

CHILD-WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Issue 41

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An OCYF-County Partnership

EVALUATION UPDATE

The EBP component of the CWDP evaluation is underway and the data collection process continues to move forward. With regard to referral and dosage data collection, all counties have reviewed the EBP Basics spreadsheet and will begin tracking data from July 1, 2015. This data will be submitted to the Evaluation Team on a semi-annual basis. As for the EBP sub-study, additional PCIT and Triple P binders have been created and distributed to county providers. The Evaluation Team continues to support the data collection process in each county by reaching out and connecting with providers on a regular basis. If you have any questions regarding the EBP data collection, please contact our EBP Evaluation Coordinator, Jenna Meister (jem275@pitt.edu).

The Facilitator Survey was distributed at the beginning of June in all demonstration counties, and officially closed on July 24, 2015. This survey was deployed to those individuals responsible for facilitating Conferences/Teaming's and is intended to explore the makeup of family engagement meetings in each county, as well as the available resources to support training for facilitators. We would like pass on our gratitude to all of those folks that participated in this survey. Thank You!

The Evaluation Team continues to conduct the SPANS as an ongoing evaluation activity in the Cohort One counties. This evaluation activity will remain ongoing throughout the year. For questions regarding the SPANS activity, please contact Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

The next evaluation activity scheduled for Cohort Two is the family engagement conference observations. The coordination for this activity is underway, with a goal of completing at least five total observations over the next couple of months. Additionally, the Evaluation Team will work with Crawford to complete the document review process. This procedure is a review of the standard protocols and processes that are in place at the county level; as they relate to assessments, engagement, and EBPs.

Lastly, the data collection deadline for the Interim Evaluation Report (due January 2016) has passed. We collected data that was received through the end of July 2015. However, keep in mind that the Interim Evaluation Report analyses will only include data received up to June 30, 2015. As the Evaluation Team works on the Interim Evaluation Report, we will need to reach out to verify information that is in the county IDIRs, but may have changed (e.g., frequency of assessments).

We thank you in advance for your assistance in this process. If anyone has questions about this, please contact the Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

The next meeting is to be determined and staff will be updated accordingly. If you have issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Steering Committee, please contact your county representative:

Rick Vukmanic	Dauphin
Diane Weckerley	Venango
Stacey Hirsch and Chanell Hanns	Philadelphia
Marc Cherna and Shannon Fairchild	Allegheny
Bill and Kerry Browning	Lackawanna
Kelly Schwab	Crawford

FISCAL WORKGROUP UPDATE

The Fiscal Workgroup met on Thursday 7/30/15 at 11am via conference call.

Changes to the Act 148 workbook and invoicing bulletin are in progress. During the Fiscal Workgroup meeting on July 30th, counties were asked to review and test the draft versions with the understanding that additional changes are still to come; counties were requested to provide feedback to Gloria Gilligan. Major changes that have been made or are currently in progress include: allowing counties to apply either the FFP or FMAP rate (for certain types of service) to costs; reorganizing the summary to show administration and maintenance costs across types of service and quarters, alerting counties as to whether they are under, reaching, or exceeding their administrative and/or maintenance caps; adjusting certain types of service and how they appear in the invoice; and showing Admin IV-E (RMTS) data in the summary. The bulletin is being updated to reflect these changes as they are made and tested.

If counties do not have the program monitoring template, please let a representative from PCG know and the template will be sent to the county.

IMPLEMENTATION WORKGOUUP UPDATE

The implementation workgroup met on Thursday 8/6/15 via conference call. It was decided during the meeting this group would meet one time a quarter for an hour. The timeframe can be adjusted according to the needs of the group. The following items were discussed during the call.

- Fran Gutterman with Casey provided an update to the logic model
- Marybeth from Pitt facilitated a discussion around
 - CANS/FAST timeframes
 - Distribution of the assessments
 - Use of SPANS the data collection tool used which measures the fidelity of the relationship between the assessment, service plan, service implementation, and the outcomes that a family or child experiences
 - Reasons strength and needs scoring not matching up with the family plan
- PCGs Katie Bright provided information on the program monitoring report for April-June for quarterly updates

Lackawanna – Kerry Browning
Allegheny – Robin Orlando
Philadelphia – Stacey Hirsch
Dauphin – Rick Vukmanic
Venango – Amie Wood-Wessel
Crawford – Kelly Schwab

Our newsletter is a much more dynamic and useful newsletter when we get county contributions. – Articles for August now being accepted!

Please send PCG representative Crystal Wiley any county updates or changes in position/title and contact information for the various workgroups via email cwiley@pcgus.com.