

**Child Welfare Network
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 23, 2015
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	UNLV Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
Andre' Wade	Gay & Lesbian Community Center of So. NV
Anne-Marie Abruscato	Mojave Adult, Child and Family Services
Brandon "Ogre" Hampton	Bikers Against Child Abuse
Bree Mullin	Psychological Solutions for Nevada
Daniele Dreitzer	The Rape Crisis Center
Darlene K. Duncan	Nevada DCFS
Dawn Boyers	Women's Resource Medical Centers.
Denise Tanata Ashby	Children's Advocacy Alliance
Gina Genco Endy	Bikers Against Child Abuse
Howard Olshansky	Boys Town Nevada
Jess Lobo Lybbony	Bikers Against Child Abuse
Jill Geary	Healthy Minds
Karlene Ulibarri	Bountiful Family Services
Kim Amato	Baby's Bounty
Larry "Cuz" Faubion	Bikers Against Child Abuse
Lynn Scombordi	Intern at Nevada Child Seekers

Mari Parlade	Dept. of Family Services
Mark Whitley	St Jude's Ranch
Marlyn Buckley	Professionals in Philanthropy
Myesha Wilson	St. Jude's Ranch
Rasalie Perera	Healthy Minds
Shannon Cole	East Valley Family Services
Shawnette Roque	FACT of Southern Nevada
Sheila Parks	8th Judicial District Court-CASA Program
Shelly Bailey	Healthy Minds
Sheree Corniel	Real Talk Youth Impact Program
Valerie Hicks	SAFY

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 everyone introduced themselves.

2015 Legislative Update

Denise gave an update on the upcoming legislative session along with a handout that is attached. (Denise...can you send an updated Legislative Update Handout for me to attach?) More details can be found at : <http://caanv.org/resources/2015-legislative-session/>.

Presentation

Four representatives of BACA (Bikers Against Child Abuse) gave a presentation about the organization and the work they do in the Las Vegas Valley. On May 16th BACA is planning a 100 mile ride to increase awareness. The group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Elks Club at 4100 W Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89102.

Excerpt from the BACA business card: "BACA exists with the intent to create a safer environment for abused children. We exist as a body of bikers to empower children to not feel afraid of the world in which they live. We stand ready to lend support to our wounded friends by involving them with an established, united organization. We work in conjunction with local and state officials who are already in place to protect children....." Additional information is available at www.bacaworld.org.

'Into the World' Update

Denise gave an update on this publication that targeted kids aging out of the system and what they would need to be successful as they establish a life on their own. It was originally published through the generosity of the RCT in 2006 but is no longer available. Denise explained that there is an effort to update the data and website utilizing resources of their AmeriCorp VISTA member. If you have any resources that would be useful, please contact Denise at denise.tanata@caanv.org

Blue Ribbon Panel Update

Attached is the Blue Ribbon for Kids Commission Final Report dated March 2015. The first 8 pages contain an Executive Summary and the remaining 58 pages contain the report in its entirety.

Funding/Grants Opportunities

Denise provided a handout of Grant Opportunities which is attached to this report.

News, Announcements & Updates

- 1) May 5, 2015----2015 Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Fair from 2-5pm at Freedom Park sponsored by Healthy Minds, Positively Kids and DFS. The goal is to provide children with community resources. Participate as a vendor by calling 702-455-1196
- 2) May 14-15----Rape Crisis Center Training. Free contact Daniele Dreitzer at Daniele@rcclv.org
- 3) May 29th—Annual Foster Youth Graduation. Looking for donations for duffel gift bag for each graduate.
- 4) June 5th----The 14th Annual Nevada state Child Abuse Prevention And Safety Conference will be held on June 5, 2015 at The InNEVation Center. Registration is \$25. Earn up to 6 CEUs Space limited. Details at www.nic.unlv.edu/pcan/conference.html (Flier attached)
- 5) LGBTQ/A Wellness Conference on June 25-26 More details at www.thecenterlv.org
- 6) June 3 ---National Reunification Month.
- 7) Mari Parlade share information about a potential project with Focus on the Family, a Colorado Non-Profit. For more information contact Mari at Mari.Parlade@clarkcountynv.gov

- 8) Denise asked each organization to consider giving a presentation to the group detailing the purpose and goals of their organization. If you are interested, contact Denise Tanata at denise.tanata@caanv.org

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM

NEXT MEETING will be held on Thurs., September 17, 2015 from 7:30 – 9:30 am in the Rotunda Room at the Las Vegas Country Club.