

**Office for Children and Families
Executive Leadership Committee
Meeting Notes – April 20, 2004**

Members	Present	Members	Present
Barbara Riley	-	Jim Smith	-
Rick Smith	X	Chip Spinning	X
Michael Ring	X	Crystal Allen	Max Bucey
Terry Miller	-	Donald Wake	-
Loretta Adams	-	Dean Sparks	-
Suzanne Alexander	-	Bruce Anderson	X
Kim Newsome	-	Jim Beard	X
John Saros	X	Jim McCafferty	-
Rhonda Reagh	X	Suzanne Burke	-
Kevin Holt	X	Tom Schied	-
Michael Trivisonno	X	Julie Mogavero	X

<u>OCF Staff:</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>OCF Staff</u>	<u>Present</u>
Terrie Hare	X	Sally Pedon	-
Joan Van Hull	Gwen Harris	Dennis Blazey	X
Nancy DeRoberts	Kathy Bartlett	Fran Rembert	X
Evelyn Bissonnette	X	Jessie Tower	X
Candace Valach	X	Kristin Gilbert	X
Linda Ciciretto	X	Randi Lewis	X
Fred Crawley	X		

Welcome/announcements:

Rick announced the start of the meeting.

Title IV-B Plan:

Fran Rembert provided an update on the preparation of the Title IV-B Plan for fiscal years 2005-2009. The draft Plan will be forwarded to the ELC for comments. Fran provided a handout detailing the goals of the Plan – same as the PIP goals – and she reviewed the goals and action steps.

The Independent Living Plan will be submitted with the IV-B Plan, and the Basic State Grant and CAPTA reports will be separate. Staff are also preparing the IV-B final report for fiscal years 2000 – 2004.

Budget:

The department is currently in preparation of the SFY 06/07 budget, and preliminary information is due to OBM by July 31, 2004. OCF must have narratives submitted by April 31, 2004. Child care is flat funded with an increased emphasis on quality and early child care (quality dollars). In FY 05 there will be changes in the co-pay and eligibility structures. The cost containment initiated in SFY 02 and 03 is now taking effect as enrollment has sharply dropped. Child welfare is flat funded for the SCPAs with the SFY 04/05 levels being the same for 06/07. There is a minor refinancing option that would free up \$1.2 to \$1.3 million in GRF – direct to increase need in non federal share for training and voucher grant (ETV). This may leave a small amount of money for an increase in the SCPAs. There will be a 6% reduction in SFY 05 (GRF). Staff

made proposals to OBM and this decision will influence 05 budget (specifically SCPA). It is hopeful that child welfare will not suffer cuts in 05.

The federal government is unlikely to have a budget and will work off continuing resolutions through February 05. We will assume that it will be flat in 05, 06 and 07. The Senate passed their version of TANF and CCDF reauthorization which expanded child care by \$5 billion. Ohio generally receives about 4% of every \$1 billion appropriated so this will be a nice increase.

Dennis Blazey and others held a conversation with HHS regarding Protect OHIO and HHS was positive about an extension. OCF will be moving forward on extending current counties (by 9/1/04). The PA's must be re-negotiated with county agencies. HHS' Wade Horn will be sending OCF's expansion proposal to OMB for analysis and review.

According to HHS, the President's Flexible Funding Proposal is going nowhere. This means that "plan B" (process by which Ohio can expand ProtectOHIO beyond 14 counties) can be an alternate to statewide expansion similar to North Carolina.

The federal financing reform lost traction as they are waiting for the recommendations from the Pew Commission.

ICPC:

Heidi Stone provided handouts and an overview on the ICPC program.

- Ohio kids are primarily placed in residential treatment centers in Indiana and Pennsylvania. The high end treatment kids are leaving the state due to a lack of Ohio resources. There is an estimated 300 placed out of state right now.
- It is very difficult to keep statistics on these kids. FACSIS can glean some data while the ICPC database cannot easily produce the data.
- ICPC delays placement, is a deterrent to permanency, and is not the least restrictive placement. Delays can be avoided by submitting referrals appropriately.
- The OCF backlog was due to a lack of HR resources. There are currently 2 staff who process the paperwork.
- The ORC/OAC requires that children placed out of state must go through ICPC. If all documents are not included the state won't accept the child which also causes a major backlog. ICPC requires that the custody or sending agency is responsible for all costs (medical, clothing, etc).
- The turnaround time should be one week or less without a backlog.
- Training for PCSA staff is being provided on May 17 and 18. It is an all-day training for public and private agencies.
- The JFS 2424 was effective 8/18/03 and this must be included in the packets. It is more important to states than the custody.
- Make sure all forms are filled out properly

- If a child is being checked for IV-E eligibility, it means that they are not currently IV-E eligible.
- All things are sent via regular mail; only priority placements are sent overnight mail.
- The national office of ICPC suggests that once an agency receives the request for a homestudy, they are allowed 30 days. Most often this timeline is not met. If the PCSA hasn't heard from the state within 30 days, please call Heidi Stone.
- Another delay results from circumventing ICPC (usually occurs within courts). If a child is placed like this, staff must backtrack and child is not eligible for services in receiving state.
- APHSA is spearheading national changes to the ICPC program. Heidi provided a handout containing some of their issues.

The directors raised the issue of border states and border agreements. Heidi indicated that APHSA will research this, several states have created border agreements, and other states are not interested. The Juvenile Courts interstate placements cannot be coordinated with OCF's ICPC because there are different services provided and different oversight.

What can Ohio do in terms of the APHSA task force and border states/agreements? ODJFS involvement?

AdoptOHIO Kids:

AdoptOHIO Kids has been restructured for SFY 05. Rhonda Abban provided a handout detailing the new program – no private agencies will receive \$\$, \$5 million will go to PCSAs.

There will be three payments:

- >exceed baseline by end of June 2004
- >age 9 and above
- >children adopted in less than 24 months

ODJFS will review FACSIS data in late August to see where counties are performing. AdoptOHIO Kids funding is unknown for 06/07.

Child Care:

Projections are down and staff are exploring opportunities. Quality dollars are being allocated to early literacy and infant toddler initiatives.

The feds are here exploring erroneous payments and fraud. In addition to visiting central office, the feds also went to Cuyahoga and Summit Counties. Ohio is one of five states included in the national study and recommendations are due by September.

Staff are working with Senator Austria on SB 148, a comprehensive child care bill.

Title IV-A Head Start has 4,000 part time slots and Title IV-A Head Start Plus has 10,000 slots full day/full year. ODE is doing the programming side and ODJFS is doing the administration/eligibility side. The RFP was released and the proposals are due in April. OSU

was contracted to review the proposals. The public hearing and JCARR meetings for the rules have been held and the contracts are scheduled to be awarded by April 30, 2004.

Risk Assessment:

Michael Ring and Fran Rembert provided a timeline around the activities associated with the risk assessment.

Next Agenda:

PIP – quarterly update

SIS