

**DCFS Latino Advisory Council**  
**595 S. State St, Elgin 60123**  
**September 18, 2019**  
**888-494-4032 / code 9921831605#**

**Amended Minutes**

**Chair-Person:**  
**Nancy Rodriguez**

**Past Chair-Person:**  
Juanita Calderon

**Chair-Elect:**  
Julia Monzon

**Scribe:**

**DCFS Members:**  
Vanessa Castro  
Jose Garcia  
Maria B. Hernandez  
Sydney Juarez  
Evelyn Martinez  
Azalea Mejia  
Taylor Pierson  
Beatriz Ramirez  
Liliana Romero

**POS Members:**  
Patricia Aguilar  
Jennifer Contreras  
Lisa Marie Perez  
Daizy Salgado

**Ex-officio Members:**  
Jose J. Lopez, OLS

**Director's Liaison:**  
Daniel Fitzgerald  
Affirmative Action

**Committees:**  
Child Safety and  
Permanency

Community Risk  
Reduction and  
Staffing

Data validity and  
Disproportionality

Strategic  
Communications

**Present:** Jaunita Calderon, Vanessa Castro, Maria B. Hernandez, Sydney Juarez, Evelyn Martinez, Azalea Mejia, Julia Monzon, Beatriz Ramirez, Nancy Rodriguez, Daniel Fitzgerald, Jose Lopez

**Phone:** Patricia Aguilar, Jennifer Contreras, Liliana Romero

**Excused:** Jose Garcia

**Guests:** Jose Alex Medina, Anabel Michal, Stefanie L. Polacheck

**A. Welcome, Values, Team Exercise**

- Nancy Rodriguez welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves.
- Values and team building exercise were tabled.

**B. Review and Approval of August Minutes**

- The August minutes were review and approved as amended.

**C. Committee Reports**

- a. Child Safety and Permanency - Patricia Aguilar
  - Patricia reported that she needs a copy of the last report that Yeni Rojas submitted. Nancy Rodriguez volunteered to email it to her.
- b. Community Risk Reduction and Staffing - Liliana Romero
  - Liliana reported that the CRRS committee is addressing vacancies and youth in care placement issues. The ACR bilingual position of 2020 West Roosevelt was posted.
  - The Sex Abuse Coordinator position was posted.
  - Jose A. Medina added that the Daycare Licensing Clerical bilingual position had not been posted and is unsure if that position was converted to a non-Spanish Speaking position.
- c. Data Validity & Disproportionality – Nancy Rodriguez
  - Nancy reported that the purpose of Data Validity and Disproportionality Committee is to gather and analyze existing agency data and which focus on systemic issues, trends, and patterns impacting the Latino Community and DCFS staff.
- d. Strategic Communications – Julia Monzon
  - Jose A. Medina stated that he will send data from the Hispanic Employment Plan to be placed in Noticias.
  - Julia Monzon reported the LAC members can send her change/comments for Noticias and LAC Bylaws.
  - The meeting with the Director is on Nov. 13th in the Joliet Office. Reports for the Director should be proofed and uniformly formatted.
- e. POS ad hoc Committee – Jennifer Contreras
  - 19 POS agencies had been invited for a POS discussion meeting for 9-17-19.
  - The Committee discussed re-forming the DCFS Latino Consortium, Bilingual Staffing and Pay, Testing, Retention, and Spanish Speaking Foster Homes.

f. Affirmative Action Reports - Jose Lopez

- Jose Lopez mentioned that Latino Services is meeting with the Mexican Consulate staff to work on the new updated MOU agreement. The notification form is being updated to include the email of the field staff worker's supervisor and parents to help the Consulate staff to reach. Once updated the updated MOU agreement will be sent to the new Mexican Administration for approval.
- There will be a Health Fair October 5<sup>th</sup> at Harrison Park, with the participation all the Latino Consulates. Evelyn Martinez asked if that could be duplicated in Kane County
- Daniel reported that changes are being made to the DFS bilingual exam and all the POS workers will be tested by the Burgos Coordinator. The goal is to finish the with testing by Dec. 2019.
- Mr. Fitzgerald talked to Desiree Silva, Chief Deputy Director of Operations about the LAC immigration paper, about not bringing children into the Dept. due to immigration issues. 13 Spanish Speaking children are currently placed in non-Spanish Speaking foster homes, he reviews this data on the children twice a month.
- Mr. Fitzgerald informed members that OITS will put the Burgos Consent Form in SACWIS by Nov. 2019. The Federal Government Prevention Act (Intact Families) will be a priority.

**D. Old Business**

- Julia Monzon reminded the members again of the due date to send changes/comments regarding Noticias
- The Director's Meeting is on November 13, 2019 at the Joliet Office
- Nancy Rodriguez reminded the members to take the OMA training.

**E. Adjournment -**

- The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is October 16, 2019 at 1911 S. Indiana Ave in Chicago.

Scribe, Maria Hernandez