

La Grande Community Forum

Thursday, February 1, 2018
Integrated Services Building
1607 Gekeler Lane
La Grande, OR

4:00-5:00	Current and former foster youth Current and former foster parent networking
5:00-5:30	Check-in
5:30-6:00	Opening panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nathan Rix, Executive Projects Director• Fariborz Pakseresht, DHS Director• Marilyn Jones, Child Welfare Director• Chris Black, Child Welfare District Manager
6:00-7:30	Roundtable discussions
7:30-7:35	Closing remarks
7:35-8:00	Mix & mingle

Table 1: Placement Matching & Foster Parent Support

- Where do you see kids and youth in your communities falling through the cracks?
- What challenges do you see in getting children or youth in the right placement the first time?
- What ideas do you have for expanding Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS) capacity in your area?
- Do you know of potential providers interested in providing BRS Foster Care; BRS Shelter or BRS Residential in your community?

Table 2: Child Abuse or Neglect Reporting & Response

- Have you heard about the Department's goal of centralizing the child abuse hotline? If so, how?
- Have you reported abuse or neglect before? Any experiences you want to share about the process? What needs to change? What would you keep?
 - a. How did being or not being a mandatory reporter impact your call? Think about wait time, customer service, follow up calls, etc.

Table 3: Staff Training, Recruitment and Retention

- What are some "best practices" that every caseworker should learn?
 - a. For those of you who have been through the new core training, do you see any glaring gaps?
- What skills and competencies make caseworkers resilient?
- Moving to supervisors, what ideas and topics do you have for advanced training for supervision?

Table 4: Relationship with the Community

- We want to increase engagement across the state because we know this will improve our decision making, inform policy and practice changes, and increase diverse resources available to our children. Looking around this table, and around this room, who is missing tonight? How do we reach them?
- One of the ways we know we can increase trust and relationships in the community is word-of-mouth. That means we need to increase positive experiences with our agency. Please take a few minutes to think of a success story you've experienced or heard of. (It can be a "big" or "small" story.)

Table 5: Improving communication and data-informed decision making

- How did you hear about this meeting?
- What type of information/how much do you receive about kids in your care?
- What would be helpful, valuable data and/or information?
- What's your understanding of the difference between data, information & research?
- What would be your top 3-5 data or information needs? Micro or macro.
- How would you like to access information & data?