



CARTF

SpringHill Suites, Boise

June 7, 2019

AGENDA

Joshua Wickard- Public Defender (Chairman)
Michelle Weir- DHW, Family & Children Services
James Baugh-Children with Disabilities
Sheila Sturgeon Freitas, PhD- Mental Health
Doug Giddings-Idaho County Sheriff
Melissa Osen- Foster Youth
JoAnn Gemar - Homeless Education Liaison
Jill Robertson- Parent
Lisa Nordstrom- Child Advocate Attorney

Jennifer Tachell- Educator (Vice-Chairman)
Susan Bradford, MD - Pediatrician
Jennifer Bergin- Attorney
Hon. Steve Clark- Civil Magistrate Judge
Galen Carlson- Prosecuting Attorney
Tahna Barton - CASA
Hon. Mark Rammell- Criminal Magistrate Judge
Nadine McDonald - Juvenile Justice
Molly Vaughn- Victim Services Coordinator

Mindy Peper - Task Force Support

ABSENT

Guests: Teresa Abbot, CFRT; Lance McCleave and Amanda Barlett, OPE

Chairman Joshua Wickard called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Peper covered the binder contents.

The group reviewed the March and April 2019 minutes. McDonald makes a motion to approve the March and Carlson seconds, all in favor and so moved. Carlson notes that last paragraph of page one in the April minutes needs to change word statue to statute. Giddings makes a motion to approve April minutes with noted change, McDonald seconds, all in favor and so moved.

Award of Excellence Nominations

CARTF discusses nomination letters and looks over letters/packet. McDonald makes a motion to award the award of excellence award to Debra Alsaker-Burke, Vaughn seconds, all in favor and so moved. The award will be made at the annual training conference in October.

Grant Submissions

CARTF reviews and discusses the two grants submitted in May. These grants will come out of the next funding cycle which starts July 1. Wickard states that outside of just giving money to these groups, just as importantly we are looking to develop relationships with these individuals and groups to come visit with us and share with us, which in turn helps us better serve the community.

Team Boise grant: Vaughn discusses her thoughts on the value of the NCADV conference. If approved, Wickard would require the group to come present at October CARTF meeting and a follow up written report within 1 year of what they accomplished. Carlson discusses how this will fill a missing gap in this MDT. CARTF discuss costs. CARTF discusses is there a way to share this statewide—annual CARTF conference, video tape a presentation and add to the

website, etc... Carlson makes a motion to approve the grant as follows: fund \$5250 to send two people to the national conference and they must present at the CARTF October 2020 meeting as well as follow-up with written report within 1 year from funding, Rammell seconds, all in favor and so moved.

Nampa Family Justice Center grant. Bradford discusses the logistics of the exam table. Baugh discusses the need for tables that are more accessible to people with disabilities. Vaughn makes motion to approve the NFJC grant request in full, Carlson seconds, all in favor and so moved.

Guest: Teresa Abbott, CFRT Annual Report

Wickard welcomes Teresa Abbott. We also welcome Tahna Barton on conference call.

Abbott discusses the methodology of the report. She highlights the following:
-there were 222 deaths in 2016 of children 0-18 yrs in Idaho.
-106 met the criteria for review
-congenital malformations and perinatal conditions were included this year.

Abbott notes that the coroner training has improved reporting details and consistency. Thirty-eight of the forty-four coroners in Idaho attended the toverageraining. It was sponsored by CARTF with a grant.

Following points were noted on specific case reviews:

SIUD: unsafe sleeping environment/co-sleeping accounted for 18 of the 19 deaths. Weir reports that one of the new federal foster care recommendations is that no co-sleeping be allowed within foster families.

Homicides: big jump in numbers for 2016 due to some homicide/suicide events.

Report will be approved sometime next week for publication.

Guest: Lance McCleave and Amanda Barlett, OPE- Child Welfare Systems

Wickard welcomes OPE guests. Today they will discuss the 3 reports released on the child welfare system in Idaho. Summary handout has been provided and added to CARTF binders.

Findings in placement process:

- gaps in placement services and program capacity lead to failed diversions and safety plans
- lead to less success in placement and safety plan: caregiver substance abuse, hazardous home conditions,
- 18.7% of diversions ended up going to foster care placement
- best to keep kids out of foster care but only when it's safe

There is inconsistent knowledge of benefits and resources among foster kids and staff.

Regarding case load, there seems to be reality gap between what case workers and supervisors think they can effectively manage versus what they are managing. They seem to carry about 38% more cases than they think they are capable of, although this is lower than the national average.

Culturally, there seems to be a continuous feeling of crisis in the organization, the feeling they cannot meet requirements and quality expectations.

The question is, is there a need for more case workers, more efficiency, more oversight, etc?

A staffing model should include on average how many cases, how many people, separate homes, rural area, and so on. A cookie-cutter model will not work for the diverse geography of Idaho. Also need to consider the referral model.

Efficiency is directly tied to effectiveness and outcomes. It may also mean less burnout and turnover in case workers, thereby increasing efficiency.

The work placed on case workers comes from statute, rules, policies, and informal outside demands from other sources (a judge, a prosecutor, a family need...). Hard to say if the increase in work or burden, imagined or in reality, comes from one of these four or from something else.

Idaho does not have system level accountability for child protection. When something happens, who fixes it? OPE recommends that a formal, state-wide oversight entity be formed with authority to ensure accountability, visibility, and accessibility for all child welfare partners and stakeholders. The child protection system is so immense and the work so complex and intense that the OPE recommended that the oversight must be ongoing.

The guardian ad litem system is not one that has been well supported nor is there a state entity that oversees it; therefore, some kids are not getting proper representation. The 7 guardian ad litem programs are non-profit. Hundreds of cases are not getting assigned to one of the guardian ad litem programs and there is no system to prevent that from happening. Additionally, there are kids who do not have any representation at any time during the case—no advocate, no guardian ad litem, no CASA. It seems to differ from county to county. There needs to be state-level advocacy for the child advocates.

There will be a follow up after the 2019 report and do a large comprehensive follow up that may cover more than a year. Massive, multi-year changes are happening which makes this uncharted territory for the OPE.

Conference Planning

Need to finalize venue, set up Eventbrite, POST credits, CLE's, CEU's—start application process.

Thumb drive with conference materials like conference reports, power points, etc and put in the bag.

Mindy needs to connect with speaker for topic, outline, bio, etc.

Market—CAC's, website, Eventbrite, professional groups, etc...

SWAG and thumb drives- cell phone pocket for cards, small spiral notebooks with pens, stickies,

Put Jessica's Trunk on the agenda.

Vendors for conference—who? Jessica's Trunk (Dr. Cox); NFJC; Foster parent recruiter program;

September Agenda

2019 Conference

2020 Conference- Idaho Suicide Prevention Council speaker

Invite Dina Flores-Brewer (disability advocate for CARTF vacancy)- Peper contact

Bring options for the homeless advocate for CARTF vacancy

Monty Prow- Director of Department of Juvenile Corrections- McDonald will send the contact info to Peper

Order lunch??

New Business

Need to fill two new vacancies—disability advocate and homeless youth advocate.

Adjourn