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## Call for 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 e-mail Katie Bright (kbright@pcgus.com) or one of our county newsletter representatives:

- **Allegheny:**  
Robin Orlando
- **Crawford:**  
Kelly Schwab
- **Dauphin:**  
Rick Vukmanic
- **Lackawanna:**  
Kerry Browning
- **Philadelphia:**  
Stacey Hirsch
- **Venango:**  
Amie Wood-Wessel

## Evaluation Update

The EBP component of the CWDP evaluation remains underway, and the data collection process continues to move forward. The first set of referral and dosage data is due in January 2015 through the completion of the EBP Basics Spreadsheet. Additionally, providers have received PCIT and Triple P binders as part of the sub-study, which will be returned to the Evaluation Team on an ongoing basis. The Evaluation Team continues to support the data collection process in each county by reaching out and connecting with providers and county liaisons on a regular basis. If you have any questions regarding the EBP data collection, please contact our EBP Evaluation Coordinator, Jenna Meister ([jem275@pitt.edu](mailto:jem275@pitt.edu)).

The Evaluation Team will continue to conduct the SPANS as an ongoing evaluation activity in the Cohort One counties. Additionally, the Evaluation Team will begin coordinating a second round of document reviews and family engagement observations in Cohort One, starting this month; look for our email or phone call to arrange these observations and reviews.

As for Cohort Two (Crawford County), the first round of family engagement conference observations and the document review have been completed. The Evaluation Team will begin coordinating and conducting SPANS in the coming weeks. For questions regarding any of the evaluation activities, please contact Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio ([jdd63@pitt.edu](mailto:jdd63@pitt.edu)).

Chapin Hall (Kristen, Britany and Laura) have been in contact with your Information Technology staff in order to obtain administrative data about child maltreatment and foster care for the period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. We are working with very tight deadlines on the Interim report which is due January 2016, and we appreciate your quick response when we ask for additional data, corrections or for clarification.

We thank you in advance for your timely attention to matters and your assistance in this process. If anyone has questions about this, please contact the Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio ([jdd63@pitt.edu](mailto:jdd63@pitt.edu)).

## Casey Families-2015 IV-E Waiver Implementation Convening

Casey Family Programs is inviting all PA counties involved in the CWDP to the conference they are hosting with the focus being on County-Administered States. The convening will be held on November 19-20, 2015 in Seattle, Washington.

Goals for the Convening are to 1) Create an environment for getting to know one another's waiver components and staff 2) Promote peer-to-peer exchanges among counties to share information 3) Identify challenges, barriers and TA supports and 4) Build on the most recent Children's Bureau conference. The purpose of the conference is to be interactive with one another through collaboration and relationship building with the topics of discussion being driven by attendees. The discussions will be focused around well-being, communication, fiscal issues, evaluation, CQI and other items related to the waiver. Attendees can look forward to a variety of plenaries and breakout sessions with topics targeted to support implementation efforts. There will be

## Philadelphia County Update

Submitted by Stacey Hirsch, Project Director

Philadelphia is excited about two requests recently approved by OCYF (September 2015) regarding FAST & CANS timeframes and implementation of the Positive Parenting Program (Triple P). DHS proposed to adjust the interval timeline for completion of the FAST & CANS for new cases at DHS and adjust the target population. In Philadelphia, once there is a court-approved goal of Adoption or Permanent Legal Custodianship, DHS and the Community Umbrella Agencies (CUAs) are no longer required to provide services to the family of origin.

In Philadelphia, the initial teaming (Family Support or Permanency Conference) occurs within 20 calendar days of the Safety Conference. The Safety Conference occurs within 72 hours of the date of placement for children with a finding of "unsafe" who are placed and within three business days of the date the DHS supervisor approves the safety assessment for children with a finding of "safe with a plan." Therefore, caseworkers are expected to complete the initial FAST and CANS within 23 calendar days or less of receiving the case referral.

The new policy, to be issued in October 2015, states: "The initial FAST/CANS must be completed within 60 days after the placement of a child or youth or within 60 days of receipt of the referral to the CUA for in-home services. The FAST is not required for children with Court goal of Adoption or PLC."

DHS originally proposed to train CUA staff in FY15 and FY16 to deliver Triple P. However, DHS determined that a more practical approach entails building capacity via a Request for Proposal (RFP) process and engaging community-based organizations to provide the service. In addition, three Community Umbrella Agencies (CUAs) were recently funded by Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to provide Triple P in FY16; Turning Points for Children (CUAs 3 & 9) and Wordsworth (CUA 10.) DHS will move forward with an RFP process over the next few months and select Triple P providers. DHS will train providers, establish a referral process and implement the program in the spring of 2016.

*If you would like to submit an update for a future newsletter, please refer to the Call for Articles section on the front page.*

information available to share and access from experts around critical waiver demonstration topics.

Each County can bring up to **5** participants suggesting the composition include: leadership staff and a lead representative for implementation, fiscal, evaluation and communication.

The names and members were to be provided to Holly Merz by 10/8/15 at [hmerz@casey.org](mailto:hmerz@casey.org) and CC Fran Gutterman at [fgutterman@casey.org](mailto:fgutterman@casey.org). If you have not provided the names and members for your county, please do so as soon as possible.

There is another Casey-hosted convening being planned for late January 27-28, 2016 for all Waiver jurisdictions.

## Steering Committee Update

Thanks to everyone who responded to the doodle poll the results have been tallied and the next Executive Steering Committee meeting will be held on **November 4<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.**

Allegheny	Marc Cherna, Shannon Fairchild
Crawford	Kelly Schwab
Dauphin	Rick Vukmanic
Lackawanna	Bill and Kerry Browning
Philadelphia	Stacey Hirsch, Chanell Hans
Venango	Diane Weckerly

## Fiscal Workgroup Update

Feedback was received on the Act 148 draft workbook from two counties and the information has been incorporated into the draft, along with other revisions made since the draft was submitted to the counties for testing. The workbook has been tested and the changes were noted in the draft of the bulletin.

## Implementation Workgroup Update

Erin Palmer with PCG will be reaching out to counties to follow up on the implementation dates and information. Please contact Erin at [epalmer@pcgus.com](mailto:epalmer@pcgus.com) for questions.

Be on the lookout for the next doodle poll to plan for a date for the implementation work group.

## Program Monitoring Quarterly Update

Reminder Program Monitoring Quarterly Reports for July-September are **due October 31, 2015.** Please contact a PCG representative with any questions, assistance or concerns regarding the quarterly reports. PCG will compile information into a quarterly update and be available to staff for any support.

### Upcoming Project Due Dates

- October 31, 2015: July-September Program Monitoring Report
- December 31, 2015: Next Semi-Annual Progress Report

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

- TBD – Doodle Polls will be sent for:
  - Implementation Workgroup
- Steering Committee Meeting
  - Wednesday November 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2p

### EBP Logic Model Development

During the month of November, Casey consultants Allison Metz and Leah Bartley will be interviewing over forty key stakeholders from child welfare, behavioral health, PCIT providers, and PPP providers from the six counties to inform the logic model development work that the implementation workgroup is involved in. This information will be instrumental in finalizing the logic models that are developed for PCIT and PPP.