

Circuit 17 CFLA

January 2013 Meeting

February 1, 2013

8:45 – 10:15 AM

- I. Welcome
 - Walter still using Allen's old email address and the sign in sheets
 - Introduce Jennifer de Leon – will be assisting with minutes
- II. Acceptance of Minutes from 1/11/13 meeting
- III. Update on CFLA online postings
 - To communicate with each other better and meeting the Sunshine Law requirements
 - Childnet and CSC will be posting the minutes and agendas
 - Monica King – Minutes will be up within the month. The site is in development stage right now, hope in the next month to have it up and ready, once its done link/information will be given. Currently the agendas are posted in the calendar
- IV. Discussion of CFLA and Sunshine requirements and compliance – Kim Gorsuch/Walter Honaman
 - Notice the meeting, new parties that come in, make sure that we are following the statues
 - CSC will host it and physically will post it, if you want to print it off and post it in your office
 - No limitation of what we can post
- V. Discussion of Role of Working Committees in CFLA's Mission and Purpose
 - Judge Brown – there were some before and to forward with new committees
 - Monica – we do see a body that works under CFLA. CFLA is a policy setting group
 - Walter – guiding community resources and have working committees to advise
 - Two areas to start a committee. From initial investigating, all the way to reports, guidance and recommendations
 - Debbie Wynters – There is a CFLA website hosted by ChildNet
 - Monica – could be a demo page, Roy from ChildNet started it
 - Hilary – some of us are in different committees
 - Walter – no need to duplicate committees
 - Go beyond the participating members, we might miss the opportunity
 - Judge Brown – resources for foster kids, more in general to help

- Walter – Proposal: I don't have the data, I have heard from our children many time – “I don't care because no one care about me”
 - No sense that they belong in a larger committee, they have the ripple effect that affects the rest of the world
 - FaithNet was started to support children and guide them to their prefer house of worship
 - Maybe we can create a subcommittee to gear
 - Many of the children are spiritually isolated
 - Give them some type of sense, not a religious sense, sense by an adult
- Derrick Roberts – Not only to comply with federal regulations
 - We still have a FaithNet representative
 - I would like to expand that
- Derrick Roberts and Judge Brown wants to be part to the committee
- Children may ask questions, committee will guide them, have pastors involve, background screening
- Hilary – guardian report has been amended
 - Spiritual or religious services, questions is asked
- Judge Brown – What about foster parents?
- Lindsey – is still faith is aligned with the child, is the foster parent will allow the kids
- Ron – what will be the role of the committee?
 - Walter – role will be to work with FaithNet and explore the need of responding youth and care
- Ron – CFLA role?
 - Walter – to identify the resources beyond FaithNet and come up with recommendation
- Emilio Benitez – I'm uncomfortable with FaithNet. FaithNet was created because there was a need. **Suggestion:** a member of CFLA can be a member of FaithNet and report back to CFLA
- Elaine – If you have a kid saying I don't give a f, child needs some type of religious and health help. Need more people to care for them
- Keith – Adhoc committee to be develop to see the issue and see how is affect this committee
- Judge Brown – not sure how FaithNet works, I agree with Emilio
- Ron – motion is to appoint a member to monitor with FaithNet and report to CFLA back in 6 months. Amend in 3 months.
- Jim – none of us don't know FaithNet is and have them do a presentation next meeting to learn and understand better
- Ron – withdraw my motion
- Walter – **motion** to present on March's meeting. All agree.
- Monica back to the idea, report back to the committee

- Like to know a little bit of what it is, to keep an eyeball on a regular basis
- BSO – nothing change
- Walter – Do you (Monica) want a full report? That's fine.
- Emilio – from ChildNet prospective, we are working with BSO and PIs in Palm beach to make sure that we are training simultaneously and that there's no gap in between
- Jim – we have a trainer and might be able to help
- Emilio – understanding on how the system works

VI. Brief ChildNet Update – Emilio – Benitez

- C17 doing well, at number 1
- Was name best organization for 2012/2013
- Secretary announced that the score card will change again
 - Wants to see an increase on foster care
 - Create quality in foster home
- We are losing good foster parents for good reasons
- We have a large amount of children in group cares
- What differentiate that from the bureaucrats from DCF
- How to increase licensing
- When we look at these criteria we don't do well
- Try to lower the numbers in group homes
- Walter – recruitment and retaining foster parents is where we having issues
 - Not aware of the efforts
 - Do you want a report back or liaison to report?
- Kim – ChildNet and I will be talking about foster parent recruitment right after this meeting.
 - Secretary's objectives makes it clear
 - Addition activities, an event to target potential leaders or parents and report back the next couple of meetings.
- Keith – this is a good place to start
- Neiko – we license the same and have further communication with that. Can have a representative to come and present
- Walter – wait to present or send someone
- Silvia – the issue was addressed with the Secretary
- The process is well defined
- Walter – we have different agencies doing the work. Set policies, the ones that live with that
- Hilary – we are working with Wendy, there's movement
- Evan – to include more foster parents, I don't know if you will be more successful
 - I'll listen to the actual foster parents rather than people from the committee
- Kim – foster parent association is the best to deal with that

- Walter – I have been involve with good foster parents who says that they are done after this child and are talking to their friends, negatively
- Kurt – have the individuals to come and present
 - **Motion** – march meeting to have presentations. All in favor.

VII. Brief GAL Update – Hilary Creary

- 1648 children in care, 60%
- 100 more children to go within 6 months, represent 56% of the children
- Training March 8th for transformation and APV to present
- Nieko – training tomorrow for mentors to work with victims of human trafficking
- Working with 2 grants for development and human trafficking victims
- Lindsey have the Youshine document to hand out
- Emilio – ChildNet is in support
- Kurt – I have an issue in fact of offering a solution, why not have them come to the table and create the liability clause
- Emilio – those conversation are going on now, the original language of the bill did not protect foster parents

VIII. Brief DCF Update – Kim Gorsuch

- Working on foster parent recruitment
- Having a summer camp for kids
- Camp counselor will be need – will ask you folks to free up time
- C19 joins the Southeast region
 - Some areas are strong such as ACCESS Program
 - Dennis and Kim Welles are making this transaction, is reason why they are not able to attend the meetings
- As of yesterday, touching tribute to Nancy J. Cotterman; The Sexual Assault Treatment Center renamed to Nancy J. Cotterman Center

IX. New Business

- Debbie Wynter – Red Heart Day today, gave out the lollipops
- Hilary Creary – 2nd annual coming up from 6pm – 9pm, save the date will be sent out
- Kurt – We do a really good job on selling, is there a resource fair for foster children to go and other children attend too? I think its something to think about.
- Kim – BSO changes, working with them and are delighted

X. Meeting Adjournment

Next meeting: March 1, 2013