SEPARATE BUT NEVER ALONE

While the CWDP involves six individual counties with projects intended to meet identified county needs, the unifying components of engagement, assessment, and intervention bring us together, as well as the shared safety, permanency, and well-being goals of the project. It is also critical to keep in mind the available supports to our CWDP counties:

**OCYF Leadership:** State and regional OCYF staff are committed to your success. This includes program and fiscal support staff. You can always use the resource account: ra-ocyfcwdp@pa.gov.

**University of Pittsburgh:** Our evaluation partners are willing and able to work through any issues pertaining to project activities and their impact on the evaluation.

**New Steering Committee:** County staff should actively reach out to their assigned steering committee representative to bring issues to the table for focused solutions.

(continued next page)
After MUCH hard work, the first round of development of the outcome data for Allegheny, Philadelphia, Lackawanna and Dauphin is completed and updated through June 30, 2014.

The Evaluation Team is scheduling 90-minute phone calls with each of the counties to review the files so that each county is informed about the basis for the outcome evaluation and has an opportunity to review the data.

In January, Cohort Two conducted and completed the supervisor and case worker focus groups activity. This activity assists in informing the evaluation of staff’s understanding of the Child Welfare Demonstration Project, and their readiness to scale-up and implement the associated assessments, family engagement practices, and evidence-based practices.

Next, Cohort Two will begin preparing for family and youth focus groups as part of the evaluation.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our first CWDP Steering Committee is scheduled for February 24, 2015. 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
- Kim Ali, Susan Kinnevy, Jonah DeChants, and Chanell Hanns, Philadelphia
- Marc Cherna and Shannon Fairchild, Allegheny
- Bill and Kerry Browning, Lackawanna
- Mark Weindorf, Crawford

Semi-Annual Progress Report Update

The January Semi-Annual Progress Report highlighting accomplishments between July/2014 and December/2014 was submitted to ACF. This milestone required a great deal of work on the part of each participating county which is much appreciated!

Dauphin County to Begin Implementation of the Triple-P Program

Dauphin County Children and Youth Services is continuously making improvements in programming that we provide to our families and children. This year, we will be implementing the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P). This is a multi-tiered system of evidence-based education and support for parents and caregivers of children and adolescents. The program includes both intervention and prevention models, and is designed to empower parents with the skills needed to raise productive children, while strengthening their family dynamic.

Other Partners: Partners such as Casey Family Programs and Public Consulting Group are there to help. Each county has the opportunity to reach out for focused implementation help and support.

Peers: Look for opportunities for shared learning and peer support. The CANS/FAST Community of Practice is one example of a formal peer support activity. Informal support is a phone call away.

Together we will meet our goals and demonstrate the positive outcomes of flexible funding on our demonstration project counties. Use your supports!
Our Agency has formed a partnership with several community organizations in the Harrisburg area, with the focus of serving as many families as possible whom are residing in the 17103 and 17104 area codes. Statistics show that residents of these communities consistently come to the attention of our office for various reasons, at disproportionate rates. Our goal is to make the Triple P program both fully accessible, and widely used within the community. Services will be provided in schools, community centers, health centers, offices and the family’s home. Although DCSSY will be working hand in hand with our community partners, they are the face of this initiative, and through their daily capacities will be able to touch many lives with this program.

Provider training is scheduled for the end of April, with the intent to start using the program with families by April 27, 2015. The implementation team meets on a bi-weekly basis, and is working diligently to execute contracts, discuss media relations, as well as outcomes and statistics tracking. Providing the Triple P program will be an additional community resource for families and children of the Harrisburg area. To learn more about Triple P and all it has to offer, please visit this site: [www.triplep.net](http://www.triplep.net).

**PA CWDP IV-E Waiver Convening**

We are just a short time away from our PA CWDP convening – this will be a productive mixture of group sessions and individualized county consultation time designed to meet county identified needs. The convening work group has been hard at work developing sessions and formats that will be meaningful for multiple levels of county participants – something for everyone! Sessions include:

- Creating the Infrastructure for Implementing Evidence Based Practice
- Implementing CANS and FAST
- Fiscal Considerations Beyond the First Year of the Waiver
- Strengthening Linkages Between Child Welfare and Behavioral Health
- Evaluation
- Developing a Communication Strategy/Stakeholder Engagement

**UPCOMING PROJECT DUE DATES**

- March/2015: Crawford County IDIR – Component 3
- April 30, 2015: January – March Program Monitoring Report
- August/2015: Next Semi-Annual Progress Report

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

Update your calendar:

- February 2015: CWDP Steering Committee
- February 18-19, 2015: PA CWDP IV-E Waiver Convening
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 or one of our county newsletter representatives:

Lackawanna – Kerry Browning
Allegheny – Robin Orlando
Philadelphia – Open
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 March now being accepted!