

Washington County Citizens Review Panel

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

August 11, 2015

- **Attendance:**

- Members present: LaJuan McIntyre, Julia Welter, Nancy Zupfer, Nissa Knutson, Mary Doyle, Sarah Amundson, Mel Laughton, Bonnie Treacy, Dawn Hyland, Deb Eckberg

- **Approval of June minutes**

June minutes were approved.

- **Welcome of new member Bonnie Treacy**

The panel introduced themselves and heard a bit about new member Bonnie’s background.

- **Update from Washington County (Sarah, Nissa)**

Washington County will be receiving a total of \$728,000 to hire new staff. Already in midst of hiring, and hope to hire additional staff in 2016. This will also require some reorganization, and a substantial amount of training of new employees.

- **Update from DHS (Mary)**

Workgroups formed due to the work of the Governor’s task force have started to meet. Mary will send us the make-up of the groups and the schedule of their meetings. They plan to have preliminary recommendations by end of September. There has also been some discussion of changing the definition of child abuse to include children who are sex trafficked.

- **New Business**

- Dawn’s story

Dawn Hyland generously shared her story with the group. The group thanked Dawn for reminding them of why we are all involved in this important work.

- John Nalezny/foster care re-entry data

John Nalezny presented foster care re-entry data to the group.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

- **Next Meeting:** September 22, 2015 at 5 p.m.