CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSFUL YOUTH TRANSITIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes – September 2017 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Rochelle Trochtenberg, Co-Chair, welcomed members and members introduced themselves.

**Review and approve minutes**

*June 2017 Minutes approved as written*

**Priority Employment Model Draft Policy**

Members discussed the model draft policy and additional edits they would like to make.

* We need to include the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) piece in the model policy. Staff will set up a call with Social Change Partners, LLC and iFoster to discuss the work they are doing around the WOTC.
* David Ambroz: The work that Santa Clara has done around priority employment is replicable and free. That is what made the model attractive. This is scalable anywhere.
* Rochelle Trochtenberg: Santa Clara is not the only county doing this. The question is: how do we build on that success?
* David Ambroz will write a narrative regarding Santa Clara to add to the model policy.
* Staff will implement comments/suggestions for final review

It was suggested that Judge Edwards has a sample letter for private industry HR companies regarding priority hiring of foster youth.

A good question to address is: who would a person call when they need technical assistance with this?

We should include the statistics from the CalYouth survey.

To include in final draft:

* Cities
* Private industry
* WOTC
* Statistics from CalYouth
* Narrative regarding Santa Clara by David Ambroz
* 2012 Government Policy on Employment of Former Foster Youth from Jacqueline Wong. Documents have been sent to staff.
* SSI ticket to work information

**Housing and Homeless Foster Youth Work Group**

* How many of the resource centers deal with homelessness? We could ask them to include that in their service delivery – this could be in the recommendation section as #8.
* Is law enforcement actively looking for kids who have gone AWOL?
* Who is responsible for what and are they doing it? Do they even have a policy and is it written down?
* The Quality Parenting Initiative from the Youth Law Center would be good to add.
* The Polaris Project has reports regarding human trafficking that has good information.
* Larkin Street Youth Services is a fantastic resource and released new data in June 2017 regarding youth and homelessness. Sherilyn Adams is the Executive Director.
* What are some services provided for youth on the run? They may be accessing them in places we can’t see.
* Who holds the department accountable? This is a county specific issue.
* Alameda county meets with AWOL youth and are using different tactics. Runaway and homeless youth providers are contract providers.
* Add a string of runaway homeless youth providers in the protocol.

Add in the background: AB 346 title 22

* Look into the use of child and family team meetings and family involvement. Anna Johnson will add models available.
* The deadline to get comments from everyone is 9/30/2017.

*Discussion with Permanency Committee*

* Anna Johnson provided a brief recap: Other states and some counties have protocols more in line with the federal guidance. How do we have a more responsible and effective approach to young people? Anna Johnson pointed out changes in the updated draft.
* What training is being provided on meeting the immediate needs of the child- is there any specific module related to assessing and engaging etc.? *Rochelle Trochtenberg:* I think we can take this questions back to CCL and ask what is being required of providers. *Bob Friend:* Training can be a secondary piece to this protocol. How do we get caregivers to better understand and get the youth needs met.? Rochelle Trochtenberg: This is something we can add to the work plan.
* Bob Friend: How do we create networks for youth and families so they do not have to rely on government intervention. How can every caregiver have access to support? Providing this kind of support falls into the retention of caregivers.
* As we review existing regulations and policies, how are caregivers involved and engaged in support and training?
* We need continued support and training for caregivers. Caregivers feel they need to call the police instead of calling another caregiver for support. We need to foster relationships amongst caregivers. Trauma informed care, crisis intervention, and emotional safety are crucial.
* The workgroup will de-brief additional edits at the December meeting and discuss next steps for presentation to the full council in March.

**Healthy Sexual Development Update**

Regina Navas, Permanency Policy Bureau, Placement Services and Support Unit, California Department of Social Services, provided an update on the progress made by the CDSS work group.

* Due to rising concerns related to issues surrounding unintended pregnancy amongst youth in foster care, the CDSS convened the HSD workgroup in February 2016. The workgroup was charged with the responsibility to develop a pregnancy prevention plan that effectively addressed the reproductive and sexual health care needs of adolescent youth in foster care. (W&IC 16521.5(f))
* Workgroup Accomplishments to date:
  + Reproductive and Sexual Health Care and Related Rights for Youth in Foster Care (All County Letter 16-82),
  + California’s Plan for the Prevention of Unintended Pregnancy for Youth and Non-Minor Dependents in Foster Care (ACL 16-88),
  + Brochure “Know Your Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights” (PUB 490),
  + Technical Support Resource Guide for Children’s Residential Facilities and Resource Families (TSP 2016-06), and
  + Healthy Sexual Development Project webpage: [**http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Foster-Care/Healthy-Sexual-Development-Project**](http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Foster-Care/Healthy-Sexual-Development-Project)
* There will be a 9-hour training in October at UC Davis for caregivers and youth. Rochelle Trochtenberg and Dr. Leah Hibel who is a professor for the honors Grad Human Sexuality Class will kick off this training series.
* Rochelle Trochtenberg: Is there an update on the process of tailoring this specifically towards LGBTQ? *Answer:* Marisa Sanchez advised that there is a Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) advisor to assist in drafting the guide. Alison Newkirk is the manager over the section within CCL that is drafting this guide.

**Psychotropic Medications**

*Presentation on SB 484 Implementation*

Marisa Sanchez, Policy Manager, Statewide Children’s Residential Program Office, Community Care Licensing Division, California Department of Social Services provided a presentation on SB 484 implementation.

Senate Bill (SB) 484 mandates new data collection and distribution requirements concerning the use of psychotropic medications by residents in group homes. Under this legislation, the Department is required to develop measures to identify group homes in which levels of psychotropic medication use by clients warrant further review in the form of special annual inspections. This bill also mandates recordkeeping requirements specific to children taking psychotropic medications—binding on all children’s residential facilities, with the exception of runaway and homeless youth shelters.

CCL has partnered with DHCS and analyzed the Medi-Cal billing piece for psychotropic medications and then compared that data against the child welfare data. Based on claims, a methodology was created. This methodology helped identify the group home facilities for review. Last year there were 206 group home’s targeted for inspection. During these initial inspections, CCL issued advisory notes in lieu of citing group homes i.e. instances of staff not trained on protocols.

CCL is currently reviewing the curriculum for LPA’s and focusing on the concurrency piece (youth on multiple medications.)

* Staff will invite Sarah Rogers, Project Director, and CCL to the December 2017 committee meeting with an update.
* Committee members will review the CCL report and have a discussion around identifying the issues that can inform the work we do.

**Next Meeting**

* Invite Sarah Rogers from CCR to come to our committee in December to discuss STRTP topic and get very clear numbers. Invite CCL again for update (Marisa Sanchez)
* Runaway and homeless youth will meet with the Permanency Committee to de-brief and discuss next steps.

Meeting Adjourned

Summary of Follow-Up Items

| Item | Action Steps | Point Person |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Foster Youth Who Runaway Workgroup | Update Proposal Draft based on committee comments and feedback | Anna Johnson  Staff |
| *Action: Workgroup meeting follow up call mid to late October* | Staff |
| Priority Employment | Santa Clara Narrative for final policy | David Ambroz |
| Discussion with Social Change Partners, LLC and iFoster to discuss the work they are doing around the WOTC | Rochelle Trochtenberg  Staff |
| Include edits for final draft revision | Staff |
| *Action: Workgroup meeting follow up call* | Workgroup members |
| Psychotropic Medications | Invite Sarah Rogers from CCR and Marisa Sanchez from CCL for an update | Staff |
| Next Agenda | 1. Review Committee Work plan 2. Review and approve Youth Who Runaway Protocol 3. Invite Sarah Rogers from CCR and Marisa Sanchez from CCL for an update |  |

**Participants**

| Rochelle Trochtenberg, Co-Chair | Vincent Bartle |
| --- | --- |
| Carol Brown | Jacqueline Wong |
| Diane Thompson | Katie Winistorfer |
| Judge Edwards | Lily Kolby |
| David Ambroz |  |