

**Washington County Citizen Review Panel for Child Protection
Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018**

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

Members Present:

LaJuan McIntyre, Amy Berge, Jennifer Dailey, Deb Eckberg, Key-C Green, Dawn Hyland, John Kiedrowski, Mike Loughton, Ralph Pennie, County Representatives Nissa Knutson and Sarah Amundson, State Representative Mary Doyle

Absent: Jan Hayne, Teri Bottum

Special Guest: Jennifer Worden

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

February Minutes Approved

New Business

- **New member** – Amy Berge of Woodbury is joining the panel. She has worked as a special education director and oversees Early Childhood Education in the Stillwater School District. Welcome, Amy!
- **2017 Annual Report** – Jan completed the report. Sarah and Ralph will present to the County Board on March 27 and also seek a proclamation that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. April is also National County Government Month.
- **Trainings Attended** – Jen attended a training on Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) on March 16, 2018, in West St. Paul.
- **2018 Projects**
 - **Social Worker/Staff Appreciation Month in March** –Mike, John, Ralph, Dawn, and Key-C attended meetings. County social workers are mostly Masters level. There exists I-VE program assistance and scholarships to complete the program in 9 months and scholarships if they then work for county child protection. Social workers do 15 hours per year of training, with many opportunists available through the county and the state.
 - **Child Abuse Prevention Month in April** – Jen made a trifold board that will be placed at the Park Grove Library in Cottage Grove in April, along with PSOP

brochures and a copy of the County proclamation. In the past, displays were at Woodbury and Stillwater, so it is nice to do Cottage Grove this year.

- **Washington County Fair in August** – The Washington County Fair will be July 24-29 this year. Sarah will investigate sharing a table and shifts with some other community services. We'll work on updating the CRP brochure for the fair.

Update from Washington County (Sarah and Nissa)

- Sarah, Nissa, and Jen attended a World Café discussion yesterday as part of the YMCA disparities grant. Child Protection has done 75 Individual Development Inventories (IDIs) with personal feedback sessions and engages Familywise for wrap-around services for those at risk for out-of-home placement. The team is now looking through policies and procedures with a multidisciplinary equity lens. One goal is to increase staff of color. There may be an opportunity to extend the grant one year. Otherwise the grant ends in June. It would be nice to share what they have learned with schools, who are a huge referral source for child protection.

Update from DHS (Mary with Guest Jennifer Worden)

- Jennifer is in Minnesota on a fellowship to work to prevent maltreatment from a continuing improvement perspective. The current child protection model is from the 1830's and focuses on basic needs (food, shelter, safety). She is researching a way to coordinate care and base child protection on relationships that already exist, including SNAP, WIC, TANIF, etc. Basing prevention on social connectedness and belonging is key. She is looking for paradigm shifts and tweaks in the system. She is hoping to partner with groups to do prototypes with rapid cycle data innovation to proof the concept for evidence and buy in, and then perhaps approach the Legislature and tackle DHS policies. It may be more effective to prevention to team caseloads based on a therapeutic relationship with clients to increase their protective factors, building on strengths and based in respect. The new federal legislation of "families first" supports this kind of thinking.
- New member training will be arranged.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

*Minutes by Jen
Snacks by Mike*