



# FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: WCCW via Microsoft Teams Date: 02/19/2022 Time: 1300 / 1:00 pm

Teleconference details: **Join on your computer or mobile app.** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

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## Meeting Attendees

**Department/facility co-chair:** Karin Arnold, Assoc Sup of Programs for Charlotte Headley, Supt  
**Family co-chair:** Babs Roberts

**Facility/council secretary:** Chrislee McConnaughey, Comm Partnership Prog Coord for Melissa Johnson, AA4 **Family secretary, if applicable:** Janet Moriarty, not present

**Members present:** LFC: Dawson, Laurie; Gillespie, Paul; Johnson, Dina; Mansfield, Greg; Rice, Jason; Roberts, Babs; Sherman, Susan; Bond, Paula (MCCCW).

**Non-council member attendees:** DOC: Darneille, Jeannie, Asst Secretary-Women's Div.; Arnold, Karin, Assoc Sup of Programs; Chandler, Paula, Assoc Sup of Operations; Benson, Joshua, Visit; Chastain, Hyejin, Food Svc.; Davis, Glenn, Corr. Industries; McConnaughey, Chrislee, Comm Partnership Prog.; Melhuish, Caroline, Family Svc. Unit; Roberts, Rhonda, Exec. Asst. to Ms. Darneille.

## Agenda

### OLD BUSINESS

Topic	Discussion/Key Points	Next Steps
Craft Orders	Current orders have all been issued.	The plan is for orders to begin to be retaken next week (mid to late next week)
LFC meeting format and time	Karin will talk to Ms. Headley about when we can go back to 2-hour meetings.	J Darneille – let's move forward with the needs of the council.
Puzzle Packs	<a href="http://www.printitfree.net">www.printitfree.net</a> ... free, printable puzzles	

### NEW BUSINESS

Topic	Discussion/Key Points	Next Steps
Communication and Expectations – Babs Roberts	<p><b>Discussion - LFC roles</b></p> <p>Family members discuss how they see their role (see my notes).</p> <p>There was an example of how issues we discuss with WCCW staff sometimes end up being traumatizing in the way they are resolved.</p> <p>Communications regarding verbiage are getting better, but there are still some areas where we can do more.</p> <p>Family members want to help but often can't</p>	<p>Caroline Melhuish, Family Services Unit</p> <p>Cell: (360) 772-2012</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:cmelhuish@doc1.wa.gov">cmelhuish@doc1.wa.gov</a></p>

	<p>determine the best solutions - policies aren't clear, or who is responsible is unknown.</p> <p>Jeannie Darneille wants this meeting to also informational sharing and bring issues forward.</p> <p>The group would also like to work with Ms. Darneille to stop rumors from spreading instead of facts.</p> <p>There should be ideas for solutions brought forward with issues to work towards solutions.</p> <p>Caroline Melhuish will talk with Lisa Flynn about starting back up, calling new families, giving them guidance with corrections, and telling them about the LFC.</p>	
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<p>Gender Informed Practice Assessment (GIPA) update - Jeannie Darnielle</p>	<p>GIPA report out mid-March - Sec Strange wants to take a deep dive here. Lots of very excited entities providing resources (supreme court and AMEND) evidence-based and gender/trauma-informed practices... realize women are different from men. Under this new regime, we are inviting people to question everything. Less interested in limiting the Women's Division to evidence-based practices. Lots of places for improvement - across domains.</p> <p>Evaluation done by Chicago-based Core Associates. 12 domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Leadership /Philosophy of organization - creating a women's division advisory committee that will be assisting in collaborating across the policy.</li> <li>❖ External support - will be tasked with looking at stakeholders, building new stakeholders, and creating different kinds of financial support (applying for grants, working with other agencies, etc.) - look at women's division as prison-based and across the Department. (i.e., Reentry-including Community Corrections)</li> <li>❖ Facilities –more therapeutic environments - create dynamic spaces for care to happen – encourage feedback (i.e., physical plant facelift at MCCCW &amp; expanding programming space)</li> <li>❖ Management/Operations - already begun making recommendations about the division structure - asking for support in the biennial budget to include specialty staff for Gender Responsivity, including transgender and non-binary conforming trauma-informed care and behavioral health.</li> <li>❖ Staffing/Training - many turnovers in the Department and facilities - include Gender Informed Care (GI) as part of Training. Focus on language, attitude, a social worker's model. However, focusing operational staff on these new philosophies and values for the people we serve will be difficult to get accomplished. And extend Training to include volunteers.</li> </ul>	
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<p>GIPA update continued – Jeannie Darnielle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Culture – creating a new staffing model – move to a wellness/well-being mindset from a "respond to problems" mindset. Move away from Law Enforcement/Military model to a Positive Change model. Some people will embrace this, and some will not.</li> <li>❖ Resident/Management/Discipline/Motivation/Empowerment - women's village will continue looking at discipline to create a human-centered/trauma-informed approach starting with discipline and expanding to women's risk needs assessment.</li> <li>❖ Classification/Assessments – Women's Risk Needs Assessment (WRNA) is already being worked on (i.e., resources needed to expand programming and timely access, not just based on ERDs). COVID showed DOC that ERDs are fluid.</li> <li>❖ Transition Planning – Women's Div. role as primary support extending to a seamless transition from prison to Community Corrections.</li> <li>❖ Core Programs and Services - 2 areas DOC received a lot of negative feedback - presents many opportunities for change and radically improve women's lives.</li> <li>❖ Quality Assurance &amp; Evaluation - expectation to monitor ourselves for success and challenges. There is a constant thread of information between DOC and those interested/overseeing this work.</li> </ul> <p>Deep analysis and truth in the report - real vision in the recommendations. We are focusing on Healing instead of creating new trauma.</p> <p>A GIPA implementation focus group will include currently and formerly incarcerated women.</p>	
<p>Scanner Policy</p>	<p>Tabled for future meeting</p>	
<p>Budget Overview - Linda Ineman</p>	<p>Tabled for future meeting</p>	

<p>Future of Family Council</p>	<p>WCCW &amp; MCCCW - some discussion of JD meeting with both superintendents together. We know women at WCCW fear going to MCCCW. (i.e., different rules, TVs, physical access, phones outside, limited programming, health services). We'd love to be part of how MCCCW expands its opportunities for women as they expand the population that goes there. We'd like to see the councils merge and be part of how that happens.</p> <p>They are growing the family member participation. Reinstate family outreach duties for Family Services Unit duties - they are the first opportunity to engage families both for information and engage them in LFC.</p>	
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### Roundtable open discussion

COVID Spike – the way staff stepped up and took on different roles – learned new systems, etc. know it's hard on the women in their care. Had a stoppage on transfers out - had to continue transfers in - but are now opening transfers out - transferred 22 women out to Mission this week. gives some room to continue social distancing and co-horting. "Baby unit" only unit that stayed COVID unit. We, Will, see a policy change this coming week (Tuesday?) addressing how clear the covid unit will be able to have visitation again, not extended family visits—and restarting programs. Re-opened gym and TRAC program. Stay must stay in cohorts, staged reimplementation of those policies.

Next meeting location: Microsoft Teams Date: 04/16/2022 Time: 1300 / 1:00 pm

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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