



Latino Advisory Council Monthly Meeting
Online WebEx Meeting
October 20, 2021
9:00am – 12:00pm

Chair-Person:

Julia Monzon

Past Chair-Person:

Nancy Rodriguez

Chair-Elect:

Yeni Rojas

Co-Scribes:

Vanessa Castro
Vacant

DCFS Members:

Juanita Calderon
Olivia Chavez
Coty Corcoles
Jose Garcia
Sydnie Juarez
Juan Maldonado
Evelyn Martinez
Melissa Martinez
Rosa Molina Lassalle
Beatriz Ramirez
Liliana Romero

POS Members:

Patricia Aguilar
Jennifer Contreras
Dennis Delgado

Director's Liason:

Jose J. Lopez
Latino Services

Committees:

Child Safety, Risk
Reduction and
Permanency

Data Analysis,
Disproportionality
and Staffing

Strategic
Communications

POS Collaboration

Latino Family
Institute

Professional
Development Day

Amended Minutes

Present: Vanessa Castro, Olivia Chavez, Dennis Delgado, Jose Garcia, Jose Lopez Rodriguez, Rosa Maria Molina Lassalle, Evelyn Martinez, Melissa Martinez, Yeni Rojas, Liliana Romero, and Juan Maldonado

Excused: Beatriz Ramirez, Julia Monzon, Juanita Calderon, Jennifer Contreras

Guests: Kara Hamilton, Julie Barbosa, Ulysses Rosales, William McCaffrey, Moises Jimenez

A. Welcome

Participants were welcomed and introductions were complete.

B. Positive Vibes

Members were able to share positive experiences.

C. New Member Elections (Co-Scribe)

Rosa Maria Molina Lassalle and Melissa Martinez were nominated for the Co-Scribe position. By majority vote, Rosa Maria Molina Lassalle is the new co-scribe.

D. Review & Approval of September Minutes

The September 2021 minutes were reviewed, amended and approved by majority vote.

E. Meeting with Director Smith Action Plan

The LAC Executive team met with Director Smith on September 21, 2021. The meeting was positive, and Director Smith agreed with most of LAC recommendations. LAC will be working on an action plan and how it will be assigned. This task will require working with all LAC committees. The next meeting with Director Smith will be in 6 months.



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F. Committee Written Reports

(Send Written Reports if available)

- a. Child Safety, Risk Reduction and Permanency – Yeni Rojas

The LGBTQI training for foster parents is now available.

There is a recommendation on training staff on how to use the language line. There is a recommendation on Bilingual staff being added to the program plan in POS contracts. Furthermore, the recommendation of creating a Latino Advisory Board.

- b. Data Analysis, Disproportionality and Staffing – Nancy Rodriguez

Nancy Rodriguez shared an article that discussed the topic of Equity, Equality, Systematic Equality and Inclusion.

- c. Strategic Communications – Julia Monzon

The Strategic Communications committee completed several articles that will be added to the upcoming Noticias Newsletter, which will be distributed at the Latino Family Institute.

- d. POS Collaboration– Jennifer Contreras & Jose J. Lopez

The POS Collaboration committee is hoping to standardize how POS Latino staff get their bilingual pay.

G. Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Report – Jose J. Lopez

Jose Lopez reported the DCFS Office of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion is working closely with the Office of Employee Services



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(OES). There is a new administrator in OES and is putting a lot of effort with recruitment and is hiring more recruiters. A training on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will be developed for all staff.

H. Old Business

a. Open Meetings Act-New Members

The website continues to be unavailable.

b. Joint Council meeting

I. New Business

a. LAC members attendance, responsibilities and committee participation

Members need to choose a committee. In addition, members need to send Vanessa Castro and Rosa Maria Molina Lassalle an email to be excused from any LAC meeting.

b. Planning for LAC Retreat (In-person Vs Virtual)

LAC members discussed the upcoming LAC Retreat and whether the meeting should be in person or virtual.

4 members voted for an In-person meeting

2 members voted for a Virtual meeting

2 members voted for a In-person and Virtual meeting option

c. LAC Institute Day

Awards have been selected for the LAC Family Institute Day. The Celeste Pena award was selected by the Pena family. There were no DCFS Youth Awards given this year.

d. Professional Development Day Feedback



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Surveys for the Professional Development Day appeared positive, except for 1 workshop that received a rating of 1 or 2.

J. Open Forum

William McCaffrey report that the Public Guardian submitted concerns to Director Smith on matters relating to the Burgos Consent Decree. There are concerns with the process when determining a family to be Burgos. There were also concerns of the lack of Language Determination forms included in the Public Guardian packet from DCFS.

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K. Next General Meeting– November 17, 2021