

King County Kinship Collaboration Full Group Meeting

Oct 12, 2009

Present:

Lynell Owens, Atlantic St.
Laura Russell, Molina Healthcare
Terri Stewart, Harborview
Gary Van Erickson, Caregiver
Laticia Williams, DSHS-DLR/OFCL
Gerri Barsh, DSHS-CA
Nikole Penman, VCCC
Opal Hopper, Caregiver
Betty Taylor, Caregiver/Federal Way Group
Kerry Beymer, Encompass
Jillian Regal, Big Brother Big Sisters
Kristie Lund, Casey Family Programs
Fai Mathews, Caregiver

Cynthia Green, RAYS
Tom Berry, DSHS-ESA
Shirlee Garrett, Caregiver
Helen Sawyer, Kinship Navigator
Indiana Allen, Caregiver
Meryl Thulean, Caregiver
Pat Seay, DSHS- CS
Celeste Carey, CFSF
Wendy Fortney, DSHS-CSD
Jim Jones, DSHS -CA
Mary Jo Magruder, ARC of King Co
Dora Slack, Caregiver
Lauren Frederick, Mockingbird

Staff:

Barb Wiley, KCKC Program Coordinator
Brittany Blue, KCKC Admin Assistant

Announcements

- School supplies are available through Celeste Carey. If you know of anyone in need please have them contact her at pace@cfsf.net or by phone at 253-307-8105
- Kinship Caregiver Conference in Shelton on Saturday Oct. 24th from 9am-3pm sponsored by Family Education and Support Services of Thurston County at Little Creek Casino. Call 877-813-2828 to register.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters runs a Children of Incarcerated Parents program that allows youth whose parents are incarcerated to get priority in the match program. For more information go to the website www.bbbs.org
- Toys for Tots will be distributing toys via DSHS this year. Marines will be distributing the toys at the CSO offices on different dates. DSHS will not hand out any toys but they will provide the list of kids who need toys - which will include those receiving any form of DSHS assistance. The Marines will be responsible for contacting each family who is on the list. They will let them know when/where to come to receive their toys.
 - It was suggested that the Steering Committee send a letter/engage in dialogue with the Marines about how to best reach all families in need next year.
 - To provide feedback or contact the Toys for Tots program you can send an email to james.e.ivey@usmc.mil

- Mockingbird will be holding a Chapter Mtg. Nov 9 at 3:30pm for foster/kinship youth where they can network and share their experiences. There will be discussion about policy change, advocating for keeping money. The focus will be more on how to educate legislature for future year's "asks". Snacks will be provided.
- South King County is offering free home modifications, home repairs, etc. to low-income home owners. They are currently accepting applications. To qualify for the services you must:
 1. Own your home
 2. be low-income (contact them for specific requirements)
 3. Live in Pierce County, Federal Way, or Auburn (including incorporated cities)
 4. Be either elderly, a person with a disability, or a family w/ children
 To request more information call 253.238.0977 or visit www.rebuildingtogether.org
- Auburn, Kent, and Renton DSHS offices will be moving out of their offices due to the potential flooding of Green River. There will only be skeleton crews in the offices. They will be conducting as much business from telephone as possible. The move will start in November. If it doesn't flood, they will move back. Regardless of the outcome, they are looking for new permanent facilities.
- Molina Healthcare is still conducting outreach efforts in King County about children's healthcare. They are always willing to table and make presentations. To have a formal presentation with your organization or support group, please contact Laura Russell at laura.russell@molinahealthcare.com or via phone 206.402.8128
- Kerry and Betty are representing Kinship on the Foundation for Early Learning conference calls. They are putting together a work plan for the governor to include all types of families.
- People Point helps low- and moderate-income families and individuals apply for free or reduced cost child care and preschool, energy and utilities, food, and health insurance, all in the same place at the same time. It's a one-stop shop for all benefits. To apply go to www.peoplepoint.info or call 206.684.0355
- The support group list has been updated due to the passing of Felicia Henderson, who was co-leading the RAYS support group with Cynthia. She will be missed. This sad news opened up discussion about further ways that we can support caregivers

Resource Presentation

Harborview's Sexual Assault Center/Foster Care Clinic- Terri Stewart Foster Clinic

- Provides ongoing well child primary care for child in out-of-home placement
- Provides consultation services for families (behavioral, medical issues, etc). The information is given to their case worker along with recommendations about the care that should be given.
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome screenings can be given within 1-3 wks of request, if positive they can help get the family in for a full FAS screening, if the results are negative then the family isn't waiting a year for a negative screening.

Sexual Assault Center

- Evaluations can be given within 48 hrs (for a child & 96 hrs for an adult) of the counseling session post assault.
- Provides counseling for anyone who has experienced extreme trauma.
- Most therapy is evidence based, so processing of what's gone on can be captured, to get them to a place where they can go on with life.
- If there is interest there may be a staff member that can meet with support group leaders in the new year to process secondary trauma.
- Provide parent child interaction therapy (therapy for parent's who are having difficulty managing children's issues)
- Provide resources for someone who newly received a child
- Physical Abuse evaluations
- Medical coupons accepted for all children's services
- Medical coupons accepted for some adult services
- Charity care is available if no medical resources available for children or parents
- Located at Jefferson & Broadway

Committee Reports

Event Committee- Holiday Event - Kristie Lund

- Committee will be meeting Wednesday, October 14th at Casey Family Programs from 2:30-4:30 to plan the Holiday event. Feel free to come and join us, if interested in attending.

Steering Committee/Advisory Council - Kerry Beymer

- Instead of having an Advisory Council Meeting a group will be attending the Kinship Conference in Shelton as a group from 9am-3pm. If interested in carpooling please contact Brittany at 206.727.6217 or via email at kckcadmin@seniorservices.org
- Encompass will host February's Advisory Council Meeting.

Pilot Site - Lynell Owens

- Legal Options lunch and learn Oct 13th.

- Intergenerational parenting - Lunch and Learn October 27th at noon
- Please continue to spread the word that caregivers can meet one on one with a kinship resource specialist any Tuesday 12 - 3 pm. The people that have been coming have found it very useful and some even have been coming back.

Legislative Update

- Federal Family Support dollars (Fostering Connections Grant) went to Yakima - part of the money will support a kinship navigator for the Yakama nation.
- Child Welfare Summit- Kristie attended. DSHS New secretary (Susan Dreyfus) was present and there was discussion about kinship. An increase in TANF came up in five recommendations.

***Next Meeting Nov 9th, 2009 from 12:30pm-2:30pm
Kerry Beymer of Encompass will provide dessert.***