

## DFS Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting Location:</b>	VIA: WebEx - Clark County Department of Family Services 121 S. Martin Luther King Las Vegas, NV 89106
<b>Date:</b>	February 18, 2021 8:30 am – 10:00 am

<b>Membership:</b>		<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Public: None	Brian Adams	X	
	Shelia Parks	X	
	Crystal Bomar		X
	Judge Frank Sullivan		X
	Andre Bailey	X	
	Matthew Cox	X	
	Dashun Jackson	X	
	Donna Smith	X	
	Carly Aldis		X
	Rhiannon Foreman	X	
	Ron Harris	X	
<b>County/Department Management:</b>	Tim Burch, Administrator		X
	Debbie Croshaw, Assistant Director	X	
	Abigail Frierson, Assistant Director	X	
	Margaret LeBlanc, Assistant Director	X	
	Jill Marano, Assistant Director		X
	Judy Tudor, Assistant Director		X
	Mari Parlade, DFS Legal & Strategic Initiatives Manager	X	

<b>Agenda Item I:</b>	<b>Call to order and welcome</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The meeting was called to order at 8:34am and roll was called by Chair Shelia Parks</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item II:</b>	<b>General Public Comments</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item III:</b>	<b>Approval of December 17, 2020 &amp; January 21, 2021 Minutes</b>	<b>(For Possible Action)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from December 17, 2020 and January 21, 2021 were approved.</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item IV:</b>	<b>CAC Nominations and Elections for Chair, Vice-Chair &amp; Deputy Chair</b>	<b>(For Possible Action)</b>
	<p>The CAC Board members were nominated and elected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Donna Smith as Chairperson</li> <li>Dashun Jackson as Vice Chair</li> <li>Andre Baily as Deputy Chair</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item V:</b>	<b>Department of Family Services Report Out</b>	<b>(Information Only)</b>
	<b>1) Prevention: Implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)</b>	

- We are continuing to partner with SNHD on the Thrive by Five project. We have provided outreach to almost 600 families in 2020. About 14% of those families accepted services from SNHD.
- We continue to work with DCFS on FFPSA plan. We will be sending out a survey to all of our community providers to determine who is offering evidenced based services that have been identified for Nevada's plan.

**2) Intervention & Accountability (Internal & External Communication)**

- Organizational Culture work with Partners in Leadership has begun. I have attached the executive summary of the survey results if you want to share. We actually had a 70% response rate. We will begin work groups on 2/25 and will provide updates at the next meeting.
- Racial Equity work group is working in partnership with Casey Family Programs to prioritize strategies for how DFS can increase trust and collaborative efforts to address racial inequities in the black community. We can share strategies at the next meeting.

**3) Youth Supports: Independent Living and Transitional Aged Youth Supports**

- DFS has enrolled approximately 51 young adults into the LifeSet program. We have room for about 15-20 more youth that we hope to have enrolled by the end of February.
- We are continuing to partner with MGM and UNLV on developing a job preparation and placement program that should begin to implement in April 2021.
- We are also partnering with Workforce Connections on various employment opportunities for our young adults including a program specifically designed for young adults to work in childcare.
- We are also developing a partnership with Terrible Herbst that could create job opportunities for our youth.
- Based on the new federal legislation we are offering youth the option to remain in foster care during the transition plan meeting. We have drafted a letter that we can use to go over options with our youth to remain in care, access voluntary jurisdiction, or leave the system with future access to Step Up. Youth are also informed between now and September they can opt back into foster care. We will also begin to send this letter to young adults who aged out of foster care since April 2020. We anticipate additional Chafee and ETV funding but have not received what the amount of that funding will be yet.

**4) Ombudsman Report**

- January report to follow:

**5) Policies and Procedures**

- No new policies since our last meeting. There are several in process and updates to follow.

**6) Legislation**

- DFS is very concerned about the children's mental health crisis that our state is experiencing. Increases youth on campus due to mental health needs and/or developmentally delayed youth. This will be an ongoing conversation throughout the legislative session.
- We are trying to get more information on what will be proposed for extended foster care.

- Mari presented the following information on Assembly and Senate Bills. The department is tracking 8 to 10 bills further updates to follow as they develop.

AB21: Is a pick-up from last session AB362 bill it authorizes caseworkers to have fictitious addresses. The bill is supported by SEIU and the addresses of caseworkers will be recorded by the recorder's office.

AB33: Providing and establishing paternity for cases related to abuse and neglect. There are concerns about the service process of this bill and the requirements of having to identify and serve the bill personally.

AB67: This bill concerns discipline, it's a department of education bill, it provides provisions of governing the discipline of pupils. The department is working with the school district and My Brother's Keeper due to the language of the bill concerning suspension and expulsion. The department is in favor of the language that provides additional protection for children who are identified as homeless. We would like to apply those same protections to children in foster care.

AB80: We are monitoring this bill that will allow persons with a CCW permit to carry their firearms into public premises. The department's concerns are with childcare facilities (Child Haven) due to the impact of firearms being so close to campus (i.e. in parking lot near cottages).

AB115: This bill revises the provision governing family law. It expands the definition of Parent Child Relationship.

AB118: Increases the age for a child restraint under the age of 6 to 8 years of age. It removes the weight requirements and requires that children under 13 must be in the backseat with certain restrictions pertaining to airbags.

AB127: Is the same as AB21 in relationships to the fictitious addresses it involves Law Enforcement Officers. The department is tracking this bill due to the similarities of AB21.

AB516: This bill involves the Court Improvement Program Legislation committee. Bill tightens some of the language regarding removals in NRS 432B. It will include the new warrant language that we proposed during the CIP legislation committee. This bill has not dropped yet

SB8: This bill governs guardianships that impacts SB159 guardianships as opposed to 432B. Guardianships have a very important role on what the department does; we are monitoring SB8.

SB21: This bill focuses on background check of employees of certain agencies that serve children.

SB69: It's a Behavior Health Bill from the senate committee of Health and Human Service involving Peer Support Recovery Specialists that will create a certification of

	<p>(PSRS) to work with parents. It will open 432B.220 and creates a special class of mandate reporters as the peer reviewers.</p> <p>SB70: This bill works closely with SB69. It's from the northern region mental health board and refers to mental Health. The bill has language defining the terms of chemical restraints that impact our kids. The department is watching this bill closely.</p> <p>SB119: This is a new bill sponsored by Senator Keith F. Pickard that references 432B. The bill focuses on divorce custody proceedings changing the wording from sole custody to primary custody. We are keeping a close eye on it.</p>	
<b>Agenda Item VI:</b>	<b>CAC Discussion &amp;/or Recommendations on the Top 6 Priorities (delineated in Section IV )</b>	<b>(For Possible Action)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item VII:</b>	<b>Informational Items/ Announcements</b>	<b>(Information Only)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheila requested that CASA should have access to the letter that will allow foster children to remain in care. Donna posed the question will foster parents have access to the letter? Additional information will be provided by the department regarding the extended stay in foster care. Caregiver Courier would be a good resource to have the information highlighted.</li> <li>• Dashun stated that CA is doing a 30-minute briefing session on bills that they are following every Tuesday, he will send Mari the bill information.</li> <li>• Shelia Parks expressed her sincere gratitude to everyone for their support during her time as chairperson.</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item VIII:</b>	<b>Comments by General Public</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
<b>Agenda Item IX:</b>	<b>Adjournment – 9:19am</b>	
	Next meeting will be Thursday, March 18, 2021 @ 8:30 am via WebEx	