

Board, Commission or Committee
Application



General Information

Name of Board, Commission or Committee: Citizen's Advisory Committee - DFS

Applicant Name: Ali Caliendo

Home Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Employer: Foster Kinship Occupation: Executive Director

Availability

Please provide the times you are available to serve on this Board/Commission/Council.

Flexible

Relevant Affiliations

Please list below any other committees you are currently serving on. Please list, if applicable, the jurisdiction and the term of appointment. If you were appointed by an individual and not by a local jurisdiction please include that information.

- State of NV Grants Management Unit Grant Management Advisory Committee (GMAC)
- through 2024
- UNLV Industry Leader Advisory Council - 2023

Skills and Experience

Please provide a brief description of your qualifications; include any special skills, interests, experience or training which you possess that would benefit the work of this Board, Commission or Council:

- President of Foster Change (and Founding Member)
- Founder and Director of Foster Kinship
- CASA volunteer
- Former Foster (DFS) / current adoptive parent
- PhD public affairs
- Research focus - Children in nonparental care + child welfare policy

Please attach a required resume/letter of interest.

I certify that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Ali Caliendo
Signature

12/10/21
Date

You may deliver this application to the Clark County Administrative Services Department, 6th Floor, Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, or mail to the following address:

Administrative Services Department - 6th Floor Attn: Agenda Coordinator

P. O. Box 551712, Las Vegas - NV 89155-1712

(This document becomes a public record once it has been received by Clark County.)

Curriculum Vitae

Laura Alison Caliendo

Education

Ph.D. in Public Affairs, May, 2019

University of Nevada Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada

Cumulative GPA: 4.0

Dissertation Topic: State Law and Child Welfare Policy Role in Nonparental Family Composition

M.A. in Organizational Systems Renewal, June 2009

Seattle University, Seattle, Washington

Cumulative GPA: 4.0

Thesis: A Biopsychosocial Perspective of Early Childhood Trauma and Implications for Systemic Healing

B.A. in Psychology, June 2004

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Cumulative GPA: 3.8

Deans List 2002-2004

Academic Experience

Spring 2020- Present Part Time Instructor, Doctorate of Public Policy Program, Greenspun School of Urban Affairs, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- Designed and delivered curriculum for PPY 712 Sources Policy Alternatives.
- Designed and delivered curriculum for PPY 734 Strategic Planning for Policy Implementation.

August 2014-April 2016

Graduate Assistant, Department of Public Affairs, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- Designed and managed an annual statewide survey of registered voters.
- Collected data for the State of the State Survey: Nevada via phone, mail, and Internet surveys.
- Conducted literature reviews and prepared data for publication.
- Performed data analysis using SPSS, STATA.
- Website design and data presentation www.sossnv.org.

August 2007-June 2009

Curriculum Design and Delivery, Seattle University

- Designed curriculum for Organizations: At Work in the World, delivered to Masters Level student cohort.
- Designed curriculum for Personal Mastery, delivered to Masters Level student cohort.

June 2004-June 2005 Research Coordinator, Center for Cognitive Medicine, University of Illinois at Chicago

- Primary coordinator of NIMH funded study on first episode schizophrenia and key personnel on NIMH funded studies of autism and electrical injury.
- Performed neuro-physiological and cognitive testing and fMRI scans on over 100 patients and healthy subjects and scored research data for analysis and eventual publication.
- Through targeted recruitment strategies, dramatically increased enrollment of healthy control subjects from 2003.

Professional Experience

January 2010-Present

Founder and Executive Director, Foster Kinship

Las Vegas, Nevada

- Researched, founded, funded and designed critical programs for kinship families in Nevada.
- Oversee all aspects of non-profit organization and management, including program management, people management, fundraising and grant writing, community engagement, and government relations.
- With a growing team and strategic partnerships, provide end-to-end services including case management, support groups, family events, helpline, emergency support, and a kinship center for over 6,000 families and nearly 14,000 children.
- Provide regular informational sessions and kinship licensing training classes for all new kinship placements with the Clark County Department of Family Services.
- Expanded program statewide and implemented a rigorous 3-year outside evaluation process in 2018 through a partnership with DCFS and the federal government.

June 2006-September 2009

Human Resources Business Partner, Microsoft

Redmond, Washington

- Managed and integrated HR business policies and programs for a team of 350 in a \$74B high tech organization.
- Designed employee curriculum for Difficult Conversations and Giving Effective Feedback.

- Through manager coaching and employee counseling, led HR team with 90% positive attrition rate for underperforming employees and very low risk terminations.
- Planning team member for largest reduction-in-force in company history.
Quickly promoted 5 times in 3 years, receiving the highest possible performance ratings.

Professional Affiliations

- Alliance for Nevada Nonprofits (ANN)
- Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)
- National Foster Parents Association (NFPA)
- National Kinship Alliance for Children (NKAC)

Invited Presentations and Lectures:

- Presenter, “Supporting Kinship Care”, NACAC 2019
- Presenter, “Kinship Navigators 2.0: Enhancing Navigator Programs to Meet the Requirements of the Families First Prevention Services Act”, CWLA 2019
- Presenter, “Now is the Time: Developing a Comprehensive Kinship System of Care”, CWLA 2018
- Presenter, “Advocate on the Front Lines: Creating or Enhancing a Kinship Navigator Program”, NFPA 2018
- Presenter, “Child Welfare and Kinship Care”, Clark County Department of Family Services New Hire Academies, 2015-Present
- Speaker, “Kinship Care Policy and Practice”, UNLV Masters Level Social Work Class, Summer 2017-2018
- Presenter, “Tennessee Kinship Learning Journey”, Clark County Department of Family Services, September 2017
- Presenter, National Foster Parent Association National Conference, Houston, TX June 2017
- Presenter, “Not Alone: Traditional and Innovative Ways to Support and Engage Kinship Families” Generations United National Conference, June 2017
- Presenter, “Taking Care of Kin,” Generations United National Conference, June 2017
- Presenter, “Strategies Supporting Kinship Families”, CWLA Conference, March 2017
- Panelist, National QPI Conference, Cleveland September 25-26, 2016
- Speaker “Building Sustainable Nonprofits”, UNLV Masters Level Social Work Class, Fall 2016
- Speaker, “The Intersection of Kinship Care and Child Welfare”, UNLV Masters Level Social Work Class, Summer 2016
- Presenter, “How Nonprofits can Fill the Gap in Child Welfare”, National Foster Parent Association National Conference, June 2016
- Panelist, “Kinship Care”- National Foster Parent Association National Conference, June 2016

- Panelist, “Quality Parenting Initiative”- National Foster Parent Association National Conference, June 2016
- Panelist, Nevada Foster and Adoptive Coalition, November 2015
- Speaker “An Introduction to Kinship Care”, UNLV Masters Level Social Work Class, Summer 2015
- Panelist, Child Welfare Academy, Department of Family Services, 2013-2017
- Panelist, “Grandparents Raising Kids: Kinship Care in Nevada”, KNPR State of Nevada, September 9, 2013

Certifications

- Certificate in Grandfamilies Leadership, University of Maine, 2018
- NHTSA Child Passenger Safety Technician, 2017-Present
- TIPPS-MAPP, 2014- 2016
- Masters in HR Certificate, Villanova University, 2010
- MBTI personality assessment facilitator, 2006-Present

Awards

- Family Advocacy Champion Award, Voice for Adoption, 2021
- Champion for Change Award, NACAC, 2019
- Community Service Award, Greenspun College of Urban Affairs, UNLV, 2019
- Excellence in Execution Award, Microsoft, 2008

Activities/Community Service

- CASA volunteer, 2019- Present
- Committee Member, Young Professionals, CWLA, 2019- 2021
- Board of Directors, National Kinship Alliance for Children 2015-2019
- Founding Board Member, Foster Change, Las Vegas, NV, January 2016-Present
- Licensed Foster Parent, Nevada, 2013-2015
- Educational Surrogate, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, 2013-2015
- Peggy’s Attic Volunteer, Clark County Department of Family Services, 2012-2014

Professional Publications

- Caliendo, A (2021). Pandemic takeaways for kinship families. *Fostering Families Today*, September/October, 2021.
- Caliendo, A (2019). Who cares for the kin caring for our kids? *Chronicle of Social Change*, November 13, 2019.
- Caliendo, A (2018). Supporting kinship caregivers. *KinCare Today*, May 2018.
- Caliendo, A (2017) Building a network for kinship families. *KinCare Today*, April/May 2017.
- Caliendo, A (2016) Child-only TANF for formal fictive kin caregivers: Policy brief, *2016 Children’s Legislative Briefing Book*. Children’s Advocacy Alliance and Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy.

- Caliendo, A (2016). Advocating for kinship caregivers. *Fostering Families Today*, September/October, 2016.
- Caliendo, A (2015). Six things new kinship caregivers need to know. *The Kinship Parenting Toolbox*. New Jersey: EMK Press.
- Caliendo, A (2014). Placement versus licensure: The dilemma for formal kinship care. *Fostering Families Today*, January/February, 2014.

Professional Service

- Committee Member, National Foster Parent Association Kinship Group, 2014-Present
- Grants Management Advisory Committee [GMAC] Member, State of Nevada Grants Management Unit [GMU], 2017-Present
- Committee Member, Oversight, State of Nevada CFSR PIP, 2019
- Committee Member, Family Engagement, State of Nevada CFSR PIP, 2019
- National Birth and Foster Parent Partnership Member, Casey Family Programs, 2017-Present
- Consultant on *Raising Your Relative's Kids: How to Find Help* (2nd Ed.) University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, 2013-2014; 2019
- Contributing author and editor for *New Directions for Kinship Care*, CWLA, 2017.
- National Kinship Summit for CWLA White Paper on Kinship Care, Albany NY, September 22-24, 2016
- National Super Advocate from Nevada, Advocate for Families First, April 2016- Present
- Committee Member, QPI Disruption workgroup, Clark County Department of Family Services, 2015-2019
- Committee Member, Nevada Child Welfare Workgroup, Children's Advocacy Alliance, 2015-2019
- Committee Member, QPI Support and Retention, Clark County Department of Family Services, 2015-2019
- Committee Member, National Kinship Alliance for Children Conference, 2015- 2016
- Kinship Consultant, Yakama Nation, 2014
- Foster and Kinship Parent Pre-service Trainer, Clark County Department of Family Services, 2014
- Co-lead, QPI Child Welfare, Clark County Department of Family Services, 2013-2014
- Performance Management Manager Trainer, Microsoft, Redmond, WA, 2007 -2009
- Organizational Change and Development Consultant, Hanford Challenge, Seattle, WA, January-June 2009