

Child Welfare Partners Committee

Meeting Notes

Thursday, January 13th 2011

2- 4:00 p.m.

Hoover Building, 5 NE Side 1

Members in attendance: Doug Johnson, Wendy Rickman, Mindy Norwood, and Julie Allison

By phone: Carol Gutchewsky, Anne Gruenewald, Cheryl Goodwin, Evan Klenk, Nola Aalberts, Gary Lippe, Marc Baty, and Janice Lane

Members not in attendance: Jan Clausen, Chris Secrist, and Brian Fox

Observers in attendance: Kristie Oliver, Executive Director of Coalition for Children and Family Services in Iowa

Purpose of the Meeting:

The purpose of the meeting was to welcome Nola Aalberts as the newest member of the CWPC and to provide general updates.

Summary of Meeting:

Nola Aalberts was welcomed to the Committee and members introduced themselves. Nola shared her background and experience.

A brief budget update was provided to share that \$1.7 million dollars was removed from the Child and Family Services budget. There will be no impact for core services of children and families.

There was discussion around pulling data for FSRP Services, specific to the Safe Case Closure recommendations on practice improvement, etc. This data would be helpful to determine if the practice improvements that were recommended have made any impact regarding re-abuse, reentry, etc.

An update was provided regarding the University of Kansas initiative regarding the SACWIS system to track data more effectively. Casey will finance (\$90,000) and do the contract oversight for the State of Iowa. The contract is being finalized and the anticipated date for going live with this is January 2012. It is uncertain at this date how much mapping is required on this end.

Work Group Updates: (The following updates were provided by each of the co-chairs in attendance)

Performance Based Contracting - Jennifer Sharma will be coming to Iowa in March to meet for a conversation with providers that will focus on how to measure performance as required in the contracts and how to manage those metrics. It was determined that those Provider organizations that provide core child welfare services will be invited to send a representative to participate in this meeting. Core child welfare services would include Safety Plan/FSRP, Group Care/SAL, Child Welfare Emergency Services, Shelter, Recruitment and Retention, etc. This meeting will provide an opportunity for Providers to communicate with one another regarding performance based contracting.

Family Interaction – The regular scheduled monthly calls continue with both Family Interaction Practice Champions and the Family Team Meeting Facilitators. It has only been a couple of months since the two philosophies have combined into one monthly call, so we are still working at making sure all who need to be in attendance are being invited to the calls. It was identified that any action steps that are identified out of the CFSR PIP workgroup discussions will be assigned to this group.

Child Welfare Emergency Services (CWES) – The legislative report was submitted in December 2010. It was noted that with the release of the CWES RFP, it was nice to see that the work done by the subcommittee was incorporated into the RFP framework.

Training – The regularly scheduled Supervisory Seminars that were facilitated by DHS are currently on hold and webinars are occurring over the next few months by the NRC. A discussion guide has been developed to be used for the service areas where both public and private staff participating in the webinar locally.

Public/Private Partnership Strategic Planning Session – Iowa’s application was submitted on 1.12.11. States that are invited to participate in the planning session will be notified on 1.28.11.

Next steps:

1. The “journey of partnership” will be an ongoing agenda item for this committee. The point of contact will be the CWPC and anyone who wishes to contribute to the journey by adding comments or sharing a story, should submit their request to Mindy. The requests will then be provided to the CWPC for a decision. Amy Juhnke has agreed to continue in her role in this process.
2. Wendy and Mindy will connect with Jennifer Sharma to determine:
 - a. The number of people to attend;
 - b. The date/time of the session;
 - c. The length of the session, either one full day or two half days;
 - d. The format of the meeting; and
 - e. The agenda, etc.
 - i. Jennifer can contact Doug for content of what to put on agenda if necessary.
3. Once the logistics are determined, an email summary along with an invitation will be sent to child welfare providers of the core services.
4. Anne Gruenewald’s membership term expires June 30, 2011. The Coalition Board will need to appoint a new representative to begin a three year term effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.
5. Marc Baty’s membership term expires June 30, 2011. Wendy Rickman, Child Welfare Administrator will appoint his replacement to begin a three year term effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.

The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16th from 2-4:00 p.m.

Our Vision:

The combined experience and perspective of public and private agencies provide the best opportunity to reach our mutual goals: child safety, permanency, and well-being for Iowa’s children and families. Collaboration and shared accountability will keep the focus on child welfare outcomes.