



Region IV Citizen Review Panel
707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704
Star Garnet
Tuesday, June 8th, 2021
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87449110153>

Meeting ID: 874 4911 0153

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/km2v1Mpl4>

Members:

Members: Brian McCauley, Nicole Noltensmeyer, Kym Nilsen, Britney Journee, Shannon McCarthy. Darcie Bobrowski absent. Allison Berkson absent. Quorum established.

Guests: Miren Unsworth and Roxanne Printz (IDHW)

Staff: Chris Freeburne (IDHW) Laura Smith and Courtney Boyce (CDH)

Meeting Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

Brian McCauley, District IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05pm. Quorum established.

Motion: Britney made a motion to consent to the agenda as written. Kym seconded. None opposed. The motion carries.

Motion: Brian made a motion to approve May meeting minutes as written. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carries.

Executive Session: Case Reviews with IDHW

Motion: Nicole Noltensmeyer made a motion per Idaho §16-647 (d) the District IV Citizen Review Panel can enter into Executive Session, to discuss items exempt from public disclosure, as outlined in §74-105. Britney seconded motion.

Kym Nilsen, aye; Nicole Noltensmeyer, aye; Britney Journee, aye; Shannon McCarthy, aye; Brian McCauley, aye.

The Panel entered into Executive Session at 4:09pm.

Motion: Brian McCauley made a motion to exit Executive Session. Nicole Noltensmeyer, aye; Kym Nilsen, aye; Britney Journee, aye; Shannon McCarthy, aye; Brian McCauley, aye.

The Panel exited Executive Session at 4:25pm.

Motion to Record Meeting

Motion: Brian made a motion to record to the meeting, to be shared with Allison Berkson after the meeting. Brittney seconded. None opposed. The motion carries.

Motion to Approve Representation

Motion: Brian made a motion to approve official representation at the Ada County Commissioner's Meeting for himself (Brian McCauley) and Allison Berkson. Nicole seconded. None opposed. The motion carries.

IDHW Administration Discussion

Brian discussed an email that Allison sent, where the exact form title does not exist but the internal documentation behind the form would be submitted. The purpose of the case records review. IDHW discussed the specific case review process that they conduct, that is done by the state and all federal partners. These are the child and family service reviews of case reviews, and used for federal and state improvement plans. In-home and out-of-home cases. All of that information is de-identified. Reviews cases across 18 different items (safety, permanency, and wellbeing) and then seven outcome measures. Case review record, interviews, and then determination regarding those items into a strength or needing improvement. This provides targeted interventions for improvement throughout the case reviews. This could be a couple of day commitment; however, the Panel members could sit in on that formal case review process.

Brian asked questions regarding the federal review process (above), which takes several days as they review all the casework through the life of the case. Is there the ability of identifying systemic issues through an individual caseworker/staff? Does the Department have of an internal process of review to identify compliance or noncompliance from individuals? They have individual supervision and performance metrics. They do not systematically review all social workers.

Brian discussed the coversheet that creates the 'vital statistics' for the case. Is there any progress? It is on the radar, but there are other priorities in place. The Panel discussed the value of a consolidated summary for anyone reviewing the case.

The IDHW will conduct a review for a child fatality when they informed or the case is opened. It was presented that the IDHW does not have a relationship with all of the county coroners where they would be notified in the case of child fatality for a case where a child may have previously had involvement with the system, but not a current or active case.

Brian discussed Panel members collecting case review information where there are red flags of safety assessments, such as the quantity or severity of safety assessments in cases. This information can inform a policy discussion regarding safety referrals.

Roxanne discussed having conversations with Amanda at Shepard's Home. They are going to keep the host model and being a foster-parent. Roxanne said that if that changes with their board they would be happy to visit with Shepard's Home, however they sorted out all their options and wanted to stay in their current model.

Roxanne said that she reach out to prosecuting attorney who asked to wait to establish formal MDT. They are working to collaborate with private/public schools to link in teachers/schools, develop joint training and develop a systems MDT and inform on roles/responsibility designation. She also shared internal conversations regarding a worker. Roxanne shared they are aiming for training in child welfare (law enforcement, counselors, IDHW, teachers) for teachers when they return in the fall.

IDHW discussed previous recommendations from the Panel. Regarding the documentation form for foster parents, additional support/documentation in supervised visitation, and Valley County pieces will be addressed closer in the fall. Brian addressed that implementing a reporting system with foster families can help identify systemic, qualitative issues.

They addressed having a capacity crunch for safety assessors, where they were down 9 out of the 15 safety assessors. Challenges include turnover, hiring/requirement process, and burnout. It was addressed that staff was being brought in to conduct safety assessments. They did see an increase in volume of safety assessments at the end of the school year. They are hoping to protect the new safety assessors, so they do not turn and burn the new recruits until they are properly trained. It was asked if being down safety assessors affected their relationship with law enforcement, and it was not known or reported to IDHW. They said that the structured collaboration is necessary, and the every-other-week MDT.

The IDHW also addressed the cases that Nicole raised, historical safety assessments documentation with Mark Thomas, following up on Panel recommendations, and interest from the Panel regarding their formal case review process.

The Panel discussed but did not approve Courtney reaching out to Susan from IDHW, to have a presenter to the Panel during the August meeting.

CRP Logo: Amend or Approve

Motion: Brian made move to approve the logo and icon as presented. Nicole seconded. None opposed. The motion carries. The new logo will be used hence forth on all Region IV Citizen Review Panel documentation.

The Panel continued open discussion as they are ahead on the agenda. It was approved for Courtney to start advertising for the position. Britney discussing the value in order to meet quorum at all time.

Nicole shared that other state's CRPs are using individuals with lived experience, specifically former foster youth, more than our Panel. The Panel discussed prioritizing applicants from folks with lived experience, that are 18+ years old, and able to pass an enhanced background check. This was discussed as former youth, those with/involved in a kinship placement, guardianship, biological parents with CPS involvement, and/or law enforcement. This applicant will not be required to complete case reviews, and but could addressed on a case-by-case basis. An additional prioritization includes rural county applicants, from Valley, Elmore and Boise County. It was requested for Courtney to provide this application specifically to Officer David Gomez in Boise County.

Courtney sent this information to IFYAB, Officer Gomez, ECHC, Senator Wintrow, Darcie Anderson and other contacts.

Motion: Brian made a motion for the July Citizen Review Panel meeting to be in-person. Shannon, Britney seconded. None opposed.

Next meeting:

- Confirm Family First speaker at August CRP meeting
- 10 min CRP National Conference - Shannon/Nicole updates

- Membership updates
- Complete July CRP quarterly report recommendations
 - Establishing a MOU between county coroners and Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Complete Ada County Commissioners request

Adjourn

Brian McCauley, the Region IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:07pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by Courtney Boyce.