

**Nebraska Children’s Commission
Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee**

March 4, 2019

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Southeast Community College, Rooms U-104 & 106
8800 O Street, Lincoln, NE 68520

1. Call to Order

The Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee (FCRRC) Co-Chairs, Peg Harriott and Bill Williams, called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Committee Members present (11):

Phillip Burrell	Jessica Kroeker	Joan Schwan
Robin Chadwell	Jackie Meyer (1:13)	Lana Temple-Plotz
Peg Harriott	Felicia Nelsen	Bill Williams
Dr. Anne Hobbs (1:26)	Cindy Rudolph	

Committee Members absent (4):

Jodie Austin	Bobby Loud
Susan Henrie	Juliet Summers*

Ex Officio Members present (3):

Olivia Biggs	Jennifer Potterf	Kathleen Stolz
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Ex Officio Members absent (3):

Rochelle Dotson	Mike Puls	Kari Rumbaugh
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A quorum was established.

*Let it be noted for the record that Juliet Summers was appointed by Julia Tse as her temporary proxy

Guests in Attendance (6):

Amanda Felton.....	Nebraska Children’s Commission
Chris Jones.....	Nebraska Children’s Commission
Darcy Kramer.....	Boys Town
Kelli Schadwinkel.....	Administrative Office of Probation, Juvenile Services Division
Lisa Story.....	Foster Parent/Nebraska Children’s Commission
Lana Verbrigghe.....	Child Saving Institute

a. Notice of Publication

Recorder for the meeting, Amanda Felton, indicated that the notice of publication for this meeting was posted on the Nebraska Public Meetings Calendar and Nebraska Children’s Commission website in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. The publication would be kept as a permanent attachment with the meeting minutes.

b. Announcement of the placement of Open Meetings Act information

A copy of the Open Meetings Act was available for public inspection and was located at the sign-in table at the entrance of the meeting room.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Cindy Rudolph to approve the [agenda](#) as presented. The motion was seconded by Lana Temple-Plotz. No further discussion ensued. Roll Call vote as follows:

FOR (9):

Phillip Burrell
Robin Chadwell
Peg Harriott

Jessica Kroeker
Felicia Nelsen
Cindy Rudolph

Joan Schwan
Lana Temple-Plotz
Bill Williams

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (6):

Jodie Austin
Susan Henrie

Dr. Anne Hobbs
Bobby Loud

Jackie Meyer
Juliet Summers*

MOTION CARRIED

4. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Felicia Nelsen moved to approve the [January 7, 2019 meeting minutes](#) as presented. Robin Chadwell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll Call vote as follows:

FOR (9):

Phillip Burrell
Robin Chadwell
Peg Harriott

Jessica Kroeker
Felicia Nelsen
Cindy Rudolph

Joan Schwan
Lana Temple-Plotz
Bill Williams

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (6):

Jodie Austin
Susan Henrie

Dr. Anne Hobbs
Bobby Loud

Jackie Meyer
Juliet Summers*

MOTION CARRIED

5. Co-Chair Report

The Co-Chairs discussed the feedback from several legal sources on the FCRRRC role regarding recommendations for adoption payment rates. Given the varied interpretations of the statute language, the topic would be presented for feedback at the next Children’s Commission meeting.

An update LB 330 was provided, stating that the bill had a public hearing on February 20th. The bill was still sitting with the Executive Board of the Legislature, but an update would be provided to members as soon as there was any movement.

6. Public Comment

The Co-Chairs invited any members of the public forward for comment. No public comment was given.

7. Department of Health and Human Services Update

Olivia Biggs, Program Specialist with the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), remarked that the adoption subsidy pilot was still in progress in the southeast service area of the state. Biggs noted that only one case was experiencing a delay in permanency due to the youth having high medical needs. She also discussed the increased calls from potential adoptive parents from other service areas of the state inquiring on how the changes would impact them if rolled statewide.

8. Nebraska Adoptive Parent Responsibility Tool

Lana Temple-Plotz, Chair of the Level of Responsibility (LOR) Workgroup, drew on the previous discussion, refocusing on the Nebraska Adoptive Parent Responsibility (NAPR) Tool. An outside workgroup consisting of Family Focused Treatment Association (FFTA) membership reviewed the tool and provided feedback which was provided in a [handout](#) to the Committee. Temple-Plotz noted that the LOR workgroup had reviewed the feedback and would provide an update of the tool at the next FCRRRC meeting.

9. Workgroup Discussion and Breakout Sessions

The Co-Chairs briefly went over the four workgroups that had been created at the last FCRRRC meeting. Membership lists for each are included as [attachment A](#). Each meeting of the FCRRRC would host breakout sessions for the workgroups to conduct business with independent workgroup meetings happening in alternative months. They reminded members that the report would be due July 1, 2020 and that recommendations would not be updated again until 2024. Below are summaries of the discussion that occurred in the breakout sessions of each workgroup.

a. Agency Administration & Support Rate Workgroup

Members reviewed the methodology used in the creation of previous recommendations. Discussion of methodology led the group to weigh the need for a separate tool to determine agency reimbursement rates. This was a topic that the workgroup would continue to research. The Co-Chairs, Cindy Rudolph and Darcy Kramer, planned to work with staff to gather a list of all current foster care provider agencies. The goal was to issue a survey to gather current cost data as a new base to establish rates.

b. Base Rate & Foster Parent Survey Workgroup

An update on the group's progress was given by workgroup co-chair, Felicia Nelsen. Historical data had been pulled and was being reviewed by members. The foster parent survey had only minor changes to the questions and would be distributed in the coming months. The next meeting would be set by doodle poll in early April.

c. Level of Responsibility Workgroup

Lana Temple-Plotz summarized the breakout for the Level of Responsibility (LOR) Workgroup. The group planned to work to finalize the first version of the adoptive parent tool. Work ahead included examining Professional Foster Care currently offered by PromiseShip and Probation, re-engaging with the FFTA workgroup for feedback on fourth tier recommendations, and identifying language that highlighted the shift of rates based on the fluctuation of responsibilities related to a child's need. The next meeting would be from 1:00 – 2:30 on April 1st and the Nebraska Children's Home Society in Lincoln.

d. Level of Responsibility & Treatment Family Care Rate Structure Workgroup

Robin Chadell, co-chair of this workgroup, provided an overview of the group's next steps. Since work on determining rates for a fourth LOR tier would be postponed until the narrative description was complete, initial work would focus on the Treatment Family Care rate structure. Members planned to gather information on the Medicaid fee schedules for Nebraska and surrounding states, reach out to Medicaid to get a representative at the table, review the historical information from the TFC service offered in the early 2000's, and perform outreach to other states providing similar services. It was agreed that the rates should be broken out between room and board costs and a Medicaid treatment costs. There was also discussion of examining various bundled and unbundled structures. The next meeting was scheduled for 1:00 pm on April 9th at PromiseShip.

10. Review of Assignments and Action Planning

All assignments and plans were outlined in previous agenda items.

11. New Business

There was no new business.

12. Upcoming Meeting Planning

The Co-Chairs reminded members of the future Committee meeting dates which were:

- May 6, 2019
- July 1, 2019
- September 3, 2019
- November 4, 2019

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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Membership of FCRRRC Workgroups

Agency Administrative and Support Rate Workgroup	
Phillip Burrell	Cindy Rudolph (Co-Chair)
Darcy Kramer (Co-Chair)	Kari Rumbaugh
Jessica Kroeker	Bill Williams
Jackie Meyer	

Base Rate & Foster Parent Survey Workgroup	
Doug Kreifels	Chrissy Tonkinson
Bobby Loud	Amadi Watts
Felicia Nelsen (Co-Chair)	Bill Williams
Juliet Summers	

Level of Responsibility & Treatment Family Care Rates Workgroup	
Robin Chadwell (Co-Chair)	Kathleen Stolz
Bobby Loud	Lisa Story (Co-Chair)
Felicia Nelsen	Juliet Summers
Cindy Rudolph	Lana Verbrigghe
Kari Rumbaugh	

Level of Responsibility Workgroup	
Olivia Biggs	Jennifer Potterf
Manuel Escamillia	Mike Puls
Susan Henrie	Kari Rumbaugh
Anne Hobbs	Nanette Simmons
Jackie Meyer	Lana Temple-Plotz (Chairperson)
Felicia Nelsen	