

WASHINGTON COUNTY CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL FOR CHILD PROTECTION
“Citizens partnering with Child Protective Services to keep children safe.”
Woodbury Stafford Library, Lower Level Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes, January 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER 5:10 pm by Chair, Jan Hayne

IN ATTENDANCE

Amy Berge- Absent	Nissa Knutson, County Representative
Ann Mozey- Absent	Pam Clifton
Jan Hayne, Chair	Sarah Amundson, County Representative
Jody Koch- Absent	Susannah Barnes
Laurie Gravelle	Teri Bottum
Mary Doyle, State Rep., DHS Liaison	

Minutes: Pam

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER’S MINUTES

- Susannah moved to approve November and December’s minutes and the motion was seconded by Sarah. Approval was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS Updates regarding Projects/Workgroups/Project Planning Toolkit

- The Panel brainstormed numerous ways to recruit for CRP membership (ongoing for men and POC) such as social media posts, area churches, men’s groups and business associations. Teri asked if there was a directory of “like” organizations.

ACTION ITEMS

- Nissa will work with Yvonne to get CRP information onto Washington County site, social media, and Twitter, then send links to everyone to use
 - Jan will target St. Andrews and Stillwater Business Association once handouts are available
 - Pam will contact St. Genevieve, New Life Church, EagleBrook and St. Mary of the Lake men’s groups as well as Hugo Lion’s Club, Water’s Edge Men’s Group and Hugo Business Association once handouts are available
 - Susannah will contact Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce once handouts are available
 - Nissa to check on handouts with updated language regarding target recruitment
 - Laurie to send to preschool groups
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- Assist w/ SoWashCo CARES and/or similar in other parts of County. - Amy was absent with a sick child so no update.
 - Framing project/CP positive media messaging, Building Core Capabilities

Discussion has taken place at previous CRP meetings regarding negative reactions from people when they hear us speak about the Citizen Review Panel for Child Protection. Although protecting our county's children is good, the term "child protection" often evokes ideas and feelings of parent/child separation and displacement at the hands of our government's child protective services, or a focus on bad parents versus the larger community issues that contribute to parental stressors. Because of these negative connotations of "child protection," it can be difficult to engage families and community members to join the discussion and participate in the positive aspects of child protection: building/strengthening protective factors to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect.

- After additional discussion, and in keeping with current Child and Family Services, the panel unanimously voted to change the CRP name to:

The Washington County Citizen Review Panel for Children's Services
Transforming Risk to Wellness

ACTION ITEM: Nissa will contact everyone that needs to know about this change

- Status of CRP Brochure update/feedback and bios online? – Sarah will have more in Feb

NEW BUSINESS

- Trainings/webinars - any attended/upcoming?

Susannah attended the PSS Stakeholder Grant Meeting. There will be more money for permanency, outstate and current grantees.

- Patty Moses, a volunteer with the Children's Justice Initiative – Is there something CJI could assist with for CRP? She may attend a future CRP meeting.

Sarah will be meeting with Associate Justice Anne K. McKeig, new head of CJI. The judge's review may uncover topics for us to discuss with Patty. Our Washington County Juvenile Operations Group (JOG), is active in CJI.

- Identifying/planning for 2020 projects
 - Review of CP cases reopened after being closed

ACTION ITEMS

- Nissa and Sarah have different thoughts about exactly which kind of reopened cases will be reviewed and will connect to clarify. The hope is to select 10 cases for a thorough review.
- At next meeting we will identify county contact, how review will happen, number of cases, start date, and who will work on this project? We hope to complete this project in a way that best helps the county staff to do their work more effectively, including looking at the right things, bias, and disparities that may play a role.
- Adapt Chisago County Info cards for Washington County?
The cards are in process. Should have for Feb meeting.

- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month – more libraries? Different age group? Family events? Who will work on this?
 - The panel is thinking about targeting middle school versus elementary youth
 - Nissa said Laurie with PSOP is interested in helping again.

ACTION ITEM: Finalize plan at Feb CRP meeting. Move to beginning of agenda.

- Pizza party project for foster care families?

Sarah has brainstormed with Becky, Foster Care Supervisor, about restructuring the foster care family recognitions into adult providers and childcare providers. Once decided, this project will be revisited and possibly changed to a pizza party for childcare providers and kids rather than pizza coupons.

ACTION ITEM: Further discuss at Feb meeting.

- Identify another project or two for 2020?
 - Discussion took place regarding the benefit of getting judges involved in education. Laurie mentioned a half day “symposium” that occurred in a previous county she worked in. Nissa said “brown bag” lunches used to happen.

ACTION ITEM: Sarah will get on brown bag invite list and check into this. Jan will meet with Laurie before Feb CRP meeting to learn more about the symposium.

 - Susannah asked about disparities in Washington County
 - Sarah/Nissa talked about Blind Removal, which eliminates implicit bias from child protection screenings and decisions. There has been a 31% change in decisions over 5 years impacting children of color. There is interest in implementing this.
 - Nissa emailed the panel the following links regarding Blind Removal

https://www.ted.com/talks/jessica_pryce_to_transform_child_welfare_take_race_out_of_the_equation?language=en

<https://ncwwi.org/index.php/webinars/2-uncategorised/359-dismantling-racial-inequity-5-strengthening-efforts>

- Speaker topics for upcoming meetings in 2020
 - Connie from Washington County Crisis Response Unit and Becky from Quality Parenting Initiative were both previously identified as possible speakers for 2020. Both are quite busy and will not be available until April or May.

 - Other speakers/topics? It was noted that when we have speakers we do not have the time to address our agenda topics. The question came up as to whether we would want to meet separate from our meetings for these speakers. No resolution.

UPDATE FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY (Sarah, Nissa)

- Tom Adkins is the new Director of community Services
- Molly O'Rourke, County Administrator, retired. Kevin Corbid will take over
- Sarah asked panel members if there were certain days/times that would be better than others to set a consistent day/time for reconsiderations. She will send out some options.

UPDATE FROM DHS, (Mary)

- Our Governor stepped in to resolve a financial controversy between the state DHS and counties and mandated that the state cover costs.
- There will be a new training facility in Roseville MN
- The Family First Transition Act (federal) appropriated money to states in December. MN will receive \$7.8 million.

UPDATE FROM JAN

- Jan would like to phase out of her role as CRP Chair by mid-year by mentoring someone to phase in to the role.
- She asked if anyone was interested in working with her on agendas, help her with the Annual Report to commissioners, and take over as Chair starting in August.
- Pam agreed to help with the report, but hasn't committed further.

ACTION ITEMS

- Let Jan know if you are interested in becoming CRP Chair.
- Sarah will find out when we report to the Commissioners, usually tied to prevent child abuse proclamation. End of March?

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 18, 2020. Same place, same time. Meetings are always the third Tuesday of the month, with occasional exceptions around the holidays, and no meeting in July.