

IOWA CHILD ADVOCACY BOARD
STATE BOARD MEETING
Conference Room 319
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa
Friday, March 8, 2019
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

State Board Members Present:

Courtney Clarke - Phone
Beth Myers
Judge William Owens
Sara Parris - Phone
Michael Steele

Staff Present:

Jim Hennessey
Amy Carpenter
Shirley Hoefler - Phone
Sherri Ripperger

Guests Present:

Stephanie Fueger, Attorney - Phone
Doug Wolfe, DHS

Call Meeting to Order; Roll Call of Board Members

Myers calls the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. with a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes for Previous Meetings

Judge Owens moves and Steele seconds approval of the December 14, 2018 Iowa Child Advocacy Board meeting minutes.

Family First Prevention Services Act, Doug Wolfe - DHS

Handout 1. The Family First Prevention Service Act is a major change in legislation in regards to child welfare service. The goal is to provide services to kids whenever possible in their own home and to fund those

services. Honoring and preserving family relationships is a key piece to Family First. Family First will restructure how the federal government spends money on child welfare to improve outcomes for children. IV-E dollars are available for foster care prevention services. There is a requirement that 50% of services must be well supported. July 1, 2020, we are only going to be able to draw down federal funds for Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP's). Wolfe explained the services, population, criteria and quality of services that are eligible. Determination of a candidate will probably be decided by an evidence-based tool called the family risk assessment. There is increased funding flexibility to better support youth aging out of foster care.

If this is going to work, we all have to believe that there are very rare exceptions that there are families that cannot take care of their children with our assistance.

The fiscal implications begin October 2019 and end September 2026.

FCRB Program Update, Shirley Hoefler

Handout 2. Hoefler reviews the March 2019 Status Report.

Carol Bamford, ICAB marketing team member, has developed a new, more modern logo for ICFCRB.

Judge Owens moves and Steele seconds a motion that the board approves to move forward with implementing the use of the new ICFCRB logos. Motion passed unanimously.

New FCRB Policy: Notification and Interveners, Shirley Hoefler and Attorney Stephanie Fueger

Handout 2 #5. Hoefler makes a correction to the last paragraph of number 5. The policy was not implemented on March 1, 2019. FCRB has never had a policy on notification of interveners and their attorneys. The FCRB Policy and Procedures Committee met in February 2019 to review proposed language changes to current policy and develop a notice specific to Interveners and their counsel requesting written testimony for the local review pursuant to Iowa Code 237.20, 1.d.. Should an intervener/counsel petition the court for inclusion in a local review and that petition is granted, FCRB will provide proper notice. The policy update was provided to local FCRB staff March 1, 2019 so they could begin gathering intervener/counsel information for upcoming cases.

Attorney Fueger asked that we take another look at the policy because she feels interveners and attorneys should be allowed to attend the FCRB meetings. She feels more time needs to be focused on talking about who interveners are and what the role of the board is.

After ICAB management reviewed the Attorney General's opinion and talking it over with our DHS Liaison, we stand behind the new policy due to confidentiality concerns. Interveners are able to submit written testimony.

Steele moves and Judge Owens seconds a motion that the board approves the proposed policy with reference to interveners and Foster Care Review Board meeting be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report, Jim Hennessey

Handout 3. Hennessey points out that \$50,000 has been added to revenue from Friends since the January report. An estimate of expenditures for the remainder of the year was done, so adjustments were made under Expenditures. Money was added to Personal Services to cover the new positions we plan to add. We are adding a ¾ time position in Dubuque, a support staff person to help with new National CASA standards and another position that will assist with marketing efforts and recruitment. We received a CASA grant that we will be using to hold an Implicit Bias Training, May 10th for all staff, facilitators and other contractors. Board members are also welcome to attend. We are now getting our fiscal reports and Friends reports timely, so this will help us get closer to a zero balance by the end of the fiscal year.

CASA Program Update, Amy Carpenter

Handout 4. Carpenter reviews the data on the report. She notes that now that more volunteers are starting to use the new data system, we are starting to see actual miles and hours that are inputted by the volunteer. The numbers should continue to grow as more volunteers start using the system.

We are waiting for the new National CASA Association standards before updating our ICAB Policy and Procedures. We are working on revising CASA Coach pre-service training, hiring a temporary employee to help discern the new National CASA standards, CASA Annual report and continuing to work on CAMS.

The Coach goal for Coordinators has been changed from 1 coach per 5 volunteers, it's now 1 coach for roughly every 7.5 volunteers.

All of our staff have been talked to about a new measure of accountability for our agency beginning FY20.

Strategic Plan, Jim Hennessey

Handout 5. Our strategic plans runs out at the end of 2019. We need to develop a new plan for 2020-2024. Hennessey points out we serve less than 15% of kids in the system on the CASA side. Only serving ½ the counties in the state on the FCRB side. What does it take to get to a higher level?

Hennessey reviews past funding. Friends of CASA and ICFCRB states that they hope to increase funding 10-20% per year. We need to figure out what we need to do to become a highly effective program in National CASA standards. Amy Carpenter will be working on this. National CASA wants to collect information from all of us to determine how we can get to the next level. Two areas National CASA would like to tap into are collecting additional government funds and planned giving. They would also like to be involved when we develop a new local program. Other expectations are a new branding/marketing plan, pre-service training and learning/knowledge management system.

Hennessey went through some of the child welfare challenges. In regards to service reviews, we need to plan for, with the family, what the approach is supposed to be. At this time there are time and service resource shortfalls. We are working on relationships with DHS, the Courts and with Friends of CASA/FCRB. We are really looking at how are we able to help workers accomplish what they need to do.

ICAB management are looking at what it takes for CASA and FCRB to go to scale. The board looked at notional estimates of CASA and FCRB to scale. How do we put together a picture that allows us to provide service throughout the state and still make it possible for people to do their job.

Review of Future Meeting Dates

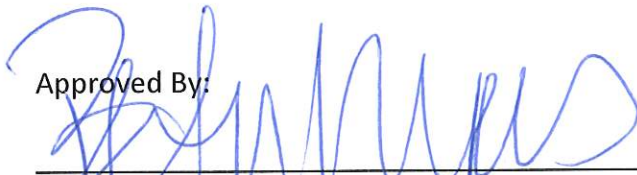
Future Meetings: June 21, September 13, December 13, 2019 12 – 3:00 p.m. at the Lucas Building Rooms 319 & 320.

Steele motions and Judge Owens seconds the meeting adjourned. Meeting adjourns 3:00 p.m.

ICAB Minutes Prepared By: 
Sherri Ripperger

ICAB Minutes Approved On: 06/21/19 6-21-19

CAB Minutes Approved by Child Advocacy Board Vote

Approved By: 
Beth Myers, ICAB State Board Chair


Jim Hennessey, ICAB Administrator

- Handout 1: Family First Prevention Services Act
- Handout 2: FCRB Report
- Handout 3: Director's Budget Report

Handout 4: CASA Report
Handout 5: Strategic Plan