

## 1624 Meeting Minutes – June 9, 2010

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION SUMMARY	DECISIONS	ASSIGNMENTS	DUE DATES	LEADS
Welcome & Opening Remarks	<p>Tess Thomas and Talya Miller welcomed the foster parents and other attendees to the meeting.</p> <p>They explained their role and encouraged attendance and input from the foster parents.</p> <p>Talya spoke about the meeting that was held with DLR to discuss issues that can be addressed at the local level.</p>	<p>Tess Thomas – <a href="mailto:Tmt3000@aol.com">Tmt3000@aol.com</a></p> <p>Talya Miller – <a href="mailto:Mytie5683@aol.com">Mytie5683@aol.com</a></p>			
Introductions	<p>Joel Odimba introduced Denise Revels Robinson, David Del Villar Fox and April Potts.</p>				
SHB 2106	<p>Denise Revels Robinson spoke about transforming child welfare services – SHB 2106.</p> <p>Denise explained that this is still a work in process.</p> <p>In Phase I, foster parents should see little change, as test sites are selected and results studied.</p>				

	<p>Phase II is still in the planning stages. Information will be shared as plans are firmed up.</p>				
	<p>Talya Miller asked about a rumor she has heard – that all social workers without a masters degree will be let go as part of child welfare transformation. Denise indicated that she is not aware of plans of this type. However, private agencies may have different requirements than the state.</p> <p>David Del Villar Fox and April Potts also spoke about the SHB 2106 and it's purpose. He also spoke about bill 6832, which has made changed to SHB 2106.</p> <p>There was discussion about performance based contracts and what it might look like.</p> <p>Foster parents will continue to be licensed through the state.</p> <p>David Del Villar Fox – <a href="mailto:Foda300@dshs.wa.gov">Foda300@dshs.wa.gov</a></p>				

	April Potts – Coap300@dshs.wa.gov				
Follow-up Items	Delay in licensing – it’s close to 90 day window and prospective foster parents are not getting responses in time				
New Business	FH children have no recourse – with Medicaid (delayed children – same Ag				
	DLR/CPS – Concerns – How complaints are resolved. Foster Parents have questions about this process.				
	DCFS/DLR Communication- Foster parents sometimes feel that DCFS/DLR are not communicating with each other regarding placements and foster parents are caught in the middle.	A quarterly meeting between foster parents and DLR would be helpful.			
	Delay of licensing – Background checks and fingerprinting is taking a very long time – especially for respite providers.				
	Past – exceptions on individuals who knew children/have relatives. Changes in federal laws – effects on foster home – children.				
	Dispute Resolution Process:				

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Include CPA in process of draft.</li> <li>2. Work with support group/Licensing.</li> <li>3. 1624 Leadership – Tess/Talya</li> </ol>				
Questions/Concerns – Action Plan/Solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ability of long term foster home to go over capacity. Access – foster home – not blank process. (Federal Funds/waiver issues)</li> </ol>	Jeanne McShane explained that each case is unique with it's own unique factors in determining capacity.			
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Retention of foster parents This would help gather information from foster parents on what went well or not so well. This would also help with quality improvement and the transitioning of children and retention of foster parents.</li> </ol>	<p>Suggestion: Exit interview when children leave home. Exit interview should be with neutral party – other than the social worker on the case.</p>			
	Statewide Issues:				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Initiate exit interview process when a foster home stops being foster parent(s).</li> <li>2. How is capacity decided? DLR looks at space, skills, type of children being fostered in home.</li> </ol>				

Information about Constituent Relations and Ombudsman Office	Foster parents would like information on whom to contact when they are having issues with workers/offices.	The best action is to speak with the worker's supervisor or A.A., and then escalate the issue if necessary.	Stephanie Allison- Noone		
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