

Adoption & Out of Home Care Committee
Of the BMCW Partnership Council
Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2014

Present:

Arlene Happach
Colleen Ellingson
Julie Brown
Angela D'Fantis
Sara Koeferl
Sara Scullen
Jamie Elder
Wendy Rewolinski
Maria McDermott

Recorder:

Rachael Kumm

- Call to order.
- Review of data discussed at previous meetings regarding placements of children 3 years of age and younger.
- Suggested solutions to high numbers of placements:
 - o More pre-placement visits.
 - o Education to relatives about physical discipline.
- More discussion on in-depth look at specific cases considered to be 'Court Ordered'
 - o Discussed accuracy of information from one system to the others. Agencies to follow up on these specific cases.
 - o None of the cases reviewed were court ordered against any recommendations.
- Discussion about maltreatment while in placements resulting in subsequent placements. Suggestions:
 - o Agencies developing programs to support placements before and after move of the children as well as placement danger identifying procedures.
 - o Trauma Informed Care (TIC) continuing education for foster parents.
 - o Foster Care Licensing foundation training module revised to emphasize more TIC.
- Discussion about consideration of stability of placements after a removal.
- Discussion about the needs of foster parents who have been licensed for more than 2 years and their continued education and support.
- Training options and information sources discussed.

- Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) used to evaluate child development and educate care givers about milestones and how to identify concerning behaviors.
- Attachment training will be offered again for agency staff.
- Adverse Child Experience study (ACE) discussed as potential information to include in this additional training.
- Development of predictive risk model for stability of placements.
- Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)
 - Opportunity to work with the Youth Law Center to look at strengthening the foster parent system.
 - Youth Law Center to meet with agencies and UWM on June 11, 2014.
- Committee Updates.
 - Governor signed legislation for roster of Partnership Council to add DA's Office (or designee) and Presiding Judge of Children's Division in place of two seats reserved for Children's Services Network that never materialized.
- Next Meeting (June 11):
 - Update from QPI meeting.
 - Note: meetings to be held at BMCW (635 N. 26th St) going forward.