

Member Nomination Report

Strengthening Families Act (SFA) Committee Nomination

Report to the Nebraska Children's Commission

July 31, 2018

The following individuals have been nominated for membership on the SFA Committee. These individuals would serve for a term of two years. The Executive Committee has reviewed all applicants and recommends the following appointments to the SFA Committee.

Member Representation	Member Type	Applicant Name	Title & Organization
current or former foster parent	Voting	Lisa Story* (Commission Member)	Foster Parent Representative, N/A
Guardian Ad Litem who practices in juvenile court	Voting	Heather Colton*	Associate Attorney/Guardian Ad Litem, Pollak & Ball, LLC
Other - representative of the Department of Education	Voting	Patricia Frost*	Education Specialist, Nebraska Department of Education
Parent who has experience in the foster care system	Voting	Terri Knutson (Commission Member)	Certified Peer Support Provider, Nebraska Family Support Network
Professional who has relevant practical experience	Voting	Simone Armstead	Childcare Director, Marion's Quality Services, INC
	Voting	Sarah Riffel	Associate Vice President - Connected Youth Initiative, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation
representative from a child welfare advocacy organization	Voting	Stephanie Gardella	Program Coordinator, CASA for Douglas County
	Voting	Sarah Helvey* (Co-Chair)	Program Director / Staff Attorney – Child Welfare Program, Nebraska Applesseed
	Non-Voting	Rochelle Juilfs	Advocate Supervisor, CASA for Douglas County
Representative from a child welfare service agency	Voting	Ashley Brown*	Program Director, Nebraska KVC
	Voting	Deb Shuck*	Central Service Coordinator, Community Action Health Center
Representative from an agency providing independent living services	Voting	Brandy Gustoff	Innovative Growth Leader, Omaha Home for Boys
	Non-Voting	Bailey Perry	Transitional Living Manager, Omaha Home for Boys, Jacob's Place
representative from the Juvenile Probation System	Non-Voting	Jim Bennett*	Director of Supervision Services, AOP, Juvenile Services Division
Representative of a child care institution	Voting	Ron Giesselmann	Executive Director, Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children
	Voting	Amara Madsen	Service Director, CEDARS Youth Services
Representative of the Executive branch of government	Voting	Deanna Brakhage	Program Specialist, DHHS, Division of Children and Family Services
young adult currently or previously in foster care	Voting	Payne Ackerman*	Young Adult Previously in Foster Care, N/A
	Voting	Nathan Collier*	Student/Law Clerk, UNL/Nebraska Applesseed
	Voting		Young Adult Previously in Foster Care, N/A
	Voting	Vernon Davis* (Commission Member and Co-Chair)	Young Adult Previously in Foster Care, N/A

*Holds this position as a current member