

Items in this Issue

- Evaluation Update
- Fiscal Updates
- Reminders

Call for 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 e-mail Sandy Shedlock at sshedlock@pcgus.com or one of our county newsletter representatives:

- **Allegheny:**
Robin Orlando
- **Crawford:**
Kelly Schwab
- **Dauphin:**
Rick Vukmanic
- **Lackawanna:**
Kerry Browning
- **Philadelphia:**
Kim Ali
- **Venango:**
Amie Wood-Wessel

Please send PCG representative Erin Palmer any county updates or changes in position/title and contact information for the various workgroups via e-mail: epalmer@pcgus.com

Evaluation Update from the CWRC

Data collection for the EBP sub-study and Family Engagement sub-study continues. A big thanks goes out to those counties that submitted the semi-annual EBP Basics spreadsheet last month. Thank you! If you have any questions about the EBP or FES data collection process, please contact our EBP Evaluation Coordinator, Jenna Meister (jem275@pitt.edu).

The Facilitator Survey was distributed in all counties on August 2nd. This survey was sent out to family engagement conference facilitators in order to document training activities and fidelity to practice. The survey will remain open for six weeks, with regular reminders sent out to those that have not completed the survey. For more information or questions, please contact Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

The SPANS and family engagement conference observations will continue as ongoing evaluation activities. As we move into August, the Evaluation Team will be reaching out to schedule more of these activities. Questions regarding the evaluation activities can be directed to Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

Last month the Evaluation Team kicked off a discussion series called Flash Talks. This series was inspired by the CWDP PA Convening “office hours” when we came together to talk about what we were seeing in the interim analyses and how it fit with what people were seeing in practice. The first topic of the series was the CANS assessments, which allowed folks to view their data within a specific timeframe and discuss their county’s experience with implementation. Participants included staff from the counties, PCG, OCYF and the Evaluation Team. The next Flash Talk will be focused on the SPANS and will take place in early Fall. Stay tuned for more information in the near future!

Fiscal Update

A call was held on Friday, August 19th to discuss counties’ fiscal monitoring. Participants from all six demonstration project counties, OCYF, PCG, the University of Pittsburgh’s CWRC, Casey, and Chapin Hall.

Counties need to be able to track spending, including spending above the admin. and maintenance caps. Additional sections have been built into the Title IV-E CWDP Summary in the Act 148 workbook to allow counties who do not currently have a mechanism for tracking overages to do so (the “holding cell”), to transfer administrative funds between CYS/JPO, and to account for rollover. OCYF is seeking feedback from the counties on these changes.

The interconnectivity and cumulative nature of the waiver financials were stressed. Reconciliation is an ongoing process. The 20 month claiming limit still applies but the fiscal years are open through the end of the project, so rollover amounts could change if counties need to return funds from closed fiscal years. Rollover of unused funds from closed years will need to be discussed with OCYF and factors that can impact into which FYs the funds can be rolled (e.g., State Match) will need to be considered. Accordingly, delayed invoicing can greatly impact budgeting as it can impact not only the year being invoiced but the budget for years anticipating rollover.

OCYF and PCG are currently scheduling time to speak individually with county staff who have expressed an interest in one-on-one discussions. If you have a scheduling question, please reach out to Sandy Shedlock (sshedlock@pcgus.com).

Reminder: If your county has not yet responded to July’s prompt to update the CWDP contact/distribution list, please respond to epalmer@pcgus.com to ensure that the contact lists for inclusion in the various workgroups and meetings are current and accurate. At this time, we have received responses from three counties. A Steering Committee meeting is to be scheduled soon so we would like to be certain that there have been no changes to our current lists.