

**Washington County Citizen Review Panel for Child Protection  
Meeting Minutes June 20, 2017**

*“Citizens partnering with Child Protective Services to keep children safe.”*

**Members Present:**

Jan Hayne, Jennifer Dailey, Dawn Hyland, John Kiedrowski, Mike Laughton, La Juan McIntyre, Ralph Pennie, Terri Bottum, Nancy Zupfer, County Representatives Sarah Amundson and Nissa Knutson, DHS Representative Mary Doyle

**Absent:** Bonnie Treacy, Deb Eckberg

**Guest:** Corrine from Big Brothers-Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities

**Jan chaired the meeting, starting at 5:00 p.m.**

**May Minutes Approved**

**Guest Discussion**

Corrine, Program Director Big Brother- Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities, gave an overview of their community based mentoring program that served 2300 youth last year. Only 4% of these youth were from Washington County. She explained the extensive matching process, volunteer commitment, and parental engagement and focus on safety and college/career readiness.. Washington County currently has 25 little brothers and 9 little sisters waiting. There is a challenge in finding Big Brothers, especially. There is a June 29 public information session at St. Andrews.

**Old Business**

- **Truancy group donations:** They have plenty of gift cards for now. If you did not receive a thank you email from Nissa, let her know.
- **Foster Care Re-Entry File Review:** John Nalezny will connect by email with panel members who are interested in coming in to analyze the files, perhaps meeting mid-July. Two workers have been identified to assist.
- **Foster Care Task Force:** The foster parents came to the last meeting.
- **Permanency Guidelines:** Megan might come to the August meeting to explain this.
- **Safe Harbor Workshop:** This group appears to be at a standstill at the moment. The panel might invite the Safe Harbor advocate to a meeting. There is also an opportunity

for panel members to attend a “Communities of Practice” meeting on August 1 from 12:30-4:30 at the Washington County Government Center, Lower Level 14. Contact Jodi if interested.

- **Mentorship resource list/framework:** Consider if we want to create a mentoring resources guide or do something more preventative, such as helping to promote a culture of volunteerism, perhaps by promoting the need/opportunity at the County Fair.
- **Social worker meetings or shadowing:** Nissa will talk with supervisors about possible dates and email the panel. Any member can contact Nissa if interested in shadowing.

### **Washington County Update (Sarah and Nissa)**

- The County is growing in population.
- There was a foster care recognition evening.
- A group from Isanti County, the Safe Haven Foster Shop, is willing to provide overnight bags when needed for children placed in foster care.

### **Update from DHS (Mary)**

- DHS received more State funding than originally expected. Mary will send a list of what was funded. There is a new Sex Trafficking position who the panel could invite to come talk. There is a class action law suit against Hennepin County requesting a special consent decree to oversee/overhaul child protection practice.
- The panel might want a broader overview of financing generally and what monies are spent on prevention, both at the State and County levels.

**Meeting Adjourned about 6:30 p.m.**

**\*\*\*REMEMBER: No meeting in July!\*\*\***

*Minutes by JCD*