

**Office for Children and Families**  
**Executive Leadership Committee *with Advocates***  
**Meeting Notes - January 15, 2003**

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>
China Widener	X	Julie Mogavero	X
Barbara Riley	X	Jim Smith	-
Rick Smith	X	Chip Spinning	-
Michael Ring	X	Crystal Allen	X
Buzz Long	X	Terry Miller	X
Loretta Adams	X	Dean Sparks	X
Suzanne Alexander	-	Charles Ashmore	-
Kim Newsome	-	Jim Beard	X
John Saros	X	Jim McCafferty	X
Rhonda Reagh	X	Suzanne Burke	X
Kevin Holt	-	Tom Schied	X

<u>Advocates</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Advocates</u>	<u>Present</u>
Penny Wyman	X	Peg Burns	X
Dot Erickson	X	Jessie Cannon	-
Jackie Ashby	-	Chris Stoneburner	-
Lucy Cormier	-	Erika Taylor	X
Cheri Walter	Betsy Johnson	Don Medd	-
Peg Arnold	X	Jann Heffner	X
Tom Swindel	-	Tom McIndoe	X
Alicia Leatherman	-	Barbara Haxton	X
Eileen Cooper Reed	X	Jackie Wilson	-
Ryan Gies	X		

Child Care Funding:

To address child care projected deficits, the Office is recommending that the following cost containment measures be considered:

- Reduce Eligibility to 150% of the federal poverty level for Intake/Out-take (grandfather current recipients to 185%).
- Increase the co-payment to 10% for all families (requires legislative change). Increasing the co-payment, rather than re-working the current co-payment table to family fee versus per child fee (as previously proposed) with an implementation date of April 2003 (as soon as legislative changes become effective), will not only eliminate a significant administrative burden for county departments of job and family services, but it will also mandate a complete desk review of all current child care cases.

- Maintain current market rates (reimbursement ceilings) until January 2005.

#### PA 01-02:

HHS announced that it has deferred enforcement of that aspect of 01-02 which would have foreclosed the Department from claiming administrative costs for Title IV-E eligible children placed with unlicensed relative care givers. This action did not withdraw 01-02, and HHS has formally stated that they will promulgate rules which will codify the policies in 01-02. Because such rules would have an adverse impact on Title IV-E reimbursements to county agencies and the Department, Governor Taft and Ohio's Congressional delegation are supporting efforts to obtain a legislative remedy to 01-02. ODJFS/OCF drafted language to reverse 01-02 and a legislative vehicle is being sought. In addition, Ohio is providing leadership to a coalition of states which share common interests with us regarding 01-02.

#### Strategic Planning:

Given the current budget situation it has been difficult to keep the strategic plan effort on all of our minds. The strategic plan is in its second year and ODJFS/OCF staff are reviewing how to re-vitalize it against the CFSR PIP and the budget. Other changes will include the development of an executive summary, brochures for stakeholders to establish their commitments to the strategic plan and the development of a communication strategy.

#### To - Do:

OCF will send the strategic plan executive summary to the ELC for comment and re-vitalization.

#### PIP:

OCF staff reviewed the CFSR draft report and executive summary and the Department must provide a response within 90 days which makes the due date April 7, 2003. HHS will provide a press release around the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January and the document is confidential until this time. The final report will be posted to the OCF website. OCF staff met with the ODJFS Office of Communications to develop the media strategy. Primary messages is that this report will assist us in achieving better outcomes for children. The kick-off of the PIP preparation will occur at the Child Welfare Manager's meeting on January 16, 2003. A subcommittee structure has been developed and anyone interested in being a part of the PIP development should contact Joan Van Hull or Gwen Harris.

#### To - Do:

1. OCF will send subcommittee grouping to OCF ELC.
2. OCF will correspond with OACCA regarding their participation.
3. OJFSDA/PCSAO/OACCA will assist the department in distributing the subcommittee lists and help gather feedback.
4. OCF will provide electronic reviews of the PIP.

#### Next Steps/Agenda:

OCF ELC recommended that the PIP and Budget be added to the agenda for the April 17, 2003,

meeting.