

CHILD-WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Issue 34

January 12, 2015

An OCYF-County Partnership

NEW YEAR – A NEW START

The first week in January typically involves a rise in gym memberships, reduced tobacco sales, and increased sales of healthy food, vitamins, and workout clothes. All based on the time honored phenomena of the “New Year’s Resolution.” Many people, though, set unrealistic goals, or start with such high expectations that any little set back plunges them back where they started, or worse. So, as a project, let’s discuss a New Year’s Resolution that is realistic, attainable, and will be appreciated by many – say it with me: “I WILL SUBMIT AT LEAST ONE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE IN 2015.” Please use this monthly opportunity to highlight project accomplishments, call out special project members, and tell us some of the many exciting things happening in your programs or county!

regarding the staff’s familiarity with the Demonstration Project, as well as county’s readiness to scale-up and implement assessments, family engagement, and evidence-based practices.

PCIT TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2015: Parent-Child Interaction Therapy International Convention, Station Square Sheraton, Pittsburgh. Sponsored by PCIT International. More information at www.pcit.org.

EVALUATION UPDATE

The Evidence-Based Practice Questionnaire (EBPQ) is scheduled to be distributed to Cohort One counties in the middle of January. County caseworkers and supervisors will receive an email with a link to the online questionnaire, and the questionnaire will be open to participants for six weeks. The EBPQ will help us better understand staff’s awareness of and referrals to EBPs, as well as their collaboration with EBP providers.

As counties begin to participate in the EBPQ, the Evaluation Team has also begun scheduling dates to begin the SPANS process in each Cohort One county. This evaluation activity will continue for the duration of the project, with multiple visits from the Evaluation Team each year to complete the process. The Evaluation Team is working with each county independently to schedule these visits. Any questions about the SPANS evaluation activity can be directed to Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

Cohort Two completed the ORC survey in December, and the Evaluation Team is currently analyzing this information. Crawford County can expect to receive a brief summary report on their ORC results soon. Also, beginning in January the Evaluation Team will work with Cohort Two in coordinating and scheduling caseworker and supervisor focus groups. These focus groups will provide the evaluation with information





STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Counties agencies have now all submitted their selections for the newly formed CWDP Steering Committee. An initial CWDP Steering Committee meeting will be scheduled soon to kick off our new approach to project management (see the December edition of the newsletter for details).

IMPLEMENTATION WORKGROUP UPDATE

The CWDP Implementation Workgroup met on January 7, 2015 to discuss project issues in all participating counties. Baseline materials developed by HZA were reviewed by the group and a small group was identified to look at our CANS data as a potential ongoing measure of well-being. The group discussed the recent ACF response to our July/2014 progress report and preparations underway for the January/2015 progress report. Dauphin County will be reaching out to the group soon about the next CANS/FAST Community of Practice.

ACF Update: Family Engagement Inventory Now Live (from Bethany Miller)

Child Welfare Information Gateway has launched the [Family Engagement Inventory](#) (FEI). The FEI is an interactive web-based tool designed to familiarize professionals in child welfare, juvenile justice, behavioral health, early childhood education, and education with family engagement as defined and implemented across these fields of practice. It also aggregates knowledge in a way that assists professionals in multidisciplinary exploration of family engagement. The FEI will help practitioners, managers, and system leaders understand the commonalities and differences in family engagement across the disciplines in order to support collaboration among the multiple systems often working with the same families.

The [Family Engagement Inventory](#) is a microsite of [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#).

UPCOMING PROJECT DUE DATES

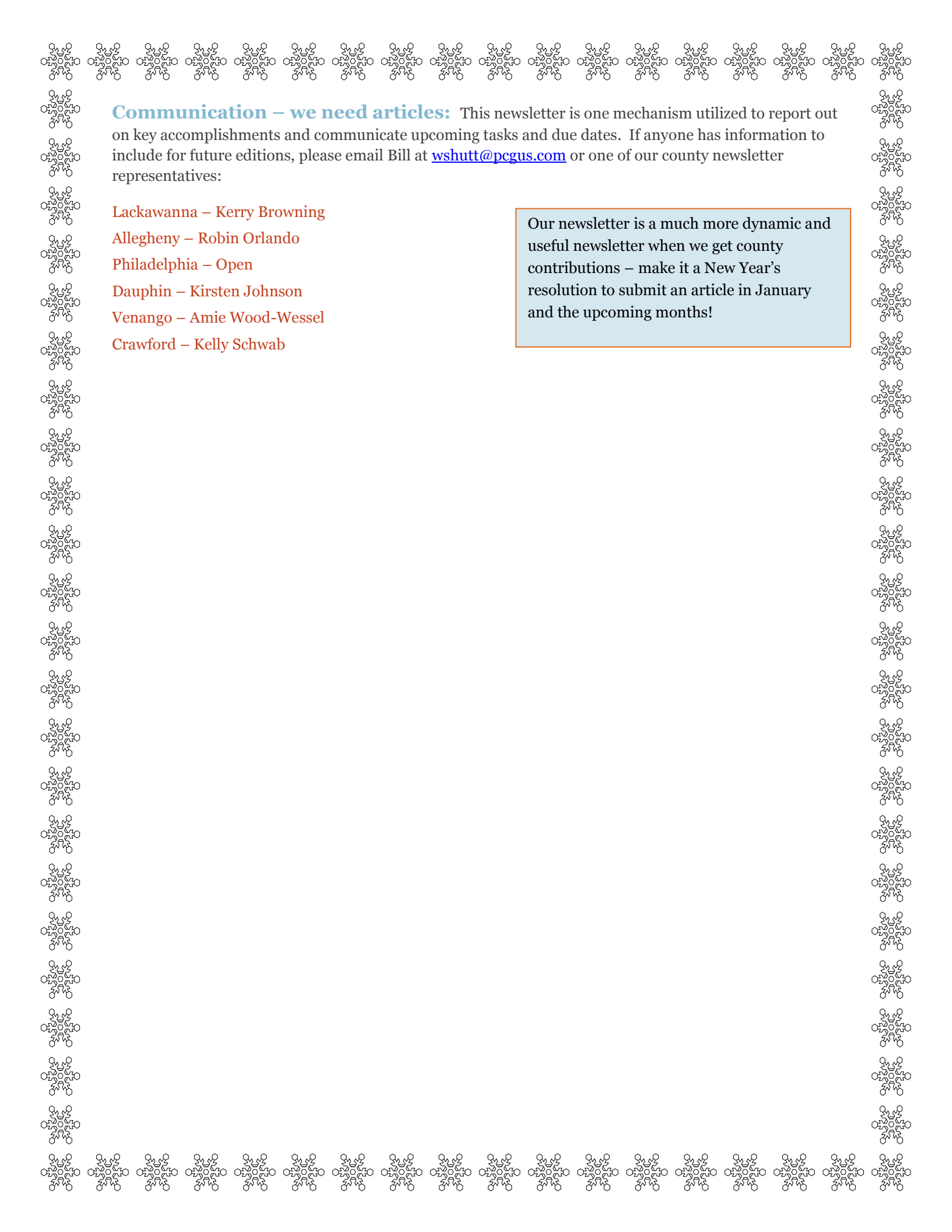
Post Implementation:

- January 31, 2014 Semi-Annual Progress Report (county templates 1/15)
- January 31, 2014 Program Monitoring Form

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Update your calendar:

- TBD CWDP Steering Committee
- February/2015 – TBD Pennsylvania Demonstration Project Casey 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 – make it a New Year’s resolution to submit an article in January and the upcoming months!