



Commissioner  
Jaime Masters

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## Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Family and Protective Services CARP Meeting  
Thursday, October 8, 2020 1:00 pm  
701 West 51st Street, Austin, Texas 78714  
Virtual Meeting Only

### MEETING MINUTES

#### **Committee Members Present:**

- Scott Lundy, Chair
- Karen Lund, Vice Chair
- DeJuana Jernigan
- Sandra Daniels
- Arianne Riebel
- Jorge Gonzalez
- Jennifer Maddox
- Glenn Scruggs
- Katie Olse
- Melissa Opheim
- Valerie Jackson
- Ashleigh Wilkes

#### **Committee Members Not Present:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

Chair Scott Lundy, Chair gave an introduction of the agenda and members introduced themselves.

Hector Ortiz, Director of Conservatorship, gave an overview of DFPS Conservatorship organizational chart changes.

Rebecca Flores, RCC Director, introduced the new Directors of Residential Contracts and their roles.

Liz Kromrei, CPS Director of Services, gave an overview of COVID-19 practice changes and 3 in 30 program updates.

Carol Self, CPS Permanency Program Support, discussed how all children have had face to face visits and virtual visits if positive for COVID-19.

Rebecca Flores discussed if a facility has a 10% positive COVID-19 census, virtual visits will take place until the facility is under 10%.

Liz Kromrei explained that no discussion has been had on COVID-19 Vaccines.

Liz Kromrei gave an overview of Star Health Medicaid Updates.

Carol Self explained that schools have foster care education liaisons to help with electronic devices and internet for families, and that regional CPS Education Specialists are an additional resource.

Scott Lundy discussed the GRO Budget.

David Kinsey, Chief Financial Officer, gave an update of the Legislative Appropriation Requests and the Section 32 Rate Study.

Rebecca Flores recognized staff and gave an overview of Residential Child Care Contracts department changes.

Rebecca Flores gave an overview of Cares Act Funding Arms for Texas Alliance, updates from 9/1/20 to Appendix V of the 24-Hour RCC Requirements regarding 24-Hour Continuous Awake Supervision, and how data will be collected to reflect adjustment processes for GRO's with findings.

Scott Lundy questioned duplication of findings between the different monitoring bodies.

Debra Emerson, Director of Policy and Program, gave an overview of SIL Enhanced Case Management.

Debra Emerson discussed the results of the Foster Parent Resource Study and how long vouchers last.

Christina Guerrero, CPS Residential Contracts Director, gave an overview of Heightened Monitoring and the new updates.

Hector Ortiz explained the steps of Heightened Monitoring.

Ashland Batiste, Residential Investigations Director, explained how the Department investigates Heightened Monitoring operation findings with HHSC.

Christina Guerrero explained how plans are developed for Heightened Monitoring.

Jenny Hinson, RCCL Field Operations Director, discussed the corrective actions for Heightened Monitoring and what information will be shared.

Hector Ortiz discussed the monitoring approval for placement of children at Heightened Monitoring operations and communication.

Adam King, Director of System Improvement, explained the development of data improvement and five-year plan of analyzed data used to develop Heightened Monitoring plans.

Jenny Hinson gave an overview of unannounced visits and Heightened Monitoring plans for GRO's and CPA's.

Audrey Carmical, Director of FCL Coordination, discussed Foster Care Litigation Updates about the recent hearing.

There was a question on how many operations are on Heightened Monitoring so far, and how many have closed. Research needed to be done to confirm the numbers.

Scott Lundy asked if there is any alternative after the year on Heightened Monitoring if you don't come into compliance besides the stated penalties. A concern was also raised regarding maintaining with no citations rated High or Medium-High. There is a concern that we will lose contractors.

Audrey Carmical answered that we currently have no other option as it is court ordered.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.