

KFAPA Board Meeting, Saturday, June 18, 2011
UMY, 4505 E 47th St South, Wichita Kansas

Topic	Discussion	Action
Attendees: Julie Schoemehl, Sandra Hiller, Mary Tye, Bill Reynolds By Phone: Susan Wegele, Denise Gibson, Sarah Jones, Jeff Piepho, Carol Finch	Deana Robin of KDHE was just notified of the meeting, she is unable to attend, her name is misspelled on our communications; we will obtain her correct contact information and add her to the email/ mailing list	Secretary will obtain correct contact info & add to mailing list
	Nancy Duling, Secretary, is unable to attend; is recovering from a surgery, Sandra Hiller is filling in and taking minutes.	n/a
Welcome: President Julie Schoemehl	Meeting started at 10 am	
Approval of Minutes of March 11 2011 meeting	Minutes were distributed via email to board. People were given a few moments to look over the minutes. No corrections or changes were noted. Sandra Hiller moved that minutes be approved & posted to website, seconded by Carol Finch, approved unanimously.	Sandra Hiller will post to website
Region 1 VP Report	Dana Badders is a candidate for appointment to Region 1; no one on phone from Reg. 1. There was no one with information regarding Region 1 activities	
Region 2 VP Report	Vacant position - Julie Schoemehl reported that in Region 2 there are lots of kids being moved from foster homes to relative placements. Contractors are finding relative placements, & foster families are wanting to know what their rights are regarding the children returning to their homes if relative placement fails.	
Region 3 VP Report	Carol Finch had nothing to report from Region 3	
Region 4 VP Report	No one reporting	
Region 5 VP Report	No one reporting	
Treasurer's Report: Sandra Hiller	We have 9147.35 balance in checking; outstanding bills for Jan 1 – June 30 will total approx. 2400.00, includes National Foster Parent Association annual conference costs. SRS billing needs to be done as soon as possible. SRS has informed us that our request for Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012) has been approved, with 3% cut. We requested \$11,500, we will be approved for \$11,155. Expenses for FY 2011 from June 1, 2010 through Dec 31, 2010 totaled \$2816.72.	

	<p>With anticipated reimbursement request for Jan 1-June 30, 2011 of less than \$2500, we will have used less than half of what we requested.</p> <p>Nancy Duling and Sandra Hiller wrote & submitted a proposal for presenting a panel at the Governor's Conference in November, & Julie Schoemehl submitted a request for funding for that to the Child Safety & Permanency Review Board; status unknown at this time.</p> <p>Expenses for 2012 year will include Governor's Conference panel presentation, & the Parent Summit. There were no questions or comments on the treasurer's report. Motion to approve treasurer's report was made by Jeff Piepho and seconded by Carol Finch, approved as presented unanimously.</p>	
<p>Healthy Relationships Project</p>	<p>Sarah Jones from Children's Alliance gave an update about the Healthy Relationship Project. Healthy Life Choices project is in the designing phase. They want to get KFAPA involved from the start. The Federal grant was written to work with foster kids on healthy sexual relationships. Kansas is doing this in 3 different ways: at risk kids, foster kids, and foster parents. 3 curriculums will be used: All Stars done in schools, on decision making and working with kids on future goals; another decision making program called Choices will be used. Because the application to the fed government was on foster kids and healthy relationships, we should work on the foundation of good decision making first. Choices is a more flexible program that can be trained anywhere; All Stars is school based. The third curriculum will be an on line training called Healthy Relationships. This will be geared initially towards foster parents to work with foster children. There will be modules that include Where Are You At - Comfort Level, Healthy Relationships and Boundaries, Non-Healthy Relationships, Healthy sexual Development (medical portion), Signs & Effects of Sexual Abuse, Managing Behaviors and Impact on Foster/Adoptive Parents, Peer Influence/Pressure Situations. Some of that curriculum will be taken from Fostering and Adopting the Sexually Abused Child from the PS-MAPP program. Sandra Hiller is working on that curriculum with Cheryl Rathbun from SFCS and Kathy Stepps from the Salvation Army. The goal is to present the training curriculum it to KFAPA in September, and present it to a panel of foster parents for feedback, then to tweak the program before offering it on-line. The grant would reimburse KFAPA yearly to work on the curriculum and to reimburse the foster parents for taking the curriculum, and provide incentives to youth for taking the training (such as art kits, drawing supplies, music, electronics etc.).</p> <p>Susan Wegele asked who will be doing the teaching. Response from Sarah Jones was that teaching is done by workers from the contract agencies. Sarah explained that Children's</p>	<p>Schedule time in September for Project & KFAPA to review draft of training.</p>

	<p>Alliance just had two Choices trainings and the All Stars training will be at the end of the month. Several child agencies are participating, including Kids TLC, AYS, Scarf, KVC, TFI, UMY, Shelter, and SFCS. With several agencies providing the training, the entire state should be covered. Susan Wegele stated that she has a degree in elementary education and is willing to take the training and do it in western Kansas. Training will occur again in September and Sarah will get Susan's contact info & get her signed up.</p> <p>Sarah explained that they are under deadlines to accomplish specific goals yearly, and in a rush to get the first year's deadlines met due to a hold that was on the project initially. Choices training will be offered again on Sept 26 at Children's Alliance in Topeka, siones@childally.org, contact her to sign up. All Stars will be Sept 27-28 at Children's Alliance in Topeka. Incentives for youth might be writing kits, art supplies, cookbooks, photography supplies, electronics, etc.</p> <p>Julie Schoemehl asked if Sarah Jones feels like she has enough support and Sarah said she did. If anyone is interested in contributing please let Sarah know. We want to put a survey together to send out to the foster parents to get ideas from everyone about what should be included in the foster parent training. Sarah stated that the survey will probably be in the next month and we will move forward from there. Sarah thanked the group for allowing her to present this information at today's meeting.</p>	
Gov. Conf	<p>Nov. 2-4, Sandra Hiller is putting together a panel for the It Takes A Team to Raise a Child; we have applied for some additional money to cover travel expenses. There were no questions or comments. There were no objections to spending funds for the panel participants, as some may need overnight accommodations and mileage in order to attend. Regarding having an exhibitor booth at this year's conference, discussion was about the importance of being visible at this type of event. We typically give away PR supplies, and we need people to help man the booth. While our participation doesn't really increase our membership, it does make us visible, which is important. Denise Gibson said from a political standpoint it is important.</p>	<p>Sandra Hiller will complete the registration form and send it in with the \$150 fee. Board members to help with booth during conference.</p>
Ballots	<p>Election results: Jeff Piepho received write-ins for position of Vice President. After inquiry about the amount of time required, he accepted the position.</p> <p>Mary Tye has been elected Region 2 Vice President.</p> <p>Susan Wegele has been elected Region 4 VP. Susan pointed out that Region 4 is the entire western half of the state; Sandra Hiller will help with Region 4 activities.</p> <p>Vacant positions include Region 1 Vice Presidency, there is a candidate; Julie Schoemehl</p>	<p>Sandra Hiller will send info packets to newly elected members.</p> <p>Julie Schoemehl to check into Reg. 1</p>

	will check with that person.	candidate.
Succession Planning	Julie Schoemehl explained that there could be a mentorship program for moving up to be president next year Jeff stated he would probably not be interested, but would step up if need be. Julie is beginning her last year in the current position and reminded everyone that we should all think about the person who will take our place, reach out to find that person and get them involved in the association. It would make it easier for the upcoming elections.	Board members should recruit future board members throughout their reign.
Membership issues	<p>Julie Schoemehl challenged everyone to reach out and interact with foster families and corporate members to be sure everyone know that we are a resource. Susan Wegele inquired about how we find out who all the foster parents are: she knows a lot of the foster families in her area with UMY but doesn't know who the SFCS families are, who has the contract for Region 4. There was some discussion about how to reach all the licensed foster families in the state. The "list" is with KDHE, and due to confidentiality issues, they cannot give out the names and contact information of foster families, nor can SRS. Because we do not have access to that list, it is very important that we talk to folks about KFAPA. Discussion ensued about how we as KFAPA representatives should take membership brochures to all events, such as whenever we are asked to sit in on a MAPP panel. Possibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denise Gibson could put our membership brochure in the literature that is sent to families whenever they inquire via the 1-800 number. • KDHE has the list of licensed foster parents, and it is confidential, but Denise said we should put the brochures in the hands of the agencies like KDHE and ask them to put them in the licensing letters. Sandra Hiller stated that we did discuss with KDHE having a letter available to put in the licensing packets to all licensed families. • It was also suggested that perhaps we could have a permission form giving KDHE approval to give out their info. • Denise Gibson also suggested using the MAPP leaders to give out the info. • Also could consider having the licensing workers give the info to families when they re-license. • We should also hand out literature at foster parent trainings as well. • Denise stated they have a foster care meeting coming up and she will ask that the agencies have the brochures available to hand out to their families. • We could send out a mailing to all the MAPP trainers asking that they pass them 	

	<p>out: Denise can send an email to all of the Children's Alliance contacts;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Tye suggested putting the link to our website as well. Denise will get that done in about a week. 	
Open board positions	Reg 1 VP: Dana Badders as a write in; Julie will check with her on that region Secretary position is open: no write ins for that position; it is the position that takes the most time and requires good computer access and organizational skills. Also vacant is Region 5 Vice Presidency (Sedgwick County)	
Budgetary items	3% reduction in our 2012 budget	
Parent Summit	Julie Schoemehl has considered Oct 1 date, would be in Salina; Julie will send email to the contractors to see if Oct 1 conflicts with anything else they have planned; we will proceed with that planning; it is by invitation only; it is a good recruitment tool for our association, it doesn't cost that much to put on. It puts faces with the issues said Mary Tye and that helps make the issues more important to the agencies; the agencies truly seemed interested in our concerns; we got a lot of issues brought up at the 2010 Summit that were addressed instantly and some that were taken back to agencies and addressed later; it was a very good tool for us to use; time well spent.	Julie Schoemehl to contact CPAs about date to be sure it doesn't conflict with any other major events.
Mentorship	Julie Schoemehl and Denise Gibson have discussed a mentoring program for new parents coming out of MAPP classes; they are the ones who need us the most. They will pursue working on a mentorship program through Children's Alliance with newly trained families. Denise Gibson explained that Children's Alliance could put a survey together to send to the contractors to see what their level of interest would be if we took on that role. If a newly licensed foster family had questions but couldn't reach their workers, KFAPA could be available as someone to call for a general response to a daily challenge. There are pros and cons of this, might be some legal issues about what is disclosed. Sandra Hiller stated that KFAPA has to get approval from the IRS for any new program before it is launched. We would have to write up goals, objectives, etc. and present it to the IRS. Susan Wegele talked about how families might have some behaviors and need some support, especially around discipline, and it would be great to have someone to call that is experienced. Bill Reynolds suggested that we try a pilot project to get some general feeling about the program. Denise Gibson suggested that we could try doing some of the families through MAPP to mentor, she is not aware of any national program like that and it would be cool to see if it worked. Jeff Piepho suggested that we could approach the agencies with it as an area of providing training for families as well. Mary Tye reported that she was invited to a	Julie Schoemehl & Denise Gibson will continue to pursue

	<p>MAPP panel as an “expert”. Ideally a foster parent is a MAPP co-leader as well, and it would be nice to get back to that standard as well. Susan Wegele stated that in her area they don’t want to have panels with the experienced foster parents because they talk about experiences that are frightening to newly licensing parents and it might scare them away. Denise said that the panel provides an opportunity for families to obtain more information about foster care and adoption and it helps them make an informed decision: is that something that I want to do, to bring a child with these potential behaviors into my home. It is important to have those potential families hear about how fostering affects families. Susan Wegele expressed some concerns she had regarding the MAPP training; she would like to see it focus more on how families deal with the children they might be fostering on a long-term basis. Julie Schoemehl posed the question as to whether we should continue to pursue the mentorship program. Everyone was in agreement that it should be pursued...</p>	
Other business	<p>KDHE has had a change in leadership: Corey Edwards has taken another position and another person has taken over. They are experiencing a lot of cuts across the board and some attrition regarding changes within the organization. Will that affect KFAPA and foster families regarding licensing issues? There are a lot of legislative issues with the new administration.</p>	
Adjournment	<p>There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. by President Julie Schoemehl, after she offered her congratulations to the newly elected board members.</p>	