

*Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Office for Children and Families
EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes*

To: Directors, Public Children Services Agencies
Members, OCF Executive Leadership Committee
Crystal Allen, Executive Director, PCSAO
Judith Chavis, Assistant Director, OJFSDA
Fred Williams, Assistant Director, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Rick Smith, Office for Children and Families, ODJFS
Jessie Tower, Office for Children and Families, ODJFS

From: Cara Pasqualone Lee, Office for Children and Families, ODJFS

Subject: Executive Leadership Committee Meeting Notes from October 20, 2005

Date: November 3, 2005

I. Welcome and General Comments

Rick Smith, OCF Deputy Director welcomed the committee members and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The following individuals were in attendance:

Crystal Allen	Tom Heilman	Deanna Robb
Bruce Anderson	Darlene Henson	John Saros
Kristen Burgess	Connie Humble	Rick Smith
Jeanne Carroll	Cara Pasqualone Lee	Dean Sparks
Judy Chavis	Ken Meeks	Dave Thomas
Lottie Corris	Leslie McGee	Jessie Tower
Nancy DeRoberts	Terry Miller	Mike Trivisonno
Amy Eaton	Julie Mogavero	Fred Williams
Colleen Gerwe	Denielle Ell-Ritinger	Julie Wirt
Gwen Harris		

II. Communication with County Directors

Rick clarified directions to field staff regarding communication with county directors. Rick has requested that field staff cc him on any emails sent directly to CDJFS or PCSA directors.

III. KPIP

Darlene Hensen (OCF staff) provided an update on the Kinship Permanency Incentive Program. The implantation of the program is currently on schedule. The public hearing on the rules was held on October 6, 2005 and the rules will be heard in JCARR on October 24, 2005. MIS is contracting with an outside vendor to design the web tool, which will be up and running by mid-January 2006. The tool will transition into SACWIS in phase 2 of the SACWIS implementation. Applications will begin on January 1, 2006. Staff are working on a plan to address the gap between the January 1, 2006 start of the program and the mid-January launch of the web tool.

The ELC suggested using the research consortium to improve child welfare as consultants for the KPIP evaluation.

Crystal Allen, PCSAO, reported that PCSAO has requested that the program include those who received custody prior to July 1, 2005. The department's official response is that this is not possible. PCSAO will be testifying at the JCARR hearing.

IV. TANF Demonstration Projects

Jeanne Carroll, Deputy Director of the Office for Family Stability, provided an update on the TANF demonstration projects. The RFA for the county demonstration projects will be out the first week of November. The RFA process will be open to CDJFS, PCSA, and CSEA to apply. OFS will be looking for new and innovative programs for these 18 month grants. A letter detailing the focus areas was sent out this week, child welfare is an identified focus area. County agencies can partner with local groups for the demonstration projects. An evaluation component will also be included in the demonstration projects as the state may be taking some of the county projects statewide in the next biennium budget process.

V. SACWIS Update

Nancy DeRoberts and Tom Heilman distributed the draft SACWIS rollout schedule. The schedule is still in draft and being finalized. Comments on the schedule will be taken through end of November 2005.

All organization assessments will be done by November 2005. Currently, the project team is on Day 4 (of 60) for system testing. This is scheduled to end on December 16, 2005 and User Acceptance Testing (UAT) is scheduled to begin on December 19, 2005. UAT will involve subject matter experts (state and county) testing the functionality of the SACWIS program. The project team is asking counties to give staff to UAT for 30 days. All testing will take place at the Air Center in Columbus. Some Federal dollars are available to assist in loaning staff. Please let Nancy DeRoberts know if your county would like to assist with UAT.

VI. Research Consortium to Improve Child Welfare

Dr. Denise Bronson (OSU College of Social Work) and Dr. Ron Hughes (IHS) presented the first report and findings of the Research Consortium to Improve Child Welfare. The question related to Ohio's work on PIP on reducing re-entry rates of children initially removed due to abuse or neglect. The Rapid Evidence Assessment identifies a number of things – key characteristics of cases that do re-enter, implications for the current evaluation on the family assessment outcomes within the CAPMIS model, and thoughts for additional research.

The Ohio Children's Trust Fund has agreed to provide \$100,000 for research focusing on primary and secondary prevention. More details will be given at future meetings.

VII. Huron County Update

A case record review has been completed. The preliminary report is due to the Governor's office by Friday. There was discussion whether the report could be released to anyone outside of the PCSA director for the county involved (including the Governor).

The review also included recommendations for changes to the adoption process and oversight. All PCSA directors will receive a copy of the recommendations.

VIII. CAPMIS

Leslie McGee provided an update on CAPMIS. The rules were filed October 14, 2005. The public hearing will be November 15, 2005 and the JCARR hearing will be December 5, 2005. The rules included a number of revisions based on comments given at the previous ELC meeting.

IX. MEPA

The MEPA review tools are now complete. Private agency reviews will be completed for all agencies with a current contract with a PCSA (approximately 86). Site visits will begin by December 31, 2005 and must be finished by December 31, 2006.

For the public agency reviews, the MEPA review will occur during the CPOE on-site review (unless the CPOE review is scheduled for after December 31, 2006). Hamilton County will have monthly site visits, while Franklin and Cuyahoga Counties will have visits every other month. The CARP requires 100% compliance for MEPA. MEPA reports must be completed within 120 days of the MEPA entrance conference. The CARP also requires unannounced visits at random.

X. Comprehensive Annual Review of CPOE

There are 3 critical components of CPOE Stage 6:

- Outcome indicators review (data indicators)
- Case record review
- MEPA review

In Stage 6, the outcome indicators review will focus on those indicators for which the state was out of compliance. The case record reviews will include an assessment of the in home investigation.

The Comprehensive Annual Review of CPOE will be released to all PCSA directors soon. The ELC will review first. The annual review includes a summary of CPOE Stage 5. OCF will review last year's dissemination plan as well as any requirements in *Roe v. Staples* before releasing the report to PCSA directors.

XI. Next Meeting Date, Time, Location & Agenda

**Next Meeting: November 16, 2005
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
255 East Main Street, 3rd Floor Video Conference Rm.
Columbus, Ohio.**

Meeting adjourned: 3:00 p.m.