DEADLINES

Our PA Child Welfare Demonstration Project continues to stay on track, but we have several important deadlines looming: The county templates for the Semi-Annual Progress Report is due July 21st and the April – June/2014 Monitoring Form is due July 31st. Apart from those, the regular data reporting requirements from the University of Pittsburgh continue to be ongoing and project critical due dates. The work of implementation is an ongoing cycle of activities, monitoring, reporting, and refining – it is helpful to keep in mind that all of these deadlines are in support of what we do day to day to help children and families in our Commonwealth! Your work is greatly appreciated.

EVALUATION UPDATE

Family and youth focus groups are wrapping up in each of the Demonstration Project counties. Although this activity has not entirely concluded in each county, the Evaluation Team extends our gratitude to the counties for their continuous hard work and efforts to support the coordination of these groups. Thank you!!

Additionally, family engagement meeting observations are still taking place within counties. Observations will continue to take place over the next month, with the purpose of measuring the fidelity of conducting family engagement meetings in each county.

Another evaluation activity that is underway is the development of a data capturing process for counties. The Evaluation Team is collaborating with one county at a time to outline their data capture process for the CANS, FAST, ASQ and Family Engagement data. This process will provide an overview that indicates how assessment and family engagement data are captured in each county, as well as documenting that best practices for data capture and entry are in place.

Requested clarifications to the Final Evaluation Plan have been submitted to ACF and we are awaiting their final approval. The Evaluation Team has reviewed the details of the Final Evaluation Plan with counties during the Evaluation Subcommittee meeting held on Tuesday, July 1st. The Evaluation Team specifically highlighted areas of the plan that will remain the same and areas that will differ from Year 1 of the Demonstration Project. All counties are encouraged to contact the Evaluation Team with any questions regarding the evaluation plan.

Lastly, mark your calendars for October 21st and 22nd, as CWRC will host a training session on the SPANS data collection process. Robin Orlando will lead the training session during this two day event. A save the date has been sent out on behalf of the Evaluation Team with additional details and information. All questions regarding this training can be directed to the Evaluation Specialist, Alexis Pigott (alp159@pitt.edu).
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – PHONE CALL

On July 11, 2014 the Executive Committee met by phone to discuss several important items. Cathy Utz provided an update to the committee on the June 11\textsuperscript{th} meeting with ACF. While the bulk of the meeting centered around the evaluation, our ACF partners commended the work being done in the counties and the quality of the IDIR question responses recently received. ACF has not officially approved all of the IDIRs, but we expect this notification to be imminent. The University of Pittsburgh staff provided an update on the discussion with ACF regarding the evaluation and that their final revised plan has been submitted. The importance of timely and complete data submissions was highlighted as a critical piece of their evaluation work.

A brief fiscal update was also provided – mainly that we are waiting on an official revised Terms & Conditions and approval of a revised Schedule of Quarterly Payments from ACF taking into account the addition of Crawford County to the project as of July 1, 2014. The Department is waiting on answers from ACF as to the revision of our Accounting of Investments form to include Crawford County information.

DEMONSTRATION PROJECT – DUE DATE TRACKING

Post Implementation:
- July 30, 2014  Semi-Annual Progress Report (July 21 template submission date)
- July 31, 2014  Program Monitoring Form

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Update your calendar:
- August 20, 2014  Implementation Workgroup (Call: 1-3)
- August 26, 2014  Executive Committee Meeting (CWRC: 10-2)
- October 21-22, 2014  SPANS Data Collection (Robin Orlando –more information to come)

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 – Brian Clapier
- Dauphin – Kirsten Johnson
- Venango – Amie Wood-Wessel
- Crawford – To be determined

Please make a commitment to an August article related to the Demonstration Project. Contact Bill ASAP to plan out a submission. The goal is to have two county-based articles in July. Thank you!