

PENNSYLVANIA

CHILD-WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Issue 38

May 11, 2015

An OCYF-County Partnership

COLLABORATION

The May 7th Community Data Roundtable meeting at the Child Welfare Resource Center presents our project with another opportunity for collaboration in terms of creating a tool to facilitate EBP referrals in a meaningful way utilizing our assessment tools as one element of a process. Fran Gutterman (Casey Family Programs) led the post-presentation discussion by asking the group if this was a county specific process or do we see a reason to work together on this project. Every CWDP county emphatically agreed that this should be a joint process. This is further evidence of the collaborative spirit of our project – each county, from the smallest to the largest contributed to this conversation, shared tools and experiences, and committed to future meetings to engage in the development of this worthwhile project. The Department, our Evaluation Team, and all of our counties are modeling the type of collaboration needed to move our project forward in the best interest of children and families throughout the Commonwealth. Stay tuned for a successful outcome!



Lastly, we are very excited to welcome two new team members: our EBP Evaluation Coordinator, Jenna Meister MSW, and Mary Carter, Ph.D. Jenna joined the Mechanicsburg-based Evaluation Team on May 1, 2015, and she is responsible for overseeing the evidence-based practice component of the evaluation. Mary joined the Pittsburgh-based team on May 5th and she is assisting with data collection, analysis and presentation. Please give Jenna and Mary a warm welcome when you meet them!

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 Cost Analysis on **Tuesday, May 26, 2015, at 2:00–3:30 PM eastern time.**

The session will include a webinar presentation by Max Crowley, Ph.D., from the Center for Child and Family Policy at Duke University and facilitated group discussion on cost analysis options (e.g., basic cost analysis, program-level cost analysis, cost effectiveness analysis, and cost-benefit analysis), data sources, selecting the most appropriate/feasible cost analysis option for your project, and the experiences of waiver jurisdictions. Information on joining the webinar is provided below. This is 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 Propensity Score Matching (PSM) and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI). 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 Cost Analysis on May 26th!

URL Link to Join the Cost Analysis Webinar:

<https://jbassocevents.webex.com/jbassocevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=e4772c299c105e44400d2d107a710b544>

Password: 1234

COMMUNITY TABLE ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATION – REFERRAL PATHWAY DISCUSSION

On May 7, 2015 representatives from our CWDP counties met at the CWRC to hear a presentation from Dan Warner, Ph.D. entitled Introduction to Community Data Roundtable. Community Data Roundtable is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing an outcomes-driven community mental health system. The presentation focus was on the potential of CANS/FAST data being used to create an Evidence-Based Service Match (EBSM) algorithm to create a potential referral pathway for demonstration project counties to make appropriate referrals for services.

Following the presentation, Fran Gutterman (Casey Family Programs) led a discussion on how the demonstration project counties would like to move forward with the referral pathway discussion (see Collaboration editorial). The group discussed current county efforts related to this issue, and agreed that a collaborative project would be a worthwhile endeavor. Plans are being made for the group to continue these efforts as part of the demonstration project.

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, Susan Kinnevy, Jonah DeChants, and Chanell Hanns	Philadelphia
Marc Cherna and Shannon Fairchild	Allegheny
Bill and Kerry Browning	Lackawanna
Mark Weindorf	Crawford

UPCOMING PROJECT DUE DATES

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

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Update your calendar:

- May 14, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting/ACF Call
- May 20-21, 2015 CANS Training of Trainers – CWRC
- 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 Bill at wshutt@pegus.com or one of our county newsletter representatives:

Lackawanna – Kerry Browning

Allegheny – Robin Orlando

Philadelphia – Susan Kinnevy

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 June now being accepted!