

PENNSYLVANIA

CHILD-WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Issue 39

June 5, 2015

An OCYF-County Partnership

THE IMPORTANCE OF STAKEHOLDERS

Most projects spend a great deal of time during the planning phase identifying and engaging their stakeholders in the project – a very appropriate undertaking. As we developed our CWDP application, ACF was very concerned in our documentation of these activities at the county level. As a project progresses, it is important to purposely continue stakeholder engagement and look to add new stakeholders as part of your implementation. New EBP providers, routine county turnover, constantly changing child/family populations, IT staff/consultants, commissioner turnover – the list goes on and on. Keep in mind the following steps:

- Establish a plan to regularly assess your stakeholder list.
- Analyze the needs of your identified CWDP stakeholders.
- Develop an appropriate plan for managing and communicating with stakeholders.

These simple steps will pay off!



the Interim Report through the end of July 2015, but that the Interim Report *analyses* will only include data received up to June 30, 2015. This should give counties a chance to submit June's conference data so that it is included in the analyses. If anyone has questions about this, please contact the Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

TITLE IV-E WAIVER WEBINAR OPPORTUNITY – FROM KIRSTEN KEENE, JBA

We are writing to invite you to participate in a peer learning session on the topic of Propensity Score Methods (PSM) on **June 11, 2015, at 2:00–3:30 PM Eastern Time.**

The session will include a webinar presentation by Dr. M. H. Clark from the University of Central Florida and facilitated group discussion on the theory and methodology behind PSM, PSM options, and specific steps in conducting PSM. Information on joining the webinar is provided below. This will be the second event in a series of peer learning events around research and evaluation topics of interest to waiver jurisdictions. The first event on well-being was held in April 2015. Upcoming peer learning events will focus on Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) and Cost Analysis. Additional information regarding peer learning activities associated with these topics is forthcoming.

We look forward to an engaging conversation with you on the subject of PSM on June 11th!

URL Link to Join the PSM Webinar:

<https://jbassocevents.webex.com/jbassocevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=e8b3296b96f6b93f9aaa3e319c59c67c6>

SUPERVISING FOR SUCCESS: AN EVIDENCED-INFORMED, SKILL-BASED MODEL OF PRACTICE FOR SUPERVISORS AND MIDDLE MANAGERS – A NOTE FROM BETHANY MILLER

Supervising for Success is an interactive, skill-building three-day course that focuses on the essential practice elements of the functions of supervision. Unlike other trainings and seminars, this course is designed to enable new and experienced supervisors, and middle managers to learn and enhance their competencies implementing evidence-based skills to provide guidance appropriate for individual staff; promote engagement and commonality of approaches between levels of management to achieve organizational goals; enhance supervisor and middle manager skill in leading for development of collaborative partnerships in supervision; and create opportunities for supervisor-supervisee relationships that support coordinated and effective team functioning.

These supervisory functions - Leading, Planning, Organizing, Teaching, Supporting, and Evaluating, are explored in detail through discussion of literature, self-assessment tools, informative handouts, group exercises, and role play based on case and situational examples. Practice elements critical to supporting professional engagement, partnership, and team building in supervision are highlighted to align with research and best practices that show the quality of supervision impacts every aspect of an organization's ability to achieve desired outcomes for children and families, and that supervisors influence the retention and support of staff to maximize their performance and professional development potential.

This course is designed for public and private agency, new and experienced supervisors and middle managers. For full details on this engaging educational experience, please visit:

[Fort Worth, TX – July 13-15, 2015](#)

[New Brunswick, NJ – August 19-21, 2015](#)

[Los Angeles, CA – October 21-23, 2015](#)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

On May 14, 2015 the CWDP Executive Committee met in Mechanicsburg to focus primarily on waiver fiscal issues. Gloria Gilligan led a day long discussion on waiver fiscal monitoring and potential options available to our project for ensuring effective monitoring, accurate federal reporting, and the proper context for county flexibility under a waiver. During the course of the meeting and the follow-up afterwards, counties confirmed the hierarchy of spending that ensures traditional IV-E costs are covered, followed by CWDP project costs, and then savings spending. After much discussion about savings versus expense driven reimbursement methodologies, the counties unanimously adopted the savings driven approach. As discussed, any changes to invoicing procedures will occur through revisions to our current forms. A follow-up Fiscal Workgroup meeting is scheduled for June 10th to discuss any needed prior quarter adjustments and the technical assistance that will be offered by OCYF.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

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
Stacey Hirsch and Chanell Hanns	Philadelphia
Marc Cherna and Shannon Fairchild	Allegheny
Bill and Kerry Browning	Lackawanna
Kelly Schwab	Crawford

UPCOMING PROJECT DUE DATES

- June 30, 2015 Interim Evaluation Report – Data Due Date
- July 31, 2015 April - June Program Monitoring Report
- July 31, 2015 Next Semi-Annual Progress Report

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Update your calendar:

- June 10, 2015 Fiscal Workgroup Call
- July 16-17, 2015 CANS Training of Trainers – Pittsburgh

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 Katie Bright (kbright@pcgus.com) or one of our county newsletter representatives:

Lackawanna – Kerry Browning

Allegheny – Robin Orlando

Philadelphia – Stacey Hirsch

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 July now being accepted!