

Alternative Response (AR) Advisory Committee

February 25, 2022
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, called the meeting of the Alternative Response (AR) Advisory Committee to order at 10:04 a.m., and asked Adam Anderson to call roll.

II. Roll Call and Introductions

Committee Members present (13):

Patrick Carraher	Bri McLarty (10:16 a.m.)	Susan Thomas
Jennifer Carter (10:25 a.m.)	Michelle Oldham	Mikayla Wicks
Monika Gross	Michelle Paxton	Reggie Young (10:29 a.m.)
Sarah Helvey	Carey Potter	
Alex Hildebrand	Ivy Svoboda	

Committee Members absent (3):

Alisa Baker	Jarren Breeling	Jan Reeves
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A quorum was established.

Guests In Attendance (3):

Adam Anderson	Katie Bass	Laura Opfer
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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 Pat Carraher and seconded by Ivy Svoboda to approve the agenda as presented.

There was no further discussion. Roll Call vote as follows:

FOR (10):

Patrick Carraher	Michelle Oldham	Susan Thomas
Monika Gross	Michelle Paxton	Mikayla Wicks
Sarah Helvey	Carey Potter	
Alex Hildebrand	Ivy Svoboda	

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (6):

Alisa Baker
Jarren Breeling

Jennifer Carter
Bri McLarty

Jan Reeves
Reggie Young

MOTION CARRIED

IV. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Ivy Svoboda to approve the November 5, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Carey Potter. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

FOR (10):

Patrick Carraher
Monika Gross
Sarah Helvey
Alex Hildebrand

Michelle Oldham
Michelle Paxton
Carey Potter
Ivy Svoboda

Susan Thomas
Mikayla Wicks

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (6):

Alisa Baker
Jarren Breeling

Jennifer Carter
Bri McLarty

Jan Reeves
Reggie Young

MOTION CARRIED

V. Strategic Planning Discussion

Laura Opfer shared a Power Point with information regarding the AR statute and the AR Strategic Planning themes. She discussed the themes and noted themes from AR, DHHS and Child Advocacy Centers. She discussed creating workgroups around the different themes.

- a. AR Statute Handout
- b. AR Summary Handout

Ivy Svoboda shared information regarding the themes from the Child Advocacy Centers. She noted themes regarding 1184 teams, oversight, and documentation of progress for non-court cases and criteria for case closure. Jennifer Carter added that the OIG is tasked with investigating critical incidents with AR cases, but short of that would recommend Multi-Disciplinary Teams look at cases. Mikayla Wicks added that there is a program specialist that also reviews the critical incidents. Wicks noted that specific data can be requested by CAC, County Attorneys, OIG, but the cases can't be discussed at 1184 team meetings.

Mikayla Wicks shared themes from DHHS that included multiple reports, community response teams, standard work instructions, SDM update process. She shared the screening tool in the chat: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/CFS-Administrative-and-Policy-Memos.aspx>. She also shared the Community

Well-Being Contact information in the chat:

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nebraskachildren.org%2Fwhat-we-do%2Fcommunity-prevention-systems%2Fcommunity-contacts.html&data=04%7C01%7CMikayla.Wicks%40nebraska.gov%7C4ad3dcd40a89406fc5f708d9f3291b87%7C043207dfe6894bf6902001038f11f0b1%7C0%7C0%7C637808180139889458%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IjE1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sddata=dnq%2BpECZP1VUxTPgJTiodXnIdetHPRvJUpoisTkh6s%3D&reserved=0>

VI. Workgroup Creation Discussion

Laura Opfer shared the themes for discussion. Jennifer Carter suggested adding oversight to the themes of the workgroup discussion and Co-Chair Thomas agreed. Opfer added that adding oversight to the themes that would allow for a 10,000 foot view of success or failures.

Members discussed AR Participants rights and access to legal, service availability and equity across the state, and evaluating oversight mechanisms such as whether the 1184 teams are appropriate for oversight for AR as priorities for the Committee. Laura Opfer will bring drafted priorities for the next meeting to determine workgroup creation.

VII. DHHS Update

Mikayla Wicks noted that she had nothing to add during this agenda item, as it had already been reported out in previous agenda items.

VIII. Public Comment

Co-Chair Thomas opened the floor to public comment. Nathan Arentsen provided public comment regarding the need for additional oversight and accountability of DHHS due to a traumatic personal experience involving an AR worker and his family.

IX. New Business

There was no new business

X. Upcoming Meetings:

May 20, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

XI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Adam Anderson