SAFE PASSAGES
FOR IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE CHILDREN
Network Call
FAMILY REUNIFICATION
April 14th, 2021
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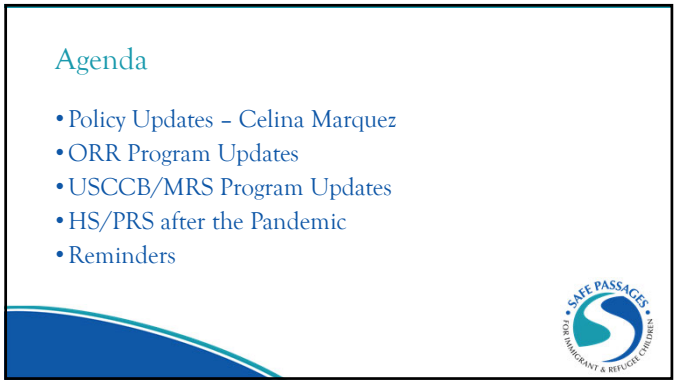
1

Roll Call
• At Promise Youth Solutions
• BCS – FL
• BCS – Maryland
• CC – Arlington, VA
• CC – Atlanta, GA
• CC – Baltimore, MD
• CC – Boston, MA
• CC – Cincinnati, Ohio
• CC – Houston, TX
• CC – Los Angeles, CA
• CC – Nashville, TN
• CC – Newark, NJ
• CC – New York, NY
• CC – San Antonio, TX
• CC – San Diego, CA
• CC – Trenton, NJ
• ICA – CA

2


Agenda
• Policy Updates – Celina Marquez
• ORR Program Updates
• USCCB/MRS Program Updates
• HS/PRS after the Pandemic
• Reminders

3

Policy

4

Policy Updates

- Influx
- Emergency intake sites

5

ORR Program Updates

6

ORR Program Updates

- 2018 Memorandum of Agreement
- UC Path Postponed
- PRS Extensions

7

ORR Program Updates

- Expedited release to CAT 1 sponsors
  - Not specifically vulnerable
  - Not subject to a TVPRA HS
  - No red flags
- Next steps…
  - Modified UC Assessment
  - Interviews with UC and sponsor
  - Modified FRA (formally FRP)
  - Proof of relationship and identity
  - Sponsor background check
  - Modified sponsor assessment

8

ORR Program Updates

- Expedited release to CAT 2 sponsors
  - Temporary waivers of background checks for adult HHMs and ACGs
  - Unless…
    - the child is especially vulnerable;
    - the child is subject to a mandatory TVPRA home study; or
    - there are red flags present in the case, including red flags relating to abuse or neglect.
  - Reevaluated within 60 days

9

USCCB/MRS Program Updates

10

USCCB/MRS Program Updates

- New CS Director – Lindsay Shah
  - lshah@usccb.org
  - NOC emails
- MOU update
- Program Operations Manual (POM)
- Steven's last day – 4/8/21

11

USCCB/MRS Program Updates

Nikeita Lawrence nlawrence@usccb.org	Simy Cuervo scuervo@usccb.org
• CC San Antonio, TX	• International Christian Adoptions
• CC Newark, NJ	• CC San Diego, CA
• CC Baltimore, MD	• CC Nashville, TN
• CC Trenton, NJ	• CC Houston, TX
• CC Cincinnati, OH	• CC Los Angeles, CA
• BCS Maryland	• BCS Florida
• CC Arlington, VA	• CC Atlanta, GA
• CC Boston, MA	• CC New York, NY

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12

HS/PRS After the Pandemic

13

HS/PRS After the Pandemic

- COVID-19 vaccinations
- Return to in-person visits
- Safety measures

14

HS/PRS After the Pandemic - Discussion

- Fears
- Experiences
- Best practices
- What is your agency doing to prepare?

15

Reminders

16

Reminders

- ePRS
  - Enhanced Post Release Services
  - Only in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Texas, Illinois, or Florida
  - Can be in conjunction with PRS
- UAC Portal password
- Telework schedules
- Onboarding giveaways coming soon
- USCCB closed – May 31st
- Next quarterly network – July 14th

17

Reminders

Joint FC/FR Convening 2021

- Last week in September
- Call for Proposals
- Youth Panel
- CEU's

18

Today's Topic Areas

- ORR/DUCO Policy and Procedures
- Child Welfare Best Practices
- Immigration and Child Welfare Systems
- Safety Working in the Field

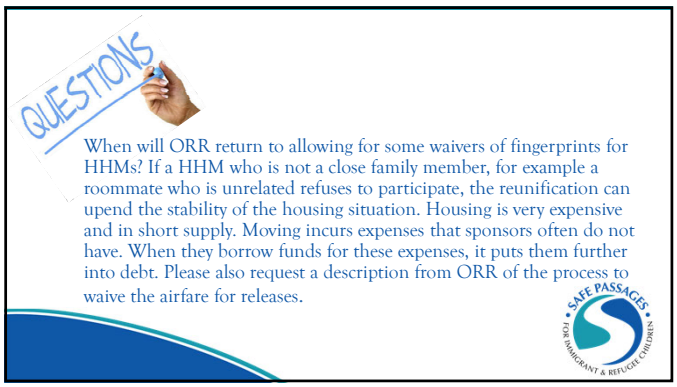
19

Are there any opportunities for our programs to expand this calendar year? (i.e., hire additional staff)

20

To start receiving cases referrals, do the case managers have to complete the 40-hour trainings? Can other trainings from different providers/organizations also be counted towards the 40 hours of trainings?

21


QUESTIONS
When will ORR return to allowing for some waivers of fingerprints for HHMs? If a HHM who is not a close family member, for example a roommate who is unrelated refuses to participate, the reunification can upend the stability of the housing situation. Housing is very expensive and in short supply. Moving incurs expenses that sponsors often do not have. When they borrow funds for these expenses, it puts them further into debt. Please also request a description from ORR of the process to waive the airfare for releases.
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22

QUESTIONS
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FOR IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE CHILDREN

23