



Council on Child
Safety and
Family Empowerment

GOVERNOR DUCEY'S OFFICE OF YOUTH, FAITH AND FAMILY
COUNCIL ON CHILD SAFETY AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2019

10:00 AM

Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007

A general meeting of the Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment was convened on September 12, 2019 at the Governor's 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1700 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, notice having been duly given.

Members Present (22)	
Angela Ducey , Chair, First Lady of Arizona	Kathryn A. Pidgeon , Co-Chair, Adoption Attorney
Jay A. Cory , President and CEO, Phoenix Rescue Mission	Leslie Y. Reprogle , Founder, Agape Adoption Agency Arizona
Berisha Black , Director, Arizona Foster Care Initiatives	Darlene Newsom , CEO, UMOM New Day Centers
Janet L. Garcia , Arizona Senior Director, Casey Family Programs	Katie O'Dell , City Care Pastor, Hillsong Phoenix
Mark Upton , President and CEO, Christian Family Care	Molly Dunn , Director, FosterEd Arizona
Zora Manjencich , Assistant Chief Counsel, Attorney General	James D. Molina , Director, Step up Arizona
Mike Faust , Director, AZ Department of Child Safety	Colleen McNally , Presiding Juvenile Court Judge Maricopa County, Retired
Torrie Taj , CEO, Child Crisis Arizona	Andrea Stuart , Executive V.P. Staff Services & Care, Arizona Baptist Children's Association
Marcia Stanton , Senior Injury Prevention Specialist, PCH	Lorrie Henderson , State Director, AZ 1.27 (via phone)
Kate Brophy McGee , Arizona State Senator	Obed Escobar , Regional Director, Alliance Defending Freedom (via phone)
Richard Yarbough , Executive Director, Pilgrim Rest Foundation	Paul S. Mulligan , President and CEO, Catholic Charities
	Members Absent (5)
	Vicki Mayo , Founder and CEO, The Touchpoint Solution
	Jeffrey James Taylor , Chair, Salvation Army Advisory Board
	Roy T. Dawson , Director, Arizona Center for African American Resources
	Terry M. Crist , Pastor, Hillsong Phoenix
	Warren H. Stewart Jr. , Pastor, Church of the Remnant
Staff/Guests Present (25)	
Maria Fuentes , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Cecilia Ferndandez , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Malcolm Hightower , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Emily Uline-Olmstead , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Leona Morales , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Susan Alameda , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Greg McKay , COO, Child Help	Kim Brooks , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Nicole Valenzuela , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Kim Vehon , FosterAZ
Jodi Carter , Phoenix Children's Hospital	Amy Shoptaugh , Phoenix Children's Hospital
Alfreda Moore , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Lela Wendell , Department of Economic Security
Annie Mooney , Phoenix Children's Hospital	Dennis Embry , Paxis Institute
Shevavn Sullivan	Kate Lyon , Department of Public Safety
Erin Galloway	Cynthia Weiss , AZ Department of Child Safety

Christine Slomski , Voices for CASA	Kate Campell , Voices for CASA
Olivia Christiani , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Gaelyn Davis , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family
Kristin Sorensen , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	

1. Call to Order

Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon, Co-Chair, called the Council on Child Safety and Family Empowerment meeting to order at 10:08 AM with 22 members present and 5 members absent.

2. Opening Remarks

Mrs. Angela Ducey, Chair, welcomed all to the Governor's Child Safety and Family Empowerment Council.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon asked members to review the copy of minutes from the May 7, 2019 meeting. **Mrs. Angela Ducey** requested a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2019 Council meeting. **Mr. Mark Upton** moved to approve the minutes as drafted and **Ms. Leslie Repogle** seconded. The motion passed with unanimous vote.

4. Special Recognition

Mrs. Angela Ducey, Chair, recognized Greg McKay, former Director of Child Safety, for his outstanding leadership and the progress he made within Arizona's Department of Child Safety. **Mrs. Angela Ducey** highlighted Mr. McKay's accomplishments, reviewed Mr. McKay's service, and presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

Mr. Greg McKay praised the Council's work and elaborated on the work of DCS, including accomplishments and outcomes the Department will still work on attaining.

5. DCS Update and Call for Needs

Mr. Greg McKay introduced Mr. Mike Faust, new Director at the Department of Child Safety. **Mr. Greg McKay** gave an overview of Director Mike Faust's accomplishments and roles, including being the Deputy Director of Support Services at DCS where he led the department's strategic planning and management system innovations that transformed DCS into a national model for results-based improvements. **Mrs. Angela Ducey** welcomed Director Mike Faust.

Director Mike Faust gave a DCS update. **Director Mike Faust** reported on the Field Staff, including how many employees were managers, specialists, supervisors, hotline workers, and what amount of positions were currently vacant. **Director Mike Faust** gave a statistical analysis of the communications and reports to the hotlines. **Director Mike Faust** included a discussion on criminal conduct reports and the percentage of total reports as well as efforts that DCS has been making to bring substance abuse treatment options that incorporate healing with a family component and focus.

Director Mike Faust further discussed the response timeliness, safety assessment completion and inactive cases, the different out-of-home care that children were receiving- such as: primarily kinship, foster care, congregate care, and independent living, the numbers of children receiving in home services, entries and exits for recent months, and runaway youth. It was reported that the average length of time on runaway status has decreased from July 2019 to August 2019. **Director Mike Faust** also discussed behavioral health integration progressing forward statewide through utilization management and clinical oversights.

Director Mike Faust also discussed the current service referral waitlist and the average age of all referrals on the waitlist according to county type, urban or rural. **Director Mike Faust** spoke to the target numbers that DCS would like to see. **Director Mike Faust** mentioned that DCS is working on private partnerships that will

build out health care networks to operationalize services. In addition to these services, **Director Mike Faust** reported that DCS continues to monitor backlog and predictable fluctuations in reports, largely because children are back in school and school staff are mandated reporters. **Director Mike Faust** also discussed that August saw more volume to the hotline, which received 15,000 calls and 4,500 allegations of abuse and neglect that had to be responded to. The response time was reported to be appropriate through objective decision making that staff has been trained in, creating a 93% positive performance review over the past 2 years.

Mrs. Angela Ducey thanked Director Faust and DCS staff for the hard work and dedication that has been shown by the Department and stated that future success and positive results were expected to continue throughout his position.

6. Phoenix Children's Hospital ACEs Center

Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon introduced **Dr. Jodi Carter**, Chief Clinical Integration Officer at Phoenix Children's Hospital and the Chief Medical Officer of the Phoenix Children's Care Network, Arizona's only pediatric clinically integrated network. **Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon** gave an overview of Dr. Carter's work at Phoenix Children's Hospital, including Dr. Carter leading the Phoenix Children's Hospital Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Program since its inception in early 2018. **Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon** also introduced **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh**, Medical Director for the ACE program at Phoenix Children's.

Dr. Amy Shoptaugh gave a presentation on the Phoenix Children's Hospital (PCH) ACEs Program. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** stated that the mission of the program is to transform the lives of Arizona children who have experienced adversity or trauma by providing evidence-based integrated and integrative health services. The program's values were stated to be: Equip children to become resilient; pediatric providers incorporate screening their patients for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); Caregivers will feel supported in caring for children who have been exposed to ACEs and trauma; Caregivers and community will have the needed tools and resources to break generational cycles of child abuse, neglect and trauma; Professionals who partner with caregivers in health, education and family support sectors will work together to ensure children exposed to ACEs are identified and receive appropriate services; and that Arizona will become a leader in supporting children, youth, families and caregivers impacted by ACEs. Program innovators were recognized and named to the Council, including specific achievements and contributions to pilot sites. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** stated that the program has been onboarded for 4 months and that the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) screening is being done at all well child checks in the clinics. The four pillars of the PCH ACEs program were reported as Screening, Education, Intervention, and Research and Evaluation. Under "Screening" requirements, it was reported that the program aims to have an ACEs screening at all well visits for children ages 1-18, performed across various health care settings, and that social determinants of health and needs are screened. Regarding "Education" the program is working to provide standard materials for patients and families, standard scoring and referral processes for providers, and educate PCH staff, residents, providers and community organizations. Additionally, it was reported that the program applies evidence-based treatments and resources, access community partnerships, and executes integrated and integrative care model. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** also reported that the program has been collecting pilot data across care settings, evaluating data quarterly, and utilizing this data to improve outcomes and drive continuous innovation. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** reviewed the program flow, such as when tools are administered, how intervention is determined, and the referral and follow-up process based on scores and symptoms.

Dr. Amy Shoptaugh reviewed the different care models that are used: Integrated and integrative. In an integrated care model, the program includes coordination of physical and mental healthcare, physical and mental healthcare in one setting, disease care model, and treatment occurs after disease has manifested. An Integrative care model allows for preventative care, addresses mind, body, and spirit, encompasses conventional and complementary healthcare, and accounts for eco-bio-developmental factors that affect health. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** reported that the innovative model of the PCH ACEs program incorporates both integrated and integrative models in 5 phases. These 5 phases were reported to be foundational, wellbeing,

connecting, skill building, and contributing. In the first Foundational phase, the focus is to develop community support, education, emotional and behavioral health, family, and resiliency. At this level, it is reported that understanding areas of strengths and where improvement is needed in emotional, physical and behavioral health. In the wellbeing phase, the program works to support protect and heal by decreasing inflammation, stress chemicals and hormones through breathing practices, exercise, nutrition, mindfulness, sleep, and self-compassion. It was reported that the connecting phase was focused on connecting mental health counseling, psychiatry, physical health, care coordination, and primary care providers. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** discussed the importance of building resilience and healing for the patient and family by connecting them to a whole team of different providers. The skill building phase focuses on patient empowerment, family/caregiver empowerment, community resources, and aims to practice and strengthen skills to empower the patient and family while building resiliency, coping abilities, and the family's support network. The last phase, contributing, encourages parents/families to use the tools from previous phases to define choice and aims to provide the patient and family with confidence, community awareness, connection and feelings of competency.

Dr. Amy Shoptaugh addressed the different outcomes and accomplishments that have been seen at PCH general pediatrics, PCH Homeless Youth Outreach, and Community Pediatrics All About Kids Pediatrics through the ACEs program. Since the launch in June 2019, the ACEs screening in PCH General Pediatrics has demonstrated an increase in screening percentages of 15.6% and an overall increase of 33% in the screening rate during Well Child Checks. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** also reported on community engagement with local and national organizations and experts that have worked to collaborate and participate in innovation, trainings, conferences, and networking to identify ideas and skills needed to succeed.

- **Mr. James Molina** asked for further details on the capacity for training. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** stated that the program is still in the pilot phase and that capacity is building.
- **Ms. Colleen McNally** asked for clarification on who can provide the services of the program. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** discussed that the program is designed for anyone who offers pediatric well care.
- **Ms. Zora Manejencich** requested further insight into PCH's age policy, particularly those who are over the age of 18. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** reviewed PCH's age policy which allows pediatricians to take care of youth up to age 21. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** stated that PCH is also looking to build an adult service for those with special health care needs.
- **Mrs. Angela Ducey** commented on how impressive the program was, specifically that there was only one refusal for screening. **Mrs. Angela Ducey** questioned if the program has been met with resistance from parents who have a high score or if there is a sense of fear that they will be reported to DCS. **Dr. Amy Shoptaugh** stated that while the PCH staff is mandated reporters, only the final score is shared with providers to focus on the risk level and corresponding recommended management.

7. **Paxis Institute Good Behavior Game**

Mrs. Kathryn Pidgeon introduced Dennis Embry, President and Senior Scientist at PAXIS Institute in Tucson. Dr. Dennis Embry gave a brief description of absolute rates of depression steadily increasing at an early age of onset for depression with each new generation. **Dr. Dennis Embry** also discussed that the Medicaid expenditures for the five most costly conditions in children is increasing \$1 billion per year for Mental disorders. **Dr. Dennis Embry** reported that according to the Wall Street Journal, 45.6 million kids in 2009 has one psychotropic medication, including antidepressants, antipsychotics, and antihypertensives.

Dr. Dennis Embry discussed how the PAX Good Behavior Game (GBG) has been implemented in more than 40,000 classrooms in the US, Canada, and Europe to help develop positive peer relationships and improve behaviors in school. **Dr. Dennis Embry** showed a video of the PAX GBG implementation in a Canadian school in which self-regulation, co-regulation, and group regulation were nurtured. The benefits of PAX were reported to be higher graduation rates, reduced need for special education, less alcohol/drug abuse, reduced suicide attempts, and reduced crime. **Dr. Dennis Embry** reviewed the 3 month impact of PAX in 8 US School Districts

after implementing the PAX Game. **Dr. Dennis Embry** reported that PAX can move children from high and moderate risk clinical ranges to low-risk in a short period of time. It was reported that the rate of return of the GBG is close 50 to 1. This improved mental health creates fewer conduct problems, fewer emotional problems, less hyperactivity, fewer peer problems, and better prosocial skills. For this reason, **Dr. Dennis Embry** compared the program as a behavioral vaccine. Additionally, it was reported that PAX implementation has shown improvements on Standard Measures of Academic Progress in high poverty schools in both math and reading. **Dr. Dennis Embry** reported that the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) is funding the implementation of PAX GBG via State Opiate Response (SOR) Federal grant, in cooperation with Arizona Department of Education and the Governor's Office.

Dr. Dennis Embry gave further predictions for the 71,000 Arizona 1st graders if PAX was implemented, including that there could be over 4,000 fewer young men attempting suicide by the time they are 19-21, 697 fewer young people will be convicted of major violent crimes, and 6,893 fewer young people will develop serious drug addictions.

- **Senator Kate Brophy McGee** asked if the program would aid with decreasing suicidal ideation in younger populations. **Dr. Dennis Embry** remarked that it would be helpful in these populations. **Director Maria Cristina Fuentes** added that the implementation of GBG through the GOYFF is looking into development areas and populations to coordinate with timeline projections of program implementation. **Dr. Dennis Embry** also discussed the cost for an individual, such as a teacher, to receive the kit and training was \$280.
- **Ms. Leslie Reprogle** requested further information regarding how a teacher or individual who was interested in getting the kit could get in contact with GBG. **Dr. Dennis Embry** provided the Paxis Institute information and reminded that one teacher can have immense impact. **Ms. Leslie Reprogle** also asked if caregivers can get access to the program in order to reinforce the learning and progress. **Dr. Dennis Embry** discussed how the program impacts families through the reduction of punishment and increase in positive reinforcement. **Dr. Dennis Embry** showed a tool kit that is given to caregivers that includes all the useful information to help with solution focused parenting.
- **Ms. Torrie Taj** inquired about the appropriate age for implementation, specifically questioning if early childhood care could benefit and use the program. **Dr. Dennis Embry** stated that in preschoolers the effects of the program would likely be slower, given that the differential exposure and intervention that is used with older kids would not be able to be done. **Dr. Dennis Embry** did state that the program has been studied in younger preschools and slight adjustments can be made for best implementation practices.
- **Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon** questioned which schools GBG is implemented in and if charter and private schools were contacted. **Dr. Dennis Embry** stated that Paxis is willing to work with anyone who has an interest in the program. **Mrs. Angela Ducey** asked for which schools in Arizona had been shown implementation. **Dr. Dennis Embry** discussed the unique properties of intervention at different schools.
- **Ms. Kathryn Pidgeon** discussed if GBG was also being brought into universities to teach future educators. **Dr. Dennis Embry** elaborated that the program is being worked into schools to induct young teachers into the program as well as having the option of having the training done effectively online.
- **Ms. Marcia Stanton** highlighted that an issue that often present is that effective programs are not always taken to scale and asked what the total cost for Arizona to have a 1 to 2 year implementation would be. **Director Mike Faust** calculated that the cost based on current estimates would be 4.3-5.6 million dollars per year for 71,000 kids statewide. **Dr. Dennis Embry** clarified that this also would need to incorporate multiple tiers and trainings for students and teachers.
- **Mrs. Angela Ducey** clarified with Dr. Embry that if a teacher is trained but then moves to a different school or grade that the training would be able to carry over and is applicable to multiple grades.

8. Update on Recent and Upcoming Events

Mrs. Kathryn Pidgeon introduced **Director Maria Cristina Fuentes** of the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family. **Director Maria Cristina Fuentes** spoke of the recent and upcoming events focused on child abuse prevention, sexual assault prevention and our faith-based communities. **Director Maria Cristina Fuentes** stated the following upcoming events: September 23rd for the Child well-being Roundtables, October 1st for Lighting Arizona Purple, October 17th for an event in partnership with Pure Heart Church and School Connect, and December 6th for the ACEs Summit.

9. Subcommittee Reports

Prevention Subcommittee

Ms. Darlene Newsom spoke about the faith community symposium that was held with the goal of dispelling myths regarding providing childcare to DCS children. **Ms. Darlene Newsom** addressed areas of the state that need more child care and how the subcommittee hopes to help with symposiums across the state while also regulating and making sure that there is no duplicating efforts of partner agencies.

Outreach Subcommittee

Ms. Katie O'Dell, Subcommittee Chair, reported that the subcommittee is still working to edit and develop the video. Additionally, it was reported that the subcommittee is moving ahead on next projects, research, and investigating community for population that target birth and kinship families. **Ms. Katie O'Dell** also stated that the subcommittee hopes that this work will dispel fear of DCS and reeducate families on parenting techniques. **Director Maria Cristina Fuentes** mentioned that GOYFF has Triple P slots available for possible incorporation.

African American Children and Families Subcommittee

Mr. Roy Dawson, Subcommittee Chair, was not present to speak. No subcommittee update was given.

Support Subcommittee

Ms. Leslie Repogle, Subcommittee Chair, reported out that the subcommittee was continuing work with the ACEs support group for caregivers with ACEs and trauma. **Ms. Leslie Repogle** gave background on the previously used focus groups that established what caregivers feel they need more and how they have worked to address this. **Ms. Leslie Repogle** stated that there is interest in duplicating the support group and the subcommittee is looking into resources to aid in duplication as well as formalize what will be needed for investments, including time and money.

10. Call to the Public

Mrs. Kathryn Pidgeon conducted a call to the public. There were no requests to speak by the public.

11. Future Meeting Dates and Adjournment

Mrs. Kathryn Pidgeon noted the following upcoming meeting dates:

- November 14, 2019
- January 9, 2020
- March 12, 2020
- May 14, 2020
- September 10, 2020
- November 12, 2020

Mrs. Angela Ducey requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Mr. Paul Mulligan** motioned to adjourn. **Mr. Richard Yarbough** seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:49 AM.