

CCASSC Agenda Virtual Meeting
March 19, 2021
1-3 PM
CCASSC Directors Meeting
1-4 PM

Katherine Acosta	Katie Baker	Linda Belch	Tracey Belton
Maria Bermudez	Sanja Bugay	Monica Connor	Marcus Crawford
Devin Drake	David Foster	Shannan Gadd	John Garcia
Tricia Gonzalez	Jamie Johnson	Donna Lutz	Amy Krueger
Deborah Martinez	Danny Morris	Anita Ortiz	Akkia Pride-Polk
Courtney Sallam	Denise Seabert	Kristi Snell	Andrea Sobrado
Cindy Uetz	Chris Woods	Kelly Woodard	
Martha Vungkhanching			

1. Introductions – Deborah Martinez, Chair

CHHS, College Update – Denise Seabert, Dean

Dean Seabert discussed the 1 year anniversary of formally working remotely. Many have had their second vaccine; calling it the “shot of hope”. As extra doses are available, they are getting the word out. Relief feels like it is coming! Institutes of higher education are thinking about guidelines and the rules. NPR is suggesting 50% capacity for schools. Their administration is looking at strategies around 50%, trying to be creative. Commencement is in a state of flux; there will be some sort of in-person celebration. The Mobile unit did 600 vaccine doses in Calwa. They are focusing on rural and migrant workers. Assembly Member Arambula assisted in giving doses.

Kathy Rendel has been chosen as Fresno State’s Woman of the Year. This is also Social Work Appreciation, Month, looking at a celebration. The President is meeting with the association. A live event is being held for the Top Dog, Lisa Casarez, who is the Executive Director of Angels of Grace, FFA.

Stanislaus State Update – John Garcia, Chair/Director

Appreciated receiving document on racism from the associations. He thanked Martha Vungkhanching for leadership at CADD and NADD. Turning to action is their focus during Covid-19. They are planning some type of commencement, theirs will be a parade.

2. Child Welfare – Courtney Sallam, Regional Co-Chair – list of Child Welfare priorities sent out via email.

- A. FFPSA – Part 1 – Danny Morris

This has been a heavy lift; they are reviewing trailer bill language. Focus of Part 1; use of Title IVE funding through Voluntary Family Maintenance or a Community Based Organization. The timeframe is up to 12 months, unless extended. At this moment, the State does not have a support plan. He advised they are not sure of how aid codes will be put in system or how licensing will be run. The trailer bill wants counties to follow the child every month; this is problematic with federal law and will come with a higher cost. Trailer language tied to prevention services is also an issue. They are concerned STRTPS costs will go up. This potential has federal reimbursement issues. A rate increase is also a concern. Statewide nursing, telehealth, if this approach does not meet the need, then a nurse will need to be on site. This is expected to be an additional cost. Extra Social Worker time will be another cost. Another area is Aftercare. After 7 months, no language provided on how this will be funded at State or Federal levels. A rate increase is expected by FFAs. Language makes him believe it goes live October 1, 2021. This is an opt in for counties. Tricia Gonzalez, you need to opt in to part 1. California has not done prevention, as funds not directed in this area. Rural areas and people of color, not being considered. Evidence Based practices; Trauma Informed, will be a new cost.

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Foster-Care-Model-Workgroup.aspx>

Sanja Bugay asked what do Counties need to do before October 1, 2021? Danny Morris discussed the following: sitting down with Probation/Behavior Health; review what drug programs you have for children. The larger counties have resources the smaller counties probably do not have. The group discussed pressing the state to show the counties their plan. Amy Krueger advised a plan is expected by 4/9/21.

- B. CCL Notice to Counties Regarding Adverse Actions/Investigations- Jamie Johnson

CCL – counties need transparency with CCL. When an investigation is launched, they are not letting counties know what they are finding. The Counties place children in these homes and need this information. Often, the county must reach out to them. Sometimes the agency is put on a Corrective Action Plan and the County is not told. Additionally, FFAs have been contacted by Everbrite, on border children, regarding placement. Also, they are getting Robo call survey questions.

Several of the items are brief due to meeting time running short. Please refer to attached Director Priorities list for additional information.

- C. Funding tied to CCR – Courtney Sallam.
Ongoing discussion. Flexible, realignment. How do counties continue to support without adequate funding?
- D. AB2083 - Courtney Sallam.
Tulare, San Joaquin, Merced, and Madera have signed MOUs. Several counties have gone to the Board. The materials on what needed to be included, were spelled out in MOU.
- E. COVID 19 - Courtney Sallam
The priorities in this area include treating social workers as first responders and having the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- F. Staffing – Courtney Sallam
Staffing is an ongoing discussion. One focus includes ensuring local Boards understand the impacts of COVID-19. There is a difference between rural and larger counties in terms of needs.
- G. FURs – Tricia Gonzalez
The allocation is the same; a 24/7 program must be run. This is not enough money.
- H. CARES – Tricia Gonzalez (see attached list)
- I. NMD after 21 – Tricia Gonzalez
Issues with workload.
- J. Racial Equity/Disparity – Akkia Pride-Polk
More discussion is needed. This discussion needs to be broad, and beyond Child Welfare. Child Family Policy Institute of California, (CFPIC) has been offering Race, Equity, Inclusion, (REI); so far held in December, February and the next convening will be in April 2021. This is an uncomfortable topic. With 58 counties, the hope is that all 58 would participate, but this has not occurred. Asked the Directors to confirm their Deputies are participating. Being open to the discussion is important. Deborah Martinez pointed out “some need to see why this is important”. Explored ways for Child Welfare Directors to have conversations with their staff. Characteristics of White Supremacy explored. They will share an article with their Directors. Examples included Perfection, Quantity, Worship of the Written, Only one

right way, Paternalism, Power Hoarding, Individualism, to name a few. At the next meeting, they can bring a team of five. CFPIC is designing as they go. Anita Ortiz advised that at the Director level, they will be coming alongside them, through a facilitated discussion.

K. PIP – Katherine Acosta, CCTA

CFSR process. Discussed the pptx slides. She discussed the penalties and goals pending. Data is being collected through December 31, 2021. There is a CQI Conference next week. No limit on attendance, it is virtual.

3. CCASSC Business

A. CCASSC Upcoming Meetings – Kelly Woodard

April 23, 2021. 1-4. Virtual. Self Sufficiency will be focus area.

July 22, 23, 2021. In person. Location to be determined.

December 16,17, 2021. In Person. Location to be determined.

B. Student Stipends- Kelly Woodard

Applications for the Student Stipend Program, sponsored by CCASSC are due May 3, 2021. As many of you know, CCASSC membership sponsors 3-4 Masters of Social Work Student Stipends from Bakersfield, Fresno, and Stanislaus State Universities. Applicants submit an overview of their “public social welfare related” graduate work; and a selection committee choose 3-4 recipients who receive an award of \$1,000. Recipients develop a presentation (virtual is likely again this year), a power point and share their graduate work/thesis for inclusion on the CCASSC Website. Further information/applicant criteria can be obtained from either, Marcus Crawford, PhD, Faculty Liaison, [maruscrawford@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:marcus Crawford@mail.fresnostate.edu) or Kelly Woodard, MSW, Research Associate kwoodard@mail.fresnostate.edu.

C. Update Pandemic Research – Marcus Crawford

A draft survey was sent to everyone; it was sent out prior to this meeting. Some questions may be obsolete by the time the survey is used. He discussed the questions with the group. Change language to first responder? He likes qualitative. Deborah likes the survey. Gender may need to be taken off. Support of management sounds negative...needs to be made neutral...will change to more neutral. Anonymous. Info will go to Marcus, he would provide only in an aggregate level, eliminate county. Moved to an option instead of taking out. I prefer not to say. Preamble, I prefer not to give this information. Marcus will move forward with IRB approval, then back to the membership.

Adjourn/move to County Directors meeting – same zoom call.

CCASSC Directors' Meeting
Minutes
March 19, 2021
3-4PM

1. Kathryn Harwell is retiring at the end of March, 2021.

She will continue working until they hire a replacement. She advised that it was a tough decision to retire; she felt the agency is in a good place.

2. Race Equity Update: Deborah Martinez/Anita Ortiz

Directors discussed the work of the Race, Equity, and Inclusion work group. The convening to include Directors/Deputies from the counties across programs. Hopeful it will occur in the fall. The Child Welfare Deputies are already doing work in this area as discussed in first part of this meeting. This convening will not be a training, rather it is a facilitation discussion to strengthen conversation abilities. Along with deputies throughout department. Alongside Directors on race and equity

3. What Care funds counties have/or are planning to receive and, how the amount is calculated given that most of our costs are sub vented?

Some do not want to tie to their payroll because they do not want to redo the claim. Some use for project room key and supplies for those in those in quarantine. How to spend Cares funds is an issue for some counties.

4. How is the \$15 minimum wage being addressed in terms of salary ranges for those directly impacted those whose salaries are just above this rate and traditionally earn a more significant amount above clerical (i.e. eligibility workers vs. clerical for example). Status of Union agreements?

Some counties are having compaction issues. Some are having to look at job specifications. Lower paid classifications are an issue. Some entering into negotiations.