

**Child Welfare Network
Meeting Notes
Thursday, April 19, 2018
Rotunda Room, Las Vegas Country Club**

Our Vision

The Child Welfare Network seeks to create public accountability and better outcomes for the children and their families that it serves.

Our Mission

Support information-sharing by providing a forum where individuals and organizations concerned about children in Nevada’s child welfare system can exchange resources, ideas, problems, and solutions through learning from one another and providing all members an opportunity to be heard:

Promote collaboration among service providers, county and state administrators, educators, parents, and foster parents, youth, private funders and concerned citizens with the collective focus on the best interests of children who are fundamentally our constituents; and

Take action that leads to real results by advocating with a united voice on child welfare issues to improve services that respond to the needs (and improve the lives of) children and families in Nevada.

The following individuals attended the Child Welfare Network (CWN) meeting:

Amanda Haboush-Deloye	UNLV Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
Candace Young Richey	Candace Young-Richey & Associates
Christina Vela	St. Jude's Ranch
Daniel J Leyva	Leaders in Training
Dawn Boyers	Women's Resource Medical Centers
Denise Tanata	Children's Advocacy Alliance
Dianne Farkas	Family to Family Connection
Jackie Wayment	UNLV-Nonprofit Community Leadership Initiative
Jane Jensen Saint	Nevada CASA
Jennifer Erbes	CC-DFS
Jennifer Silverman	LACSN Children's Attorney's Project (CAP)
Jessica Mann Reseck	Healthy Minds
Jessica Roe	The Adoption Exchange
Jill Marano	Clark County Department of Family Services
Kim Amato	Baby's Bounty
Leah Dods	Foster Kinship
Mari Parlade	Dept. of Family Services
Maria Angelica Montenegro	Boys Town
Marlyn Buckley	Professionals in Philanthropy
Michelle Gorelow	Positively Kids

Nanette (Nani) Garrett	Foster Kinship
Neyda E Becker	UNLV's Nonprofit Community Leadership Initiative
Patrick Watkins	Nevada Homeless Alliance
Reshard Wilson	University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Sara Stephan	Legal Aid Center of So. NV
Seth Wongsavit	Nevada Community Foundation
Sheila Parks	8th Judicial District Court-CASA Program
Stacy Burrell	Boys Town
Tara Phebus	NV Institute for Children's Research & Policy
Toni Chance	UNLV
Valerie Hicks	SAFY
Valerie Weber	CSN

Welcome and Introductions

Denise Tanata called the meeting to order and extended a thank you to all in attendance. She reviewed the activities for the day, and everyone introduced themselves.

Presentations

Jill Marano, Assistant Director of DFS gave an update

- 1) Kevin Schiller remains the Acting Director of DFS. There is significant foundational work being done in preparation for a new Director which is expected in about 6 months.
- 2) A new Intake System is being launched in Clark County only. The goal of the new system is to expedite placements and record requests. The phone system will be totally revamped and new prompts will be utilized as a part of the new system.
- 3) Child and Family Services Review is being conducted and should be complete in late May 2018. This review will touch on 18 items and will lead to program improvements.
- 4) There is an effort in place to reduce palliative care at Child Haven in an effort to facilitate speedier placements especially in the 0-6 year old population.
- 5) UNLV is establishing a new program to address efficacy of parental training. If you would like more information, contact Jill Marano at jill.marano@clarkcountynv.gov

Toni Chance of UNLV introduced a new program she is facilitating to support young adults that are aging out of Foster Care. It is being supported by all the Methodist Churches in the Valley and she is inviting all community partners to participate. She is using an evidence based model called The Open Table (www.theopentable.org) . She presented a very informative video about the program that is available at <https://vimeo.com/242943600> . The Las Vegas program will include the following:

- 1) Raising awareness and using local teams and leaders

- 2) Using DSS + DFS Step-Up program for referrals
- 3) Training will begin in Summer 2018
- 4) Start the “Tables” program in Fall if 2018
- 5) Start with youth 18+ and then expand to the under 18 year olds.

For further information contact Toni at toni.chance@unlv.edu

2017 Legislative Overview

Denise provided an overview of the Legislative Priorities discussion from the last CWN meeting, including priorities identified in the online survey. Participants broke into groups to discuss the priorities and identify the top 3 to 4 issues to be included in the CWN 2019 Legislative Agenda. The following priorities were selected:

- Funding for Child Welfare and Related Services, including:
 - Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment
 - Resources for Victims of Sex Trafficking
 - Child Care
- Disproportionate Racial Representation in Child Welfare

The CWN will establish workgroups to address these issues in further detail and ultimately to develop a formal Legislative Agenda for 2019. Members will be asked to participate on the appropriate workgroups and indicate their willingness to serve as representatives of the CWN at upcoming legislative hearings to present the agenda and policy recommendations.

The next hearing of the Legislative Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice will take place on June 13, 2018 at 9am in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas, NV.

Announcements

Amanda Haboush-Deloye: **Nevada Institute for Children’s research and Policy**

Registration information for the Southern Nevada Summit on Children’s Mental Health and Injury Prevention on May 10-11 follows:

<https://snchildrensmentalhealth-injurypreventionsummit.eventbrite.com>

Boystown- Stacy Burrell

From Stacy: “I have attached our 2018 course calendar for parenting classes offered through Boys Town. As mentioned earlier, all courses are FREE and if agencies have a group of parents/ caregivers, teachers, etc., we can provide the training onsite for providers. Thank you again for allowing Boys Town to take part in the Child Welfare group. “

See 3 attachments- Boys Town Parenting Classes

Children's Advocacy Alliance

We are currently hiring for a Children' Safety Policy Manager with an anticipated start date of August 1, 2018. Please see the attached position announcement or visit our website at www.caanv.org.

Nevada Homeless Alliance-Patrick Watkins

Join the Homelessness Speakers Bureau: Are you a passionate advocate who serves and/or has a lived experience of homelessness? We need you to help provide awareness and education on the topic in our community. If you can see yourself providing presentations to the public on behalf of the Southern NV Continuum of Care, please join our Speaker's Bureau! If interested in becoming a speaker go to www.HelpHopeHome.org , pull-down Take Action, and click Advocate to find the link. Note: Speakers can cover their own homelessness topic, but must go through the general CoC presentation first. There is a vetting process and the bureau has mandatory training and speaking guidelines to follow as well.

An update on the Homelessness Speakers Bureau- The request a speaker page is available at HelpHopeHome.org , under Take Action, then Request a Speaker. You can then look at the speaker profiles and make your selections. There are different themes that will resonate with different speakers and I believe your network could add quite a lot to the discussion of youth homelessness in the valley. To be a speaker you do not necessarily have to be an expert or have experienced homelessness to advocate, and you can become a speaker from the link on the same page. <http://helphopehome.org/speakersbureau/>

Nevada Partnership for Training at UNLV is seeking to hire a new trainer. Requirements are child welfare experience and a master's Degree. More information on the UNLV website.

The next meeting will be held on August 23rd, 2018 at the Las Vegas Country Club beginning with networking and continental breakfast at 7:30 am.

Final Meeting for 2018 is scheduled for December 6th----SAVE THE DATE! ☺

Potential Speakers for Agency Updates:

Daniel Leyva-Leaders in Training on August 23rd, 2018

Stacy Burrell-Boys Town Programs and Services-date TBD

Jane Saint-CASA-date TBD

If you are interested in providing an agency update or would like to request a specific speaker or topic for an upcoming meeting, please contact Denise Tanata at 702.228.1869 or denise.tanata@caanv.org.