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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 Evidenced Based Practice component of the CWDP evaluation is underway and the data collection process continues to move forward. With regard to referral and dosage data collection, all counties have reviewed the EBP Basics spreadsheet and started tracking EBP on July 1, 2015. This data must be submitted to the Evaluation Team on a semi-annual basis. As for the EBP sub-study, additional PCIT and Triple P binders have been created and distributed to county providers. The Evaluation Team continues to support the data collection process in each county by reaching out and connecting with providers 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).

The Evaluation Team will continue to conduct the SPANS as an ongoing evaluation activity in the Cohort One counties. This evaluation activity will remain ongoing throughout the year. For questions regarding the SPANS activity, please contact Evaluation Coordinator, Justin Donofrio (jdd63@pitt.edu).

The next evaluation activity scheduled for Cohort Two (Crawford County) is the family engagement conference observations. The coordination for this activity is underway, with a goal of completing at least five total observations over the next couple of months. Additionally, the Evaluation Team will work with Crawford to complete the document review process. This procedure is a review of the standard protocols and processes that are in place at the county level; as they relate to assessments, engagement, and EBPs.

Lastly, please keep in mind that the Interim Evaluation Report is due in January 2016. The analyses for this report will only include data received up to June 30, 2015. As the Evaluation Team writes the Interim Evaluation Report, we will ask counties to verify information about the interventions of assessment and family engagement (found in the county IDIRs). Look for an email the first week in September with the documents and instructions to review and comment by mid-September.

Chapin Hall will be updating the standardized administrative data (maltreatment and placement) through June 30, 2015. Kristen and her team will be contacting the county evaluation liaison and IT person in order to obtain the data files. Look for this email around September 25th. Similarly, Laura from Chapin Hall will be receiving fiscal data from DHS and calling the fiscal contacts in order to verify before updating the fiscal data files.

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).

Annual ACF Waiver Conference Update

Members of Pennsylvania's CWDP team attended the annual ACF waiver convening in Washington D.C. September 1-3. Representatives from OCYF, Philadelphia, Allegheny, Dauphin, PCG and the University of Pittsburgh were in attendance. Conference attendees heard from the new Secretary of the Administration for Children Youth and Families, Rafael Lopez, who was confirmed by the Senate on August 5th. Additionally, there were multiple plenary sessions including one entitled, "The many uses of the CANS assessment."

Speakers included John Lyons the creator of the CANS, as well as multiple waiver states, who like Pennsylvania, have implemented the CANS as a piece of their waiver interventions. There were multiple breakout sessions focused on Fiscal, Program and Evaluation- many opportunities for learning and further refining what we know about waiver and waiver implementation. For more information on what was covered at the convening please reach out to Katie Bright kbright@pcgus.com.

Steering Committee Update

PCG will be reaching out to the Steering Committee to discuss the next Executive Group meeting. The date/time of the next meeting is to be determined and staff will be updated accordingly. If you have issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Steering Committee, please contact your county. A doodle pool will be sent to settle on a date for a Steering Committee meeting.

Steering Committee Members

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

Fiscal Workgroup Update

No current updates at this time.

Implementation Workgroup Update

PCG sent out templates to the counties on Wednesday September 16, 2015 requesting assistance with implementation dates to track Random Moment Time Study responses for the CWDP participating counties. The point of change used in the past was 7/1/13 because this was the “official” start of the demonstration project in regards to the RMTS and when the data gathering began. This is not a true meaningful benchmark for looking at data when the pre and post implementation data is different across components/strategies and counties/units. PCG is wanting to look at the “real” point(s) of change before making analysis. PCG is recruiting the counties to fill this out with actual dates the different items were implemented. It is understood that different timelines of implementation might have been used, either with distinct points of change or a more phased-in approach. How each component/strategy was implemented in a given county/unit should yield either (a) a distinct point of change to separate pre- and post-implementation date or (b) a transitional period, bookended on each side by pre- and post-implementation data.

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

Program Monitoring Quarterly Report 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 assist in the reports and be available to staff for any support.

EBP Logic Model Development

On September 10th Fran Gutterman, Senior Director, with Casey Family Programs sent an email regarding EBP implementation. The purpose of the email was to begin work on the logic model development for the EBPs being implemented by the counties. Casey representatives Allison and Leah will conduct interviews with key stakeholders in the counties as a first step in the logic model development for PCIT and PPP. Each individual county was provided an excel spreadsheet specific to their county to be completed. Please return the excel file back to Allison, Leah and Fran when each individual is contacted on the list. It is not necessary for the counties to copy the Casey members on their initial correspondence. Please only submit the excel spreadsheets when completed and all people have been contacted. This will really help to streamline the process. The estimated deadline for completed spreadsheets is **Thursday, September 24th**. Please refer the initial email for further information, detail and instruction.

Upcoming Project Due Dates

- October 31, 2015: July-September Program Monitoring Report
- December 31, 2015: Next Semi-Annual Progress Report
- September 24, 2015: Logic Model Excel Doc's

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- TBD – Doodle Polls will be sent for:
 - Steering Committee
 - Implementation Workgroup