

Biographical Sketches of FCRO Advisory Committee Members

Michelle Hynes

I was born in Yankton, SD, but grew up in Crofton, Nebraska. I was graduated Summa Cum Laude from Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, NE in 1987 with a bachelor of arts and double majors in English and journalism. I was graduated with honors from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1990. I worked from 1990-1996 for a small law firm in Gering, NE with a general practice. I was appointed to my first case as a Guardian ad Litem in October of 1990, two weeks after I passed my bar exam. I was involved with the Panhandle DOVES (domestic violence emergency services board of directors) and helped to establish a CASA program in Scotts Bluff County. I joined the Gering foster care review board in 1996. I moved to Dakota City, NE in 1996 to work at IBP as a corporate attorney specializing in employment and transferred to the South Sioux City foster care review board. In October of 1998, I changed jobs to work at the Juvenile Law Center in Sioux City, Iowa. It is a branch of the State of Iowa's public defender system. I represent children as attorneys and guardian ad litem in abuse and neglect cases, delinquency, mental and substance abuse commitments and ICPC (runaway) matters. We also represent parents in abuse and neglect cases if we had represented them earlier as children. My caseload ranges from 160-200 clients at any time.

I am the parent of Andrew who is a freshman at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, SD, where he is studying geology and Abby who is a freshman at South Sioux City High School. I am currently a member of the South Sioux City foster care review board and am on the Board of Directors for Rainbow Girls Lynn Broyhill Assembly #12 in South Sioux City, where my daughter is currently the drill leader. When I am not busy as a taxi driver for Abby and her friends and the other Rainbow Girls, I enjoy scrapbooking, watching Nascar races on TV, reading, and going to scrapbook crops and retreats with friends.

Sheree Keely

Sheree Keely graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a Masters in Social Work in 1988. She has over twenty years of experience as a clinical social worker. Sheree is the Vice President of Alegent Health Behavioral Services. She was promoted to her current position in 2008. In her role as Vice President, Sheree oversees and is responsible for all operational facets of a full continuum of services for children, adolescents, adults and seniors in the Omaha/Council Bluffs metropolitan area. As the largest provider of mental health services, Alegent Health has 220 acute/residential beds, 4 partial hospitalization programs and 6 outpatient clinics.

Under Sheree's leadership, Alegent Health Behavioral Services was recognized by SAMHSA for its implementation of an evidence based practice in 2008. Currently the American Hospital Association has invited Alegent Health Behavioral Services to participate in a webcast regarding their work in implementing the Hospital Based Inpatient Psychiatric Services (HBIPS) core measures.

Sheree is the Alegent Health representative to the Creighton University School of Medicine Graduate Medical Education Committee through the Psychiatric and Behavioral Health Affiliation Agreement for Education and Research between Alegent Health and Creighton University. She is involved with the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) steering committee, planning the education and training needs for students at the Lasting Hope Recovery Center operated by Alegent Health Behavioral Services. Sheree recently served on the steering committee for the National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) for psychiatric programs in general healthcare settings.

Sandy Kruback

My husband, Jim, and I have been married 44 years. We raised 2 daughters and now have 3 grandchildren. All teenagers! Volunteering has been a part of my life since I first accompanied high school music students 33 years ago. Since then, I've accompanied high school choruses during class and for competitions, been organist for our church, was on our local tree board, and a Postal Advisory Committee. I'm currently serving on our Library board and County Election Board, as well as the 2 local Foster Care Review boards. I'm happy to have this additional opportunity to provide care, safety and security for children in need.

Elizabeth Neeley, Ph.D.

Elizabeth Neeley, Ph.D. is the founder and director of Objective Advantage, LLC, a policy research firm that bridges the knowledge and methods of academia with local, state and national policy issues. Dr. Neeley has extensive research, facilitation, grant writing and project management experience. For the past decade, Dr. Neeley has worked with a variety of local, state and national organizations. Her substantive areas of expertise include indigent defense systems, court and bar association policy and initiatives, and racial and ethnic fairness in the courts.

Prior to establishing Objective Advantage, Dr. Neeley was a Senior Research Manager for the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center. Administering their core research area of Government Services, Dr. Neeley established an extensive track record of research based policy reforms.

Dr. Neeley is a member of the American Bar Association and the National Legal Aid and Defender Association. She serves on the Board of Directors of the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts and on the Editorial Board of *Court Review*, the official journal of the American Judges Association. Dr. Neeley is a Faculty Fellow for the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center. She is an active member of the Nebraska Supreme Court's Interpreter Advisory Committee, the Nebraska Crime Commission's Committee on Disproportionate Minority Contact and a Board Member of the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association

Craig Timm

My name is Craig Timm and I have been married for over 31 yrs. I have 2 grown children. I have been blessed to experience both an adoption and natural child birth. This I believe allows my wife and I the unique position in helping other couples walk through the struggles of having a blended family. My full time employment is Aviation Department Manager / Chief Pilot for a local Fortune 500 company. I enjoy sports, reading and music. I am active in our church as an Elder and participate on one of the worship teams as a drummer. I have been volunteering on one of many Foster Care Review Boards here in Omaha for over 6 years and have been a CASA too (non-active at this time).

In order to better understand some of the dynamics of foster care, I enrolled to be trained to perform 'home studies' for those families wanting to open their homes as foster parents or adoptive parents with a certification from S.A.F.E. (Structured Analytical Family Evaluations). My wife and I have also been trained to be foster parents. During this training, we experienced many concerns and what I would consider weaknesses in the presentation, so I became a certified trainer myself through the PS-MAPP program. It is a wonderful privilege to be selected as a member for this inaugural position on the new Foster Care Advisory Committee and I do not take this selection lightly. There will be great responsibilities that come with this position and I believe working together, we can make a significant impact on the lives of many.
