

**Office for Children and Families  
Executive Leadership Committee  
February 17, 2005**

**OCF, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Video Conference room, 255 E. Main St., Columbus, Ohio  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

| <u>Members</u>     | <u>Present</u> | <u>Members</u> | <u>Present</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Barbara Riley      | -              | Jim Smith      | -              |
| Rick Smith         | -              | Chip Spinning  | -              |
| Crystal Allen      | X              | Donald Wake    | -              |
| Buzz Long          | -              | Terry Miller   | -              |
| Loretta Adams      | -              | Dean Sparks    | X              |
| Suzanne Alexander  | -              | Bruce Anderson | Laurie Carlson |
| 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              |

**Invited Guest Present**

Rob Plummer (DRC) X

| <u>OCF Staff:</u>   | <u>Present</u> | <u>OCF Staff</u> | <u>Present</u> |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Terrie Hare         | -              | Sally Pedon      | -              |
| Joan Van Hull       | X              | Dennis Blazey    | X              |
| Nancy DeRoberts     | X              | Fran Rembert     | X              |
| Evelyn Bissonnette  | -              | Jessie Tower     | X              |
| Cara Pasqualone Lee | X              | Kristin Gilbert  | -              |
| Linda Ciciretto     | -              | Randi Lewis      | X              |

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Crystal Allen, Executive Director of PCSAO, opened the meeting at 10 a.m., explaining that Rick Smith, Deputy Director of OCF was out of the office for the week. Introductions were made.

**Child Welfare Clean-up:**

Cara Pasqualone Lee of OCF shared the draft bill as well as proposed changes to the draft. ODJFS staff met with Senator Neihaus, who is expected to introduce the bill soon. The PCSAO legislative committee has reviewed the bill and suggested that removing current statutory language that gives Capital Humane Society representatives the authority to remove children. The group agreed that authority to remove should be limited to law enforcement in cooperation with the PCSAs. The Capital Humane Society will continue to be mandatory reporters. ODJFS staff will be meeting with LSC in the coming weeks to finalize the language for introduction by Sen. Neihaus.

### **SACWIS & Security:**

Nancy DeRoberts and Rob Plummer updated the group on the developing security system for SACWIS. Access will be based on six levels including PCSA-defined user groups:

- Resources (web pages and reports)
- Profiles – business functions. Ex. Intake workers need these 12 pages to complete so they will always have access to those 12.
- State defined user groups – groups of one or more profiles. A worker can be in multiple user groups. These groups can be modified by the agencies.
- Agency (PCSA) defined user groups – will be designed during implementation. Are created by adding/deleting profiles from state user groups.
- Worker – will have a single log-in to the system. Multi-county third parties will have to designate county each session. Each county will control with PCPA/3<sup>rd</sup> party will have access.
- Authentication – BISS responsible for granting working IDs to system. Each person with access to the system MUST be sponsored by state or county public agency.

Concerns: There were some concerns with access including:

- Everyone with access will be able to access any case notes (to add notes) on any case. Concern that will add info cases with no involvement – although this will be tracked and linked to the person adding the info.
- Concern that can control which cases a person can update – but not which they can read (can read all).
- Will there be ethics training related to SACWIS access & use?

### **Program Improvement Plan (PIP) Renegotiation and Technical Bulletin:**

OCF has marked the one year anniversary of the implementation of the PIP. Assistant Deputy Director Joan Van Hull gave an overview of HHS' visit in February to renegotiate the plan. Themes included how CPOE & QIPS coordinate with the CFSR and PIP; inclusion of the CAPMIS work and its relationship to SACWIS; MEPA; and adjusting activities around Concurrent Planning. The revised PIP was submitted in mid-February. OCF expects to hear back from HHA in March 2005.

### **Title IV-E private audits:**

Jessie Tower, OCF Assistant Deputy Director, updated the group on the 25 private agency audits which go back to 1998 (with a few going back to 1994). The initial questioned cost amount was \$16 million. However, HHS subsequently determined that the actual overpayment was \$1.4 million. ODJFS has already refunded to HHS the \$1.4 million overpayment and must begin to look at next steps for recouping the overpayments that were refunded to HHS. ODJFS has also implemented several fiscal accountability measures to address the control weaknesses that were identified in the audits (i.e., contract requirements, single cost report requirements, agreed upon audit procedure requirements and ability to enforce penalties/fines for noncompliance with fiscal accountability rules). Our purpose today, was to share with them the outcome of the negotiations with the feds regarding the audits, and to solicit their ideas, input and feedback regarding next steps. With regards to recoupment, in response to suggestions that the state recoup the overpayments directly from the providers, it was noted that there is some question as to how to

recoup the money since in 1998 the state did not have the authority to collect directly from the providers (1998 statute required going through counties). OCF will continue to update the ELC.

**Title IV-E admin claiming and the President's budget:**

Dennis Blazey updated the ELC on the President's proposed federal budget. Child welfare was flat funded. Title IV-B part 2 received a small increase (\$13 million) which will amount to approximately \$35,000 for Ohio.

Title IV-E admin claiming: NPRM was announced on the IV-E admin claiming (previously attempted at PA 01-02). OCF's previous position was that the administration was not using proper procedure – the NPRM is actually the proper procedure so we've lost that argument. What the proposed rule means: states/counties will no longer be able to claim administrative and training funds on kids who are placed in unlicensed relative caregiver homes.

**Research Consortium and Funding:**

PCSAO, ODJFS, area universities, and HIS have been trying to design a program to utilize local academic skills to help with child welfare goals. It's likely that the consortium would utilize doctoral students. PCSAO will research foundation funding opportunities as well as the possibility of using Title IV-E admin claiming dollars (as has been done in other states).

Ideas for using the research consortium include:

1. Data analysis (ex. DART & CFSR)
2. Literature reviews
3. Original research

**Topics for next agenda:**

Adopt Ohio Incentive funds.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

March 17, 2005

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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255 E. Main St.

Columbus, Ohio 43215