

**Child Welfare Network
Meeting Notes
Thursday, April 17, 2017
Heritage 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:

Adia Lancaster	New Hope Foundation Int'l
Amanda Haboush-Deloye	UNVL Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
Andre' Wade	Gay & Lesbian Community Center of So. NV
Angela Carey	Aetna Better health
Cami Lewis	Tech Impact Las Vegas Opportunity Center
Chantry Walsh	KIT's Kitchen Foundation
Charlotte Watkins	Montevista Hospital/Red Rock Behavioral Health
Christian Marin	School of Public Policy--NCLIUNLV
Christopher Colby	KIT's Kitchen Foundation
Christopher Delaney	Care Coalition
Darshell R Andrews-Hearn	Aetna
David Kenney	Gender Justice Nevada
Denise Parker	Dept. of Family Services
Denise Tanata	Children's Advocacy Alliance
Elena Espinoza	NV Depart. Of Health and Human Services/Grants
Jennifer Erbes	CC-Dept. of Family Services
Jennifer Silverman	LACSN Children's Attorney's Project (CAP)
Jessica Roe	The Adoption Exchange
Kathy Wild	Mojave Adult Child & Family Services

Kelly Stout	First Med
Kim Amato	Baby's Bounty
Laura Hernandez	Gender Justice Nevada
Lisa K. Mariani	Aetna Better Health of Nevada
Lora Gaughan	CCSD
Madison Sandoval-Lynn	Foster Kinship
Mari Parlade	Dept. of Family Services
Marisa Quintero	First Med
Marlyn Buckley	Professionals in Philanthropy
Mona Lisa Park	First Med
Nanette Garrett	Foster Kinship
Sheila Parks	8th Judicial District Court-CASA Program
Susie Sernoe	Clark County School District
Tonya McCormick	Legal Aid Center of So Nevada
Tristan Torres	
Wardell Morgan	Aetna

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

- 1) Chantry Walsh and Christopher Colby gave a presentation on **KIT's Kitchen Restaurant**. A local not-for-profit organization that serves educates and advocates for youth to enable and empower each individual to live a confident, courageous, transmissible and self-sufficient life. The goal of the KIT Foundation is to work in collaboration with the schools and community service agencies to provide support that academic success and student achievement. (see website at www.kitintl.org)
- 2) Laura Hernandez of **Gender Justice Nevada** presented an overview of the organization including some personal experiences. Gender Justice Nevada offers anti-violence services open to all survivors of sex/gender violence, oppression or discrimination. Laura distributed handouts that are attached.
- 3) Mari Parlade gave a DFS update on the following:

DFS LEADERSHIP TEAM ORGANIZATION

Acting Assistant Director: Paula Hammack

Assistant Director: Jill Marano

Acting Assistant Director: Eboni Washington

Managers: Dawn Sanchez; Debbie Croshaw; Jolie Courtney; Kechia English; Lisa Martinez; Lisa Shaw; Mari Parlade; Natalie Guesman; Tara Donohue; Traci Nellis; Troy Armstrong; Yolanda Bennett

GOVERNOR'S COALITION TO PREVENT COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (CSEC)

The CSEC Prevention Subcommittee meets every 2nd Monday of the month from 1pm-3pm at DFS 121. S. MLK Blvd.

Join us for the next meeting – May 8th – where we will develop CSEC Prevention & Awareness Goals, Work Plan and Strategies.

We cannot do this alone. We must partner as one community committed to protecting our most vulnerable children.

For more information on the CSEC Subcommittees, please contact Christina Vela at Christina.vela@sierramountainbehavior.com.

ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION Foster Parent Recruitment Boot Camp (see attached flyer)

DREAMR SUMMIT (see attached flyer)

2017 Legislative Overview

Denise updated the membership on Bills that are in process at the Legislature. There is an attached handout that was current as of April 19th. For more recent developments on this bills, please go to <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/79th2017/Reports/>. Bills that Denise commented on are AB99, A236, AB305, AB491, SB2, SB257, SB274, SB379, SB483 ,SB484. There are additional bills listed on the handout. She also commented that the Child Care Subsidy funding budget will go before the Budget Committee the week of April 24th.

Announcements

CASA will be holding their 2017 Foster Youth Graduation on Wednesday, June 7th. They are looking for sponsorship donations. If you can assist in supporting this event please contact Denise Tanata at denise.tanata@caanv.org or Jamie Lower at JLower1114@hotmail.com. There is a flyer attached to these notes with more details.

Prevent Child Abuse Nevada's Pinwheel for Prevention 51's Baseball Game Night is April 29th at 7pm. (Flier attached.)

Andre' Wade of **The Center** distributed the Impact 2016 report from The Center. (see attached).

Kim Amato of **Cribs for Kids** and Baby's Bounty reported that the Cribs for Kids National Safe Sleep Initiative awarded Bronze Certification to St. Rose Siena, San Martin and University Medical Center, recognizing their efforts to help every baby sleep safer. Renown Hospital< Reno has been awarded a Gold certificate as a Champion of Safe Sleep.

Cami Lewis of **Tech Impact Las Vegas Opportunity Center** announced a free 8 week customer service and computer skills training for 18-26 year olds. Applications are being accepted now. Go to www.cxworks.org for more information and to apply.

Denise requested that any agency desiring to participate in a Member Spotlight contact her at denise.tanata@caanv.org . After the meeting I was contacted by Family Arts saying they are interested in participating.

After the meeting we realized that meeting in July will be difficult due to vacations, so the decision was made to postpone until August.

The next meeting will be held on August 17, 2017 at the Las Vegas Country Club beginning with networking and continental breakfast at 7:30 am. (Please note that the meeting will be in August—NOT July)