

Missouri State Foster Care & Adoption Board  
Governor's Building, Room 316  
200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
Tuesday, June 6, 2023

**Introductions/Meeting Information – Dana Lopez**

**Board Members in attendance:** Dana Lopez, Crissy Mayberry, Craig Stevenson, Kenya Willis

**CD:** Melissa Selsor,

**Guests:** DeAnna Alonso, Rhiannon Franklin, Julie Murray, Pamela Foster, Joe Yearn, Kelly Kuda, Sarah Angelo, Misty Allen, Director Darrell Missey

10:00 am	Welcome and Introductions	Dana Lopez
10:15 am	Approval of Minutes from March	Dana Lopez
10:30 am	Director Missey Updates	Director Missey

Director Missey shared the plan that he proposed was sent to the legislators. The Governor's recommendation is that CD will receive 22 million dollars, a lot less than what was requested. They will increase pay. This is in addition to the 8.7 percent that all state employees received this year. The pay is much better than it was. Additionally, there was a request for 630 positions for FCCMs, and allegations for 100 CD employees dedicated to prevention. That all passed. An additional piece in the plan is CD will need to get more legal resources to get cases concluded. This is because of cases lingering for years because hearings are not being held. This is not in the governor's recommendation, however the legislature was aware the request was out there. Missey shared that the House Representatives cannot come up with more funds however, the Senate can. But the budget chair stated that he agreed lawyers are needed. They took money from contract case management and added attorneys. When it went to the Senate after the House it passed and they agreed as well and felt that contract case management was needed! It is going to the Governor's desk, and they are thinking right now about how to implement these changes. Missey said we still have too many kids in care, 5 kids per 1000 in foster care in US, Missouri had double that, we are now at 9.1 we are 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation. 6<sup>th</sup> worst. Some progress. 6/5/23 we had 13108 kids in the care. They are hoping that more prevention and getting hearings completed will decrease kids in care. Also, hopeful that they are stopping the practice of cutting allegations, a piece of the plan is getting a whole lot of community involvement and using community resources. He is thinking about how feasible it is to maintain 1900 workers while the number of kids come into care, he is hoping he can convince people to see the need for change. Change and innovation help to demonstrate the workload. 100 new employees are coming soon and there are still conversations about that. 20 of those would be TDMs. Non case carrying and located in the community.

11:00am	Memos/Practice Alerts	Melissa Selsor
	CS-45A/Fingerprints/ACRB	

**The new CS-45A** is to be used by all team members who are making a non-licensed relative placement. The CS-45 will now only be for Licensing Workers to use when licensing traditional

Missouri State Foster Care & Adoption Board  
Governor's Building, Room 316  
200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
Tuesday, June 6, 2023

foster homes. The CS-45A contains the minimum requirements for licensure and includes the waiver options for relatives so team members are aware of them.

The CS-70 has been revised. The Voluntary Agreement for an Unlicensed Home is a letter that requires the relative's signature. The letter lays out the benefits of licensure and the components that are not included for an unlicensed home.

**FBI Fingerprint Audit.** Due to the Rap Back program, the Missouri State Highway Patrol has given us a directive to cease keeping hard copy results. This means that we no longer print fingerprint results from the Missouri Automated Criminal History System (MACHS). This is a change in policy; Section 6, Chapter 19 has been revised. This is for the Children's Division and all the outsourced agencies. The digital file will always be available in MACHS because of Rap Back. If circuits need to provide Originating Case Agency (OCA) Administrative access to more than 1 person, then please contact Melissa Selsor and she can assist you. If the applicant provides the CD-244 and requests fingerprint results you may print them for the applicant.

11:15 am

Placement/Human Trafficking

Jenorey and Misty

Human trafficking – there is a need for more understanding of what entails trafficking. A service or goods exchanged - that is trafficking. Currently they are working on a Request for Information and so far, they have received 5 responses. They are going to see what services organizations have and what training they. Next, they are looking at the focus and seeing what training is needed. What will be beneficial modules or online trainings. They are trying to see what will fit best for everyone. If just modules are selected, they need to decide how to ask questions to get the responses needed. Suggestions were made for both online and in-person training. Folks are shy about this topic and may not want to ask questions. They have also sent out a scope of work. Training will help to take the shame away from the youth rather the touching base and checking in that is occurring. There is concern about what information is provided to parents. There is concern about where kids are placed when they return without knowing what the youth has been exposed to and what their immediate needs are including medical. A foster home may not be the most appropriate place, especially when there are safety concerns that could put all household members at risk. Education is needed. She just completed the scope of work, and the department is looking at it. They want this to be a very detailed training.

Jenorey shared that there are 107 missing youth, some are known locations. Meaning they are being seen. 86 steadies. This means there are 86 kids on the run consistently. Kids will go on the run and then they will be found. The trunk of this is the kids not recently on run, not a long time. She looks at efforts to find kids, there is a statewide missing youth work group, looks at the trends, making sure documentation is adequate. She doesn't believe there is a lot of effort, working top down to get resources to help find the kids, the longer they are not found the less effort that is being put in place. Multiple entries in care are a red flag for the possibility of a child running. 15-18years, lack of positive connections, there is advocacy needed for kids to have strong connections with siblings, friends family, frequent placement changes and the lack of consistency for mental health. Kids will feel unsafe in foster homes not because the home is unsafe, but because they don't feel safe. Lack of safety planning done when kids return from running is also an issue. The 288 is used when kids return, and it asks what made you come back, what made

Missouri State Foster Care & Adoption Board  
Governor's Building, Room 316  
200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
Tuesday, June 6, 2023

you feel safe out there, foster parents can ask these questions. She shared that more CASAs are needed to be available help to support placements. Lots of partnership with a le and continuing to work with more LE agencies. There is also a need to ensure that pictures of children are available.

12:00 pm                      Break for Lunch

12:20 pm                      Foster Care Ambassadors                      Melissa Selsor

There are 56 ambassadors. There will be a virtual option made so that you will be able to see where your ambassadors are and who they are. There will be a table at the KIN conference with information. There will be availability for mentors and ambassadors. They are planning a committee to recruit and maintain foster parents and they will start or reinforce support groups, be a mentor, provide one on one support for new and struggling foster parents. There is a job description to give guidance. The hope would be for the groups and committees to be run by the ambassadors. There are ambassadors in every region, but not every circuit yet.

12:30 am                      Children's Treatment Services (CTS)                      Melissa Lett

CTS pays for things like parenting aid. CD purchases services, psych evals and assessments for the parent. Medicaid pays for children services (a lot of them) drug testing, drug assessment, parenting classes, individual and group therapy for parents, transportation for kids, behavioral, transportation, etc.) there is a \$8 mill budget for the state. Each circuit has a budget that is created. This depends on how many people there are in the community, and how the funds were used before. The team recommends what services the parents and family need to keep kids safe or reunify then, the worker asks sups for approved. After that, the worker puts in an authorization to the provider. All our providers are limited now. Are interrupter services still paid out of CTS? Yes. Can interrupter services be available to help a family complete training? Contact Melissa Lett directly. Since there will be more prevention work coming there is discussion about how the CTS funds will be used more for prevention.

12:50 pm                      New Curriculum (MO C.A.R.E.)                      Melissa Selsor

Currently they are promulgating the competencies at the governors office, hoping by the end of the summer this will be complete. Feedback is that it better prepares the foster parents. They will review where MO ARTS is in September. Some discussion is occurring regarding when the best time would be to participate in MO A.R.T.S. One of the nice things about the training is there is a lot of practice information, so parents feel better prepared. Joe has a good team of folks training. We can reach out to him for MO CARE training observations.

Missouri State Foster Care & Adoption Board  
Governor's Building, Room 316  
200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101  
Tuesday, June 6, 2023

1:00 pm                      Open Forum

Pam – Discussion around a placement need in Greene County case, the parent aid is interested in placement – policy is very clear about the ability to foster but there are some variables when it comes to adoptive homes.

MO Alliance is only providing reimbursement from the year of the last purchase. They are not using the anniversary date of the child entering care. Seems to be some trends regarding MO Alliance. Melissa will share with her coworker who is over FCCMC.

Question for Vicki. Is there a guardianship vs adoption document to share, Crissy will email what was previously shared.

Prudent parenting, was something sent out? Melissa said will share information with staff and parents. There was a letter from CD that had the prudent parenting and medical information that was requested.

There is concern that elevated needs staffings are not being submitted. Can a practice point be shared with folks – another one is the denial of medical records by workers; there is some attention needed regarding this.

**2023 Meeting Dates**

Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>