The work of the Diversity Task Force is centered on the following areas:

* Identify gaps related to human diversity and make recommendations;

* Develop and provide training curricula related to diversity for individuals and organizations throughout the state;

* Provide technical assistance surrounding diversity-related issues;

* Create and disseminate products for statewide delivery; and

* Contribute to publications for statewide delivery.

“We are for difference, for respecting difference, for allowing difference, until difference doesn’t make a difference.”

~ Johnetta Cole ~

University of Pittsburgh
School of Social Work

The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training Program
403 East Winding Hill Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 717-795-9048
Fax: 717-795-8013

Rev. September 2011
The Diversity Task Force will produce products that enhance the quality assurance process in the areas of marketing, curriculum, trainer support and training delivery to promote human diversity.

Diversity Task Force Structure

The Diversity Task Force is compromised of Child Welfare Professionals who are committed to issues of human diversity in Child Welfare.

The Diversity Task Force holds bi-monthly meetings. Unlike many task forces that are more advisory in nature, the Diversity Task Force actively participates in making projects come to fruition. Meetings are structured to be “working sessions” during which work on projects is undertaken. In addition to bi-monthly meetings, there are several sub-committees that members can elect to participate on. These sub-committees generally undertake their work outside of the large body meetings. Once a year the Task Force also engages in a planning retreat during which needs are assessed and new projects for the upcoming fiscal year are identified.

If you have information you would like to share or are interested in becoming a member of the Diversity Task Force, please feel free to contact The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training Program at: 717-795-9048.

History of the Diversity Task Force

The Diversity Task Force for the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training Program was initially formed in 1995 for the purpose of overseeing the development of a training on diversity issues for caseworkers. Since that time, it has remained an integral part of the Training Program and provides leadership to the Steering Committee, as well as other aspects of the Training Program toward the goal of building cultural competence in child welfare training and practice.

The Accomplishments of the Diversity Task Force include:

- Development and delivery of training for caseworkers entitled, Valuing Diversity.
- Provided consultation in the development and delivery of foundational training for supervisors entitled, Managing Diversity.
- Provided consultation in the development of specialized workshops and guides in the areas of: the Indian Child welfare Act; the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act as amended by the Inter-Ethnic Adoption Provision; Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Questioning Youth in the Child Welfare System; African-American Families: The Color of Child Welfare; and Engaging Latino Families.
- Developed and updated the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Resource Manual.
- Advocated for the translation of workshops for resource parents from English to Spanish.
- Provide online resources regarding diversity and event information.