

**CRP Serving Outagamie County**  
**May 1, 2019**  
**Agenda**

**Approval of minutes;**

**Treasurer's report (Lisa):**

**Any ideas for spending our money:** advertising for foster parents via Valley Transit or on radio?

**National Conference June 6-8, 2019:** Mary Kleman and Rebecca Spulock will attend.

**Hands Around the Capitol:** May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Anyone able to attend?

**Facebook and Website:** Who is updating the facebook and website?

**Case Review Discussion:**

Kids in care on and off since 2010, consistently since 2012, 2013.

1<sup>st</sup> perm plan was reunification with a concurrent plan of adoption and TPR

2 phases to TPR: grounds case (ie. Length of time in CHIPS, abandonment, failure to assume parental responsibility) and disposition.

**Legal barriers:**

- changing workers, 5 workers, 3 DA
- s, 3 judges
- Dad incarcerated, over 52,000 pages of discovery
- Mom often incarcerated.
- 1<sup>st</sup> attempt at TPR in 2013: dismissed due to typo, 2<sup>nd</sup> time dismissed due to conditions not attached.
- Difficulty finding attys. To represent parents, and a lot of attorneys won't take TPR cases
- Dismissed again as mom claimed Native American blood
- Workers not prepared for depositions
- Conditions had to be re-written
- Documentation lacking of notice to dad
- Difference between suspension and denial of visits; only the court can deny visits
- New TPR petitions filed in 2016; hired private attorneys, dismissed on summary judgment.
- Nov. 20, 2018: grounds found Dispo held Dec. 18. Notice of intent to appeal filed by dad

**Issues:**

- Need more legal training for social workers or a paralegal on staff
- Lack of attys willing to take TPR cases
- Need more support for foster parents
- Saw the GAL once in 6 years
- Cases bumped for criminal cases
- Lack of enough district attorneys

- TPR supposed to happen after 15 out of 22 months
- Can appoint reserve judges
- Trials should happen in 45 days
- Lack of court time
- Difficulty scheduling court due to attorney schedules/vacations/etc.

**Things that have changed:**

- DA's office will be drafting TPRs, not workers
- DA's office is hiring two attorneys and a paralegal

**Crisis in out of home care—next steps: Melissa. Can we look at stats from other counties? How many kids are in out of home care? What is the average length of time in care? What is the average length of time in care in Outagamie County? What could CRP do:**

- Advertise need for foster parents on website and facebook. Goal is to reduce kids in out of home care by 30%.
- Support the resolution to fully fund child protective services at \$30 million.
- Advocate for stopping repetitive reporting requirements.
- Advocate for affordable housing
- Help with hiring and retaining staff
- Suggest a statewide meeting focused on the crisis
- Support Families First federal legislation
- Ask Alicia about support for the \$30 million resolution.
- Attend and speak at May Outagamie County budget meetings
- See if United Way policy committee is interested in pursuing this issue: Mary will check.
- Send out the budget
- Contact Chris Czarnik about recruitment strategies for child protection workers.

**Period of Purple Crying (Andrea): Update:** Mary is trying to set up a training session for the Community Health Center staff about sentinel injuries. Not sure if date has been confirmed.

**GAL Task Team (Andrea); Update:** Team is putting the final revisions on the survey and will be sending it out. It will be a bit broader than just questions about GALs: It will also have questions about the system and the process. Once the results are tabulated, team will review and chunk out the issues that need attention and see if there are ways the CRP can assist. Team will meet in April with final product to review and send out. Michelle Swardinski joined the task group.

**Retention and Resiliency Work Group Update:**

The work group members are as follows:

Julies Souza (ongoing)

Becky Salzman (ongoing)

Brittany Plamann (intake)

Tina Weinke (intake) - new addition

Barb Reader (access) - new addition

Lori Hewitt (Community Connections)

Anne Cocherl (Family Find/Foster Care)

Staci Meitner (home consultants) - new addition

Stephanie Denson (supervisors) - new addition

Wendy Gehl (Citizen Review Panel)

Andrea Alpert-Buss (Citizen Review Panel)

Julie Koopikka and Andrea Alpert-Buss are co-facilitators

Meeting of the group is scheduled in early May. Ten additional staff members were interested in joining the work group, but space wasn't available. Hopefully their participation can be engaged in other ways.

**Child Death Review Team (Pastor Larry): No update**

**New Member Subcommittee): No update**

Outreach (Mary KLeMan): The Pinwheels for Prevention event for Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month was held on Thursday, April 4, 2019: 4:30 - 5 pm at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley, 160 S Badger Ave, Appleton.

Event Schedule was as follows:

4:30 pm: Welcome – Pastor Larry Creamer

4:35 pm: Remarks & Proclamation – Thomas Nelson

4:40 pm: County Programs – Lori Hewitt and Michelle Brown

4:45 pm: Family Support & Programs – Greg Lemke-Rochon

4:50 pm: Plant Pinwheels

Members participating in the planning were Mary Kleman, Jennifer Sailer and Lisa Hunt. Amanda Chavez from the Boys & Girls Club provided a huge amount of support for the event. 240 Pinwheels were planted by members of the Boys and Girls Club. There was media present at the event.

**Outagamie Budget Hearing: Monday May 6, 4:30 at Brewster Village**

**New Recorder:** If anyone is interested, this position is open. If you'd like to learn more about this position, please contact Connie at [connieraether@gmail.com](mailto:connieraether@gmail.com)

**Next meeting: July 10, 2019**

**Upcoming meetings: Sept. 4, Nov. 6**

**Case Review: Oct. 2**