



Juvenile Court

METROPOLITAN NASHVILLE & DAVIDSON COUNTY

Volume 4, Issue 4

October 1, 2015

FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD

Special points of interest:

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4980—Reasonable &
Prudent Parenting
(AGAIN!)

Trailblazer FCRB #14 is "Off and Running"!!!

After many months of monthly meetings between DCS Davidson County, the Court and DCS from Woodland Hills Youth Development Center the FCRB that meets at the WHYDC began on May 21, 2015. They have held 5 meetings and have reviewed youth from Davidson County that are placed at Woodland Hills and just recently started incorporating youth from our county who have been placed at other YDCs such as Mountainview in East TN. The composition of this board was detailed in the April 2015 newsletter. We are so proud of the fact that this is the only FCRB that meets at a YDC in the entire State of TN!! They are doing a GREAT job!

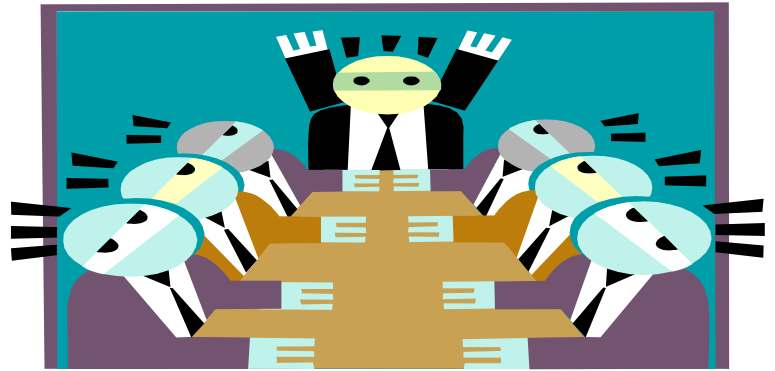


Friday, October 2, 2015

9:00 am — 4:00 pm

The first Annual Training for new FCRB members will be held at Juvenile Court!

Member Corner



The FCRB Program welcomes the following new members since June of 2015:

Anne Paine—#6

Tina Poe-Shepherd—#12

Akjia Washington—#6

Sarah Seaborg—#11

Molly Bahre—#5

Stacia Freeman—#7

Lana Sims—#10

Allisa Shear—#8

Phyllis Sells—#8

Ivette Nienstadt—#3

Members Resigning since June 2015: We wish you all the best!

Vickie Malbrue- #10

Carolyn Hart—# 10

Constance Wade—#2

LuSheena Jones-

Coofer—#11

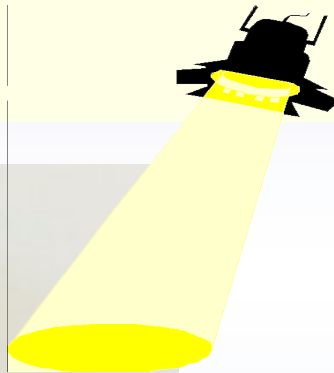
FCRB Chair meeting

The FCRB Chair meeting scheduled for 8-28-15 had to be cancelled and was reset for 9-25-15. At this meeting we discussed how the FCRB Court facilitators (and some Chairs assisting) giving a brief synopsis of the case along with the last review's recommendations prior to the parties entering the room has been very successful! Thanks to all the Court Facilitators for a job well done! Also, DCS assuring the children are present for the reviews has much improved. The Court is keeping track of this and below are the statistics for August and September:

August: There were 74 full reviews heard and 64 children were present (86%)

September: There were 88 full reviews heard and 67 children were present (76%)

And remember of those who were not present the majority were either excused of their attendance by the Court for various reasons such as medical appointments, illness, needing to NOT miss school or were on runaway status. Good job DCS!!!



A SHOUTOUT goes to Ms. Suzette Webster, FCRB member on boards #9 and # 10. Not only did she sub for my FCRB #6 on 10/2/15 but she volunteered on that board to handle supplemental forms, and she did a phenomenal job with them! - *Brad Edwards*

I know this is the second time I have mentioned this new law (first was in the April 2015 newsletter) but this is so important I thought it warranted a reminder!



The *Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act*

signed into law (federal) 9-29-14 attempts to expand the opportunities for youth in foster care to participate in developmentally appropriate activities such as field trips, sleep overs and other extracurricular activities. In order for children who are removed from their homes to participate in these activities foster parents must apply the "reasonable and prudent parent standard" and congregate facilities must designate one person to serve in this capacity. Child welfare agencies will need to train foster parents and other designees on what this means and **judges** should ask, in court, of children or the agency, what efforts are being made to facilitate a child's participation in such activities. Taking these things into consideration will provide children with normalcy and continuity in being able to participate in activities that are important to them and that enhance their well being. **Judges** should consult with the child in an age-appropriate manner about the opportunities the child has had to participate in activities when the child is present in court. From NCJFCJ Tools and Training Address New Trafficking Legislation Impacting Children & Families

FCRB Members: everywhere Judge(s) is mentioned in the above text replace with FCRB member(s) and that means it applies to you!!!



DCS has developed a new policy regarding this called *Protocol for Reasonable and Prudent Parenting (supplemental to DCS policy: 16.3 & 16.8 .)* You can read the entire policy on their web site:

<http://www.tn.gov/dcs>

Click "For Providers", click "Provider Policy Manual", click on "DCS Policies, Reports & Manuals", then click on "DCS Policies & Procedures".



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Reminder: Anyone who wishes to include an article or picture for our newsletter please feel free — just contact me.

Thanks!

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