

Licensed Child Placing Agency Minutes
Date of meeting: 10/6/21

Introduction of Crystal Whitis (New Assistant Deputy Director for LCPA and Residential):

- Crystal Whitis has been selected as the Assistant Deputy Director for LCPA and Residential units.
- Contact information: Crystal.Whitis@dcs.in.gov Phone: 317-670-1383
- Employed with DCS for three years, first as a Clinician on the Residential Licensing team and then as the Service Manager
- Crystal will in the future make appointments to speak with LCPA providers.

Replacement of LCH Checks – Heidi Gaha (DCS Background Check Unit):



LCPA Replacement
of LCH Checks 0927:

- My Case System (my.case.in.gov) will replace the use of background checks. Letter/email regarding this information was sent September 2021. Information on how to conduct Background Check searches is also included at the DCS website.
- Overall, in the past the Limited Criminal History (LCH) was used incorrectly.
- My Case System is free and will be the primary source to obtain a criminal background check.
- The original background check will always begin with My Case. Dox.Pop can be used as a back-up source for background checking; however both sites do not need to be searched. If the case is not found on My Case, then search Dox.Pop.
- Remember to search every county in which the person has lived to conduct a thorough background check.
- For questions on how to enter information of background checks please contact:
 - a. Nicci Chenowith – Nicci.Chenowith@dcs.in.gov
 - b. LCPA Consultants
 - c. cobcuinquiry@dcs.in.gov
- Criminal court records will replace the Limited Criminal History (LCH).

Beginning work on LCPA Licensing Policy Chapter – Whitney Vowels:

- The Residential Consultants are wrapping up their revising of the Residential Licensing Policy Chapter.
- In near future the team will be working on creating the new LCPA licensing policy chapter.
- In the future, LCPA staff will be invited to be a part of the External Policy Review Group. This group will meet to review policy drafts, ask questions, and provide input regarding the LCPA Licensing Policy Chapter.

LCPA Contract Amendment – Whitney Vowels and David Reed:

- LCPA contract end date is 12/31/21.
- DCS legal is currently working to make small amendments to the LCPA contracts.
- After the amendments the LCPA contract will be good for another two years.

Alternate Training List (Chatney Grice):

- Chatney has noted that the Alternate Training list has been revamped.
- Feedback from Foster Care and LCPAs stakeholders regarding alternate training were placed on a spreadsheet with tabs to foster improved navigation of the Alternate Training List.
- Chatney will send an email asking for better and good usage of the most current Alternate Training List. Currently people are sending recommendations for materials to add to the Alternate Training List and the usage of the training materials has been low.
- Please send name changes to the distribution list or name of people who could benefit to DCS RAPT Registration@dcs.in.gov

House Bills Updates:

- Senate Bill 239 regarding Virtual Services has passed.
- Budget bill for non-profit businesses who serve Foster kids can claim Foster Care tax credits, once they are approved.
- Please view the DCS website for a letter describing the non-profit business tax credit.
- Applications for the non-profit business tax credits are due 11/12/21. For all forthcoming years the applications will be due April 15th for each forthcoming year.

Overdue Annual List – Nicci Chenowith:

- The most recent report denotes there to be 785 on the overdue annual checklist.
- The Regional Consultants will communicate the exact number of overdue annuals to each specific agency and will work to reduce these increases seen per agency.
- Kathryn Taylor Bullock and Paegan Kersey has left their positions with DCS Foster Care unit. Two people will be hired to replace their positions soon. In the meantime, Portia Boney, Amelia Champer and Crystal Thompson will handle the responsibilities of Kathryn and Paegan.
- Contact Nicci Chenowith (Nicci.Chenowith@dcs.in.gov) regarding questions oabout 310's.

IARCCA – Chris Dailey:

- Chris Daley spoke about the Reimagining Foster Care Workgroup. The group is comprised of LCPAs, DCS, and Statewide CASA. The workgroup has been working to develop a campaign to reimagine how parents and the foster or kinship parents who are caring for their child/children communicate and collaborate.

The Reimagining Foster Care Campaign has identified six principles and five action steps that agencies and departments in the state can take to make these relationships the norm.

We'll be introducing those principles and action steps at a free webinar on Thursday October 28 at noon eastern. Participation is free and registration is encouraged.

A follow-up webinar will take place one week later with a presentation from Children Home Society of North Carolina (CHSNC). CHSNC has been working for more than a year on an internal campaign similar to the one we'll be launching. They have agreed to provide information and feedback about their experience. The follow-up webinar will be on Thursday Nov 4 at noon eastern. Participation in this webinar is also free and registration is encouraged.

Next LCPA meeting is 11/3/21.