



Agenda: Texas Child Welfare Funders' Symposium
October 22, 2020
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM CT

Welcome	Tony Fundaro , President and CEO, Philanthropy Southwest
Vision of the group, Objectives for the meeting, Introduction of Commissioner Masters	Cindy Patrick , Vice President of Development Partnerships, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute
Opening Statement from Commissioner Jaime Masters, Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)	Jaime Masters , Commissioner, DFPS
Child Protective Services' (CPS) Response to the Pandemic	Deneen Dryden , Associate Commissioner, CPS
Child Welfare Legislative Update	Sophie Phillips , CEO, TexProtects
Q&A	Lesley Guthrie , Deputy Director, Faith-based and Community Engagement, DFPS
Membership	Kristy Robinson , Program Officer & Trustee, The Hogle Foundation
Next Steps	Shantel Wilkins , Deputy Managing Director, Kronkosky Charitable Foundation
Questions & Closing	Adrian Cook , Director of Research & Evaluations, The Rees-Jones Foundation

Keynote Speakers: Texas Child Welfare Funders' Symposium 2020

Jaime Masters

Commissioner | Texas Department of Family and Protective Services



Jaime Masters is the Commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). She was appointed by Governor Greg Abbott effective December 2, 2019, for a term set to expire September 1, 2021.

Previously, Jaime Masters served as the Chief of Health Services and Acting Chief of Operations for Jackson County Missouri. She also served as the Deputy Secretary of Family Services and as the Director of Economic and Employment Services for the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF).

Prior to her service with the Kansas DCF, Ms. Masters served as the Director of Procurement and Contract Compliance for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas and as a Mental Health Program Manager for the Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office. Additionally, she served as a member of the Kansas Sentencing Commission and the Kansas Board of Indigent Defense.

Masters received a Bachelor of Science in human resource management and a Master of Science in marriage and family therapy from Friends University in Wichita, Kansas.

Deneen Dryden

Associate Commissioner | Child Protection Services, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services



Deneen Dryden was appointed Associate Commissioner for CPS in May 2020. Ms. Dryden previously served as the Director of Prevention and Protective Services for the Kansas Department for Children and Families, where she oversaw the state's child and adult welfare system. Ms. Dryden has always had a passion for foster care and adoption. Serving as a foster and adoptive parent for many years, she and her family have embraced open adoptions. She and her family advocate for youth by sharing their personal experiences at speaking engagements and seminars.

Ms. Dryden received a *bachelor's degree* from Oklahoma State University and a *master's degree* in Marriage and Family Therapy from Friends University in Wichita. She is a licensed clinical marriage and family therapist. Ms. Dryden has 20 years of experience leading a residential facility and helping individuals cope with and overcoming crises, trauma, and difficult life situations.

Sophie Phillips, LMSW

Chief Executive Officer | TexProtects



Sophie is the Chief Executive Officer for TexProtects, effective Oct 1, 2018, being named the successor to founder Madeline McClure. Prior to becoming CEO, Sophie served as Chief Operating Officer 2015-2018 where she managed the daily operations of the organization, and she has been with TexProtects since 2012.

As a social worker, her passion and interest are in addressing the root causes of child abuse and neglect and creating partnerships to advance state policies and practices. She led the statewide Texas Home Visiting Consortium for many years, a collaborative of home visiting providers, funders, researchers and state agency resources to raise awareness and coordinate legislative efforts around the expansion of home visiting in Texas.

She received her B.A. in Social Work from the University of Iowa and a Master's in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis.

