

**Child Welfare Network
Meeting Minutes
Thursday June 20, 2013, 7:30-9:30 a.m.
Las Vegas Country Club, Rotunda Room**

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

Kim Amato	Baby's Bounty
Marlyn Buckley	Professionals in Philanthropy
Daniele Dreitzer	The Rape Crisis Center
Darlene Duncan	DCFS
Aga Pinkerton	US Senator Reid's Office
Amanda Haboush	Prevent Child Abuse/NV Inst. for Children's Research & Policy
Andre' Wade	DFS
Peter Howard	SAFY
Gard Jameson	Children's Advocacy Alliance
Melody Nelson	Family Advocacy Council
Howard Olshansky	Boys Town
Mari Parlade	Department of Family Services
James Raffel	SAFY
Jennifer Silverman	LACSN Children's Attorneys Project
Denise Tanata Ashby	Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA)
John Wagner	UNLV
Hilary Westrom	Ritter Charitable Trust
Emma Winckler	Sojourn Foundation
Garth Winckler	Sojourn Foundation
Katie Davis	A Brighter Day Family Services
Erica Raley	DFS
Seth Wongsavit	NCF
Shauna Davis	CAA
Alice Conradt	Adoption Awareness
Kerri Korin	Kids Peace
Sheila Parks	CASA
Toby Hyman	DHHS/GMV

Welcome and Introductions

Denise Tanata Ashby called the meeting to order and extended a thank you to all in attendance. She reviewed the activities for the day and made the appropriate introductions.

Legislative Update

Denise provided a handout summary of the Legislative bills that have been presented in the NV Legislature. (An electronic version may be accessed at <http://caanv.org/childrens-issues/child-welfare-network/>.) The session has come to a close so the Status column on the right indicates whether the bill passed and was approved by the Governor. Overall, Denise expressed satisfaction with the accomplishments of the session in regards to bills passed and inroads made with the legislature on bills that did not pass this session. This session was considered a primer for many new legislators. Work will begin immediately to prepare for the next session with a focus on financing and funding.

Denise once again expressed gratitude to the many individuals and groups that participated in a very successful Children's Week at the Legislature.

While AB 152 did not pass, AB67 passed the Legislature and contains many advances in the area of sex trafficking. The 432B Workgroup will be renamed and work will begin immediately.

Denise also mentioned efforts to engage youth in the policy discussions. She will be presenting to youth at the Independent Living Youth Conference on July 11th to discuss legislative advocacy and to engage those youth in a Youth Advisory Council that the Children's Advocacy Alliance is in the process of establishing.

Child Welfare Resources

(An Overview of the National Resources for Data, Research, Innovative Strategies and Funding.)

Denise apologized for the delay in having the State Grants Office make their presentation to the membership as planned for this meeting and will attempt to organize the presentation for the next meeting in October 2013.

Denise provided copies of the Child Welfare Resource List which will be available on the CAA website at <http://caanv.org/childrens-issues/child-welfare-network/>. She highlighted the Philanthropy News Digest and let everyone know that it is a fee based resource and can be accessed free of charge at the Flamingo Library if an agency is unable to subscribe.

She also highlighted the State Policy Advocacy Reform Center (SPARC). This is a very good new resource. The Child Welfare League of America was also mentioned as a good resource.

Kim Amato of Babies Bounty shared that September is Child Safety Month and that there will be several activities in support of the effort to raise awareness. One will be held on Sept. 14th when Town Square hosts One Run to benefit local charities. Run for the Baby's Bounty team! Register today at mytownsquarelasvegas.com/onerun. Then on Sept. 21st the Shred-It event will be held to benefit Baby's Bounty from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Tropicana & Eastern in Renaissance Office Park.

Mari Parlade of DFS spoke about their Safety Intervention Program that will be held August 7-8, 2013. At the event, DFS will highlight their new programs and solicit input/feedback from key community partners. DFS is offering the event on two separate dates to allow more stakeholders to participate. The event will be facilitated by Tom Waite. This will be followed by an event in September as part of the Building Connections in Child Welfare initiative. At this event there will be an effort made to define systems and processes that are working, those that are not working and discuss how to integrate policy into the existing system on a state wide basis. This is purposefully being held after the DFS program in August so that findings can be incorporated into this meeting.

Jennifer Silverman of The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada announced two conferences for attorneys. The first sponsored by the APSAC (American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children) to be held at Caesar's Palace on June 25-28 and then the NACC 36th National Child Welfare, Juvenile, and Family Law Conference to be held at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta on 8/26-28. http://www.naccchildlaw.org/?National_Conference

At this time Denise referenced a document she handed out titled "Upcoming Events". Approximately 6 events are detailed in the document with website and/or registration links provided. This document will be available on the CAA website in the coming days and an effort will be made to keep it current at <http://caanv.org/childrens-issues/child-welfare-network/>. Copies were provided to those in attendance.

Denise highlighted the 15th Annual National Fatherhood and Families Conference to be held at Lake Las Vegas in February 2014. This event is still in the planning stages and a website is available for details once the document is posted on the CAA website.

At this time Denise asked Amanda Haboush of UNLV to speak to the group regarding collaboration for the Essentials for Childhood Grant application that is due on June 24th. This is a 5 year, \$200,000 grant with the focus to reduce child maltreatment, convene key players, and support and track outcomes of the existing programs. Amanda is looking for letters of support from agencies for the application. She needs these letters by 6/21/13 or ASAP. Support has been received from the business sector through the Nevada Resort Association.

Funding/Grant Opportunities

Denise made several Grant announcements and will post her notes on the CAA website at <http://caanv.org/childrens-issues/child-welfare-network/>.

Best Buy Children's Foundation- program grants in the amount of \$10,000 focusing on technology, computer programming, robotics, etc.

National Alliance for Grieving Children- various grant amount ranging from \$15,000-\$100,000.

William T. Grant Foundation- for research projects related to understanding how youth settings work, how they affect youth development, and how they can be improved. Grants range from \$100,000 to \$600,000. See William T. Grant Foundation Web site for additional details.

Administration for Children and Families Grant- This is a federal grant due July 22, 2013 focusing on youth (and families) at risk for homelessness both within the system and aged out. This is a 2yr. planning grant in the amount of \$360,000/year, which will be followed by an opportunity for a 5 year implementation grant of ~1,000,000/year. This grant will need to be a collaborative effort. Mari Parlade and Andre Ward of DFS along with Denise Tanata-Ashby will spearhead a workgroup that will begin meeting next week. Denise will prepare an email to be sent to all CWN members asking for participation and interest levels.

News, Announcements, Updates-

Denise asked Shauna Davis to introduce herself to the group. Shauna is the new Policy Manager for Safety at CAA. She just completed her PhD in Public Affairs. She was previously affiliated with Family to Family Connection and The Rape Crisis Center.

Mari Parlade of DFS shared that June is National Reunification Month and the celebration dinner for 4 local families is being held the evening of June 20, 2013 at Three Square.

Aga Pinkerton passed out a flier from Senator Reid's office announcing the Home Foreclosure Prevention Clinic to be held on July 20, 2013 from 9-2 at the East Las Vegas Community Center on Eastern Avenue.

Daniele Dreitzer of The Rape Crisis Center made several announcements and passed out magnets for anyone that was interested. The Your Space Program is available this summer for teens to explore the dimensions of a healthy relationship. The Counseling Center has daily appointments available for victims and family members. Finally, there will be a 50 hour training session for rape victim advocate in early September. Please contact The Rape Crisis Center for details for all of these programs.

Amanda Haboush announced that the Step Up For Kids event will be held on Sept. 23. Details are being finalized.

Garth Winkler of The Sojourn Foundation announced that they are making a resource directory available on their website.

There will be a CASA Volunteer Recognition Gala held on October 5, 2013 at the Venetian. Gard Jameson will be recognized as Child Advocate of the Year at this event.

Denise said she would be asking 1-2 agencies at each meeting to be prepared to give a short presentation on their agencies mission, programs and goals.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD: October 3, 2013 at the Las Vegas Country Club Rotunda Room from 7:30-9:30 a.m.