

PENNSYLVANIA

# CHILD-WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Issue 37

April 13, 2015

An OCYF-County Partnership

## CELEBRATE SUCCESS

The Program Monitoring efforts for calendar year 2014 include four numbers worth considering:

- 6054 Family Engagement Meetings Completed
- 4602 FAST Assessments Completed
- 2490 CANS Assessments Completed
- 2016 ASQ Assessments Completed

While there is plenty of room to improve in these areas, the lives of the children and families touched by these efforts should not be overlooked. Efforts made to engage families and conduct excellent assessments are leading to county specific EBP referrals.

The Department, county staff, and all of our involved partners are now committed to refining business practices that will optimize improvements in our project activities and lead to better outcomes for children and their families. We have come a long way, we have a long way to go – but let's not forget to celebrate successes.



## STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

A CWDP Steering Committee meeting was held on March 31, 2015. The committee thoroughly reviewed recent feedback from ACF of our Semi-Annual Report submitted in January. It was agreed that the types of questions/comments received were indicative of the report being thorough and a content match for federal expectations. The group discussed responses and is planning on having a phone call with ACF in the near future. The group also received an update from the Implementation Workgroup, as Fran Gutterman, Casey Family Program, provided details of upcoming training events for the CANS, and a Referral Pathways convening scheduled for May. Gloria Gilligan, OCYF, discussed current fiscal monitoring efforts and how they related to the completion of our federal claiming form. The Steering Committee agreed that a combined Fiscal Workgroup/Executive Committee was needed to further this discussion.

If you have issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Steering Committee, please contact your county representative:

Kirsten Johnson	Dauphin
Lindsay and Diane Weckerley	Venango
Stacey Hirsch, Susan Kinnevy, Jonah DeChants, and Chanell Hanns	Philadelphia
Marc Cherna and Shannon Fairchild	Allegheny
Bill and Kerry Browning	Lackawanna
Mark Weindorf	Crawford

## TITLE IV-E WAIVER WEBINAR OPPORTUNITY – FROM KIRSTEN KEENE, JBA

We are writing to invite you to participate in a webinar on the topic of well-being on **April 28, 2015, at 2:00 PM eastern time.**

Through earlier outreach and a recent survey that sought input on peer learning opportunities for current title IV-E waiver jurisdictions, the definition and measurement of well-being was identified as a topic of interest for further peer discussion and learning. The upcoming webinar will be a facilitated discussion focused on questions and topics posed previously by the waiver jurisdictions, including:

- How are jurisdictions defining well-being and implementing well-being components under their waiver demonstrations? (e.g., getting buy-in from workers who must already complete numerous assessment instruments or believe that maintaining safety should be the primary focus of their time, determining what aspects of well-being should be measured, etc.)
- What tools are jurisdictions using to measure well-being? (e.g., their selection and use as both assessment and evaluation tools, sensitivity to change over time for measuring improvement, lessons learned, etc.)
- How do we incorporate well-being assessments into waiver demonstrations that focus on providing front-end services?
- How can we measure well-being after a child welfare case closes and/or if private providers are providing the interventions and administering well-being assessments?
- What well-being outcomes are we seeing or expecting to see?



**Communication – we need articles:** This newsletter is one mechanism utilized to report out on key accomplishments and communicate upcoming tasks and due dates. If anyone has information to include for future editions, please email Bill at [wshutt@pcgus.com](mailto:wshutt@pcgus.com) or one of our county newsletter representatives:

Lackawanna – Kerry Browning

Allegheny – Robin Orlando

Philadelphia – Susan Kinnevy

Dauphin – Kirsten Johnson

Venango – Amie Wood-Wessel

Crawford – Kelly Schwab

Our newsletter is a much more dynamic and useful newsletter when we get county contributions articles for May now being accepted!