

**Alternative Response (AR) Advisory Committee**

November 5, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Zoom

and

Foster Care Review Office, Conference Room

1225 L Street, Suite 401

Lincoln, NE 68508

**I. Call to Order and Welcome**

---

Co-Chair Monika Gross welcomed everyone and called the meeting of the Alternative Response Advisory Committee (AR) to order at 10:04 a.m. Gross asked attendees to introduce themselves. Roll call was taken through introductions.

**II. Roll Call and Introductions**

---

***Committee Members present (11):***

Alise Baker	Monika Gross	Ivy Svoboda
Jarren Breeling	Sarah Helvey	Susan Thomas
Patrick Carraher	Bri McLarty	Mikayla Wicks
Jennifer Carter	Michelle Oldham	

***Committee members absent (5):***

Alex Hildebrand	Carey Potter	Reggie Young
Michelle Paxton	Jan Reeves	

**A quorum was established.**

***Guests in Attendance (10):***

Adam Anderson.....	Nebraska Children’s Commission
Laura Opfer.....	Nebraska Children’s Commission

*a. Notice of Publication*

Recorder for the meeting, Adam Anderson, indicated that the notice of publication for this meeting was posted on the Nebraska Public Meeting 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 and on the Nebraska Children’s Commission website.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

---

**It was moved by Jennifer Carter and seconded by Patrick Carraher to approve the agenda as presented.** There was no further discussion. Roll Call vote as follows:

**FOR (10):**

Alise Baker	Sarah Helvey	Susan Thomas
Patrick Carraher	Bri McLarty	Mikayla Wicks
Jennifer Carter	Michelle Oldham	
Monika Gross	Ivy Svoboda	

**AGAINST (0):**

**ABSTAINED (0):**

**ABSENT (6):**

Jarren Breeling  
Alex Hildebrand

Michelle Paxton  
Carey Potter

Jan Reeves  
Reggie Young

## MOTION CARRIED

*Items in the minutes follow the original order of the agenda.*

### IV. Approval of Minutes

---

It was moved by Jennifer Carter and seconded by Ivy Svoboda to approve the September 3, 2021 minutes as presented. There was no further discussion. Roll Call vote as follows:

#### FOR (11):

Alise Baker  
Jarren Breeling  
Patrick Carraher  
Jennifer Carter

Monika Gross  
Sarah Helvey  
Bri McLarty  
Michelle Oldham

Ivy Svoboda  
Susan Thomas  
Mikayla Wicks

#### AGAINST (0):

#### ABSTAINED (0):

#### ABSENT (5):

Alex Hildebrand  
Michelle Paxton

Carey Potter  
Jan Reeves

Reggie Young

## MOTION CARRIED

### V. Strategic Planning

---

Laura Opfer shared a link:

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/1\\_Mma2PXigAHeAtmMqD3g6E1BIGU\\_k632vwy6Vebn6b0/viewer?f=0](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1_Mma2PXigAHeAtmMqD3g6E1BIGU_k632vwy6Vebn6b0/viewer?f=0) to a Jamboard and led members through SWOT analysis.

- a. Jennifer Carter asked about the array and availability of services. Co-chair Gross noted that this Committee is tasked at looking at this exact question and determining recommendation. Mikayla Wicks noted that there are certain services that might not be available to traditional response families, and she shared an example of a co-parenting family that came into AR under one household. She noted AR worked together with the household that had not had an intake. Wicks added that staff enter every purchase into a Sharepoint survey that asks how the purchase enhances protective factors for the family, and that purchases between \$500-\$1000 are required to be staffed with their supervisor.
- b. Bri McLarty asked about documentation in case the AR case transitions to traditional response. Mikayla noted that documentation is entered in NFOCUS as usual with some additional requirements to enter, such as entering purchase documentation or AR case closure documentation. Jarren Breeling followed up by asking about documentation oversight. Wicks noted the availability of a due date tracker as well as supervisor oversight.
- c. Members discussed MDT teams and how they communicate about AR cases as it relates to oversight of AR cases. Ivy Svoboda shared information regarding what has been looked into. Wicks noted the specifications in the AR statute about what information can be shared.

### VI. DHHS Update

---

Mikayla Wicks shared a link to the recently posted CANS report in the chat: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Children-and-Family-Services-Reports.aspx>. Wicks also shared a document that is highlighted whether the criteria is in regulation or statute. It will be shared with members after the meeting. She will also share the crosswalk. Wicks shared that she is working

with the Process Improvement Team to streamline the RED Team Review. She noted that at a recent RED Team review had 20 cases to review.

### **VII. Public Comment**

---

Co-Chair Gross opened the floor for public comment. There were no members of the public in attendance.

### **VIII. New Business**

---

There was no new business.

### **IX. Upcoming Meeting Planning**

---

Laura Opfer shared upcoming meeting dates in the chat. Dates will be.

- February 25, 2022
- May 20, 2022
- July 22, 2022
- September 23, 2022

### **X. Adjourn**

---

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Adam Anderson