

## Washington County Citizens Review Panel

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

September 22, 2015

- **Attendance:**
  - Members present: LaJuan McIntyre, Julia Welter, Nancy Zupfer, Nissa Knutson, Mary Doyle, Sarah Amundson, Mel Loughton, , Dawn Hyland, Deb Eckberg
  - Members absent: Bonnie Treacy
- **Approval of June minutes**
  - August minutes were approved.
- **Update from Washington County (Sarah, Nissa )**
  - Update on hiring (7.5 positions in 2015 and 2 more in 2016)—3 new people have been hired thus far
  - Heidi Bischoff has come on board as the new Child Protection Supervisor. All CPS workers have been transferred to her unit.
  - Washington County is still looking to hire 2 new investigators.
  - Nissa is working on a training packet for CRP members. This first training packet will focus on reconsideration as it pertains to CRP member’s responsibility to the process or reconsideration.
  - Nissa will bring a 1<sup>st</sup> draft of this material to the October meeting so that members can give feedback.
  - Also discussed was the possibility for continuing trainings specific to individual CRPs.
- **Update from DHS (Mary)**
  - Annual meeting will be hosted by Cottage Grove on November 9<sup>th</sup> from 3-6. Representatives from DHS workgroups will be present to answer questions and discuss their work. As prior years this will be a pot luck meal but no food assignments this year. If you attend feel free to bring anything you would like to share for the pot luck.
  - New screening guidelines group is working on the new guidelines. So far the new guideline is 50 pages and growing. Although it seems large Mary feels that it is clear concise and much easier to use than the current method/tools.
  - Those working on screening tools addressing sexually exploited youth are breaking off into a sub-committee. Within 2 years sexually exploited youth will be exclusively considered to be sexually abused so a shift from offender/delinquents to victims. One challenge so far is figuring out how and where youth homelessness fits in best.
  - Children’s Justice Act taskforce is working on Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) approach to child welfare. Their conference will be held in October/ November 2016
  - Ann Ahlstrom DHS manager/staff attorney has left to work with Hennepin County. In her absence Judy Nord will be covering.
- **Old Business**
  - Community Outreach—almost everyone has given information for profiles to Deb. LaJuan will get hers to Deb this week.

- Nancy will put together a put together a mock draft of a tri-fold pamphlet for the Oct Meeting along with proposal about how to use individual profiles for increased community awareness and PR for CRP>
- Duffle bag project
  - Nancy will contact All Saints Church Pastor Jules Erickson
  - Dawn will look into area dentists donating oral care packets
  - LaJuan will contact her friend who works for Gander Mountain
  - Deb will contact network contact regarding printing of pamphlets
  - All will report progress at October meeting
- **New Business**
  - Mary presented Project Planning Toolkit
  - Mary and Deb will work on constructing a general interest letter to distribute to corporations, businesses, and organizations in the community in an attempt to compile a list of community partners for the CRP and Child Protection
  - Each member will bring at least one recommendation of a group, organization who we might send letter to.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.**

- **Next Meeting:** October 20, 2015 at 5 p.m.