Health & Human Services Oversight Committee

Foster Care Subcommittee Report

September 14, 2018

The Subcommittee meets monthly to work with foster parents, DCYF and numerous other stakeholders gathering information on how to best support this entire system of care for children and families.

Updates:

- Foster parent subcommittee continues to meet monthly.
- Foster Care Appreciation Day was Sunday, September 9th and a celebration was held at Canobie Lake Park.
  - Proclamation from the Governor – Read by Senator Morse.
  - Proclamation from the Senate – Read by Senator Reagan.
  - Proclamation from the House – Read by Representative M. MacKay
  - Over 2500 Foster Families, Adoptive Families and Foster Children attended.
  - There was a pizza party for the families for dinner.
  - All participants spent the day at the Park for a much-reduced fee.
  - Canobie Lake Park owners have hosted this event for 6 years. This year was the largest so far and had proclamations from all levels of NH Government.
- The Issue with the fire inspection form has all but been resolved. In a report from DCYF, during a briefing I attended by the Children's Bureau, Boston Office, on the Child and Family Services Review (CSFR) this was an item that was brought up as being, "in need of improvement." I was able to inform the group about the meetings that transpired between the Fire Marshall's Office and DCYF and the Foster Care Subcommittee which has resulted in a new form that is just about complete. DCYF informed the group that it is about 96% complete.
- Plans for the NH Child Welfare System visit to NH are just about finalized. They will be here in October. Child and Family Services is assisting me with the details. This one and half day conference is the result of the

combined work of the Joint Legislative Committee to Study DCYF and the Subcommittee on Foster Care.

- The subcommittee will meet this month on the 25th in a combined meeting with the Joint Legislative Committee.
- This subcommittee will meet through December.
- The subcommittee will be asking for an extension for another year to continue the good work it has begun this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Representative Mariellen MacKay, Chair