

Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) Oversight Board Board Meeting Record

Thursday, July 18, 2019 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Capital Court Building, Olympia, WA

Meeting began at 10:10 am

Member Attendance: Annie Blackledge, Annie Lee (video conference), Bobbe Bridge, Ben de Haan, Charles Loeffler, Diane Liebe, Justice Sun, Frank Cuthbertson, Lois Martin, Loni Greninger (video conference), Ruth Kagi, Tana Senn, Jeannie Darneille, Shrounda Selivanoff (video conference), Sydney Forrester

Staff in Attendance: Crista Johnson (Executive Director), Nickolaus Colgan (Administrative Coordinator)

Additional Guests: Secretary Ross Hunter (DCYF), Vickie Ybarra (DCYF), Stacia Hollar (ATG)

Public in Attendance: Laurie Lippold, *Partners for Our Children*, Erica Hallock, *Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*, Luke Wichkham, *Washington State House of Representatives*, Dawn Eychaner, *House of Representatives*, Patrick Dowd, *Office of Children and Family Ombuds*, Michael Althaus, *Washington State Senate*, Bethany Larsen, *Childhaven*, Amber McPhee-Millard, *WA Child Care Association*

Welcome and Opening Remarks & Approval of June 3 Meeting Minutes | *Action: meeting minutes were approved led by Crista Johnson and co-chairs*

Members proceeded with introductions of new members Diane Liebe, representing the role of a doctor with experience serving children and youth, and Justice Sun, representing the role of an individual under 25 years of age with current or previous experience with the child welfare system.

Co-chair Tana Senn made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes with the amendments made by board members. Lois Martin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

DCYF Presentation and Discussion: DCYF Agency Performance Measures & Outcomes | *Presentation from Vickie Ybarra*

Vickie Ybarra provided a presentation outlining the portion of [House Bill 1661 \(2017\)](#) which focuses on performance measures and child outcome goals requirements for DCYF. Vickie walked the Board through DCYF's published online [performance dashboard](#). This online dashboard outlines outcome goal areas for resilience, education and health, while also providing information on contracted services.

The current DCYF Agency Performance Dashboard is a combination of requirements from HB 1661, the Quality Assurance Report requirements ([RCW 43.20A.870](#)) and child welfare metrics that are traditionally reported to the federal government.

Public Comment

Laurie Lippold from *Partners for Our Children*: Laurie asked if there a way to mesh performance indicators together to know if DCYF is making aggregate progress toward outcomes? Is there a way to understand how data translates into lived experience? Laurie expressed that she hopes the Oversight

Board should take on the task of removing barriers that DCYF is facing on its own limitations. For example, helping to remove barriers to accessing data.

Diane Paul from Skagit Immigrant Task Force (public comment submitted via email and read out loud by Board staff): I am a social worker and immigrant rights activist. I worked for CPS services in Baltimore City at one time and have worked over 25 years in human rights. I am concerned about the fate of migrant children whose parents have been deported. Little is known about the number of children turned over to DCYF by either ORR or federal immigration agents. Would it be possible to place this issue on the agenda, or is there an opportunity for citizens to ask questions following the Board meeting? We would like to know how many migrant children in foster care in the State of Washington and what is being done to ensure those children have contact with their deported parents and are receiving adequate psychological care.

Vickie Ybarra responded to Diane Paul and stated DCYF would submit a two-page written response back to the Board and to Diane.

Working Lunch: Bylaws Review & Approval | Action: DCYF Oversight Board bylaws were approved

Board members reviewed the edits made to the bylaws after the June 3 meeting. The Board by majority vote approved the bylaws. Board staff will post the bylaws to the [DCYF Oversight Board website](#).

DCYF Presentation and Discussion: Chapin Hall Partnership & Report | Presentation from Ross Hunter and Vickie Ybarra

Ross Hunter and Vickie Ybarra presented a summary of the [Capacity Assessment and Integration Support for Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families report](#) created by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. The report assesses the strengths and areas for growth in DCYF's current performance measurement and improvement system. The report detailed the methods, findings, and recommendations that emerged from a year-long study of DCYF.

DCYF plans to pare down the number of priority performance measures recommended by the report to increase utilization of the measures by DCYF staff and management. This list will be shared with the Board. Additionally, the discussion resulted in requests by Board members to hear from DCYF's Organizational Change Management Division at a future Board meeting, as well as requested the department's list of decision packages and request legislation for the 2020 session.

DCYF Presentation and Discussion: Performance-Based Contracting Process & Progress | Presentation from Ross Hunter, Vickie Ybarra and Stacey Gillette

Ross Hunter, Vickie Ybarra and Stacey Gillette provided a presentation on the current status of Performance-Based Contracting (PBC) implementation for all contracted client services at DCYF. DCYF has contracted with Third Sector Capital Partners to design a model for implementing PBCs. The presentation outlined the key tenets, operating principles and timelines being followed to ensure sustainable operation and optimal effectiveness of the PBC model.

PBCs for contracted client services will be fully implemented at DCYF by 2024. The Board inquired about the sustainability of funding for this work with the knowledge that philanthropic support funding is set to end by July 1, 2020.

DCYF will provide the Board with the approved list of performance management tools to be utilized in the PBC process. The Board expressed appreciation and optimism for the strategic and measured approach the department is taking towards implementing PBCs.

Board Reflection and Action Planning | Board members discussed priorities based on the presentations

The Board took time to reflect on the day's presentations from DCYF and discussed next steps for both DCYF and Board moving forward.

The Board recognizes the amount of work and the size of the PBC roll out project. The Board expressed concern over the need for sustainable funding to keep the work supported when private funding ends. The Board commits to continuing to push the department to maintain the momentum of this work.

The Board will make recommendations in its report on how money should be invested for the department to sustain initiatives moving forward.

The Board has requested to have Greg Williamson, the Director of the DCYF Office of Youth Engagement, to come present to the Board at a future meeting.

The Board has requested to have Annie Severson, DCYF Organizational Change Management Director, to present at a future meeting.

August Meeting Agenda Setting | Board members plan their August meeting

The August 15th meeting will take place in Wenatchee and focus on site visits with community organizations and providers whose work relates to the Board topics, including child care, foster care supports and services, and juvenile reentry. Board staff will publish information regarding the meeting accordingly.

Adjourned at 3:15 pm on Thursday, July 18, 2019