeting
4126 Technology Way, Carson City, NV, 3rd Floor Video Conference Room
May 4, 2016**

FINAL Minutes

Videoconference Locations

4126 Technology Way, Carson City, NV
6171 W Charleston Bldg. 8, Conference Room B, Las Vegas
1010 Ruby Vista Drive #101, Elko

Attendees

Carson

John Bradtke, DCFS
Joyce Buckingham, Ron Wood FRC
Marko Marcovic, DCFS
Kristin Monibi, Washoe County DSS
Marla Morris, DCFS
Mike Moulia, Washoe County School District
Reesha Powell, DCFS
Lori Smith, DCFS
Kelli Weishaupt, Fallon DCFS
Patrick White, The Children's Cabinet
Bruce Cole, DCFS, recorder

Las Vegas

Kristine Aviles, Hope Link
Debbie Croshaw, Clark County DFS
Hayley Jarolimek, DCFS
Jessica McGee, East Valley Family Services
Alma Spears, Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Nevada
Laura Steeps, Olive Crest

Elko

Judy Andreson, Elko FRC
Holly Zumwalt, Elko FRC

Via Phone

Wanda Pena, Casey Family Foundation
Matt Geiger, UNLV

I. Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

Marla Morris called the meeting to order at 9:05 and the roll was called.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Approval of February 3, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Patrick motioned to approve the minutes, and was seconded by Kelli. Motion approved.

IV. Action Item: Agency MOUs

John reported that even most recent MOUs from 2012 are somewhat out of date, and some agencies are operating with MOUs from even earlier, in 2009. John and the DR agencies have reviewed the 2012 MOU as a starting point, and he and Hayley have spent several hours drafting a new draft MOU. When Statute or administrative code is imbedded in the MOU it is now acknowledged. They hope to have the draft to the Deputy Attorney General (DAG) in a week or two. Following DAG review, the draft MOU will go to DR Steering Committee members for review, with the goal of having MOUs in place by beginning of, or early into, the next fiscal year.

V. Action Item: Monthly Reports / Data Collection Requirements

John referred to the handout given to attendees. He noted the consistency of “penetration rate” (cases that go to DR) stays at about 9% - 10% year after year statewide, but varies widely from area to area in the state. There is not a lot of information about outcomes. Work will be done on eventually getting data on a monthly basis. He would like the State to be committed to automating the process, so that in a year all updating in UNTIY, etc. will be in place. Questions like how many cases are closed by successful outcomes, rates of recurrences by maltreatment, rate of placement in out-of-home care, etc., are not being answered.

Debbie said that their COGNOS system in Clark has a couple of data reports for DR. She will share with Hayley and John.

Marko said a spread-sheet will be developed, with certain fields highlighted, for easy access and use. Feedback is welcomed on the draft version over the next few months.

VI. Action Item: Training Needs Identification

Hayley identified a problem in the South. Training has been provided to some DR South workers on the SIPS Model/NIA, but the tool being used is the NCFAS-G, resulting in a disconnect. Clark County DFS is currently looking into on-the-job training with DR; supervisors would shadow senior workers. Longer term, DMG will need to decide on what Family Assessment tool should be used statewide. The most important need is for DR workers to understand and know when to refer cases back to a child welfare agency.

Patrick and Joyce both said that a “modified” NIA should be developed for DR needs and had been discussed in the past. Joyce said another option of a “Protective Services Survey” had also been broached. Patrick said that their 12- step Safety Assessment and NCFAS-G are two different tools.

Kristin Monibi said she has spoken with Todd Holder about another state which uses another tool for safety assessments, and will speak with him again. Debbie suggested that committee meet with an ACTION consultant about this program. She will follow up with this.

Matt stressed that both line-level workers and supervisors need a thorough grounding in NIA. Marla noted that DR "set-up" differs between different agencies. Joyce was concerned that there is not DR 101 and UNITY training, this basic need is not being met. John said the binder for DR and UNITY training needs to be updated. A list of several specific trainings was forwarded by Hayley to Marla. Marla said that would be a good place to start.

Reesha suggested forming a sub-committee for training/assessment tool work group. The Members of the group who volunteered to serve are: John Bradtke, Joyce Buckingham, Hayley Jarolimek, Alma Spears, and Patrick White

Judy said there had been discussion in past of "special" training for DR. Matt said there is not the capacity currently through the Partnership to do anything like that.

Hayley said she will ask Kellee Nash go over curriculum descriptions for special training

VII. Action Item: Background Checks 432B.198 and CANS checks

John said the appropriate statute has been reviewed re background checks for DR personnel. Debbie confirmed with him that this calls for a CANS check and fingerprinting every five years. Hayley reviewed the recent process that several DR agencies in the South had gone through, sending their requests to Bruce. She would like to set up a system to ensure that these checks are always done. John suggested that this be linked to the VPN annual updates. Marla noted that what is reported from the Central Registry is limited to substantiated reports of abuse and/or neglect. Hayley suggested that "Central Registry" be substituted for "CANS checks" to avoid confusion.

VIII. Discussion Item: Program Updates

Kelli W (Fallon-DCFS) said that Lyon County has hired a new person for the Fallon DR position. Joyce (Ron Wood FRC) reported that Carson and Douglas have both been busy. She is looking to fill a position, and has hired 12 social workers for the school district. Patrick reported that the Children's Cabinet's new hire is fully trained. Mike (WCSD) reported that he is fully staffed with a full case load at about 15 cases. Kristin (WCDSS) noted that summer means numbers will go down. She has spoken with Hayley about DR working a lot with mentally ill children and looking to see these get referred properly. Otto's old coordinator position has been filled by John Bryant. Judy (Elko FRC) said Elko is down a DR worker; position is being advertised. Alma stated that the Boys and Girls Club consistently has 20 or 21 cases; one DR worker is going on maternity leave in August. Kristin from HopeLink reported that a few cases have been closed recently. They are re-evaluating their procedures and she is going out on cases with workers. Jessica (EVFS) said they have been very busy with educational neglect cases. Laura (Olive Crest) reports a caseload of about 20 or 21 per worker. She said Angela Phillips is transitioning out of supervision as she is now Director. Address all emails to Laura instead of Angela. Debbie (Clark DFS) said that OJT would be provided for workers. Jill Marano is now Assistant Director for DFS, but DR should

remain under Paula Hammack. Reesha said the DCFS Deputy Administrator position is vacant and posted; there are also vacant worker positions to be filled.

IX. Public Comments

None.

X. Adjournment

Marla announced the next meetings will be on August 3 and November 2, both in Carson City.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:21 AM.