



FINAL

DHS Children, Adults and Families
Child Welfare Advisory Committee
November 12, 2008

Members

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Dana Ainam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie Currin | <input type="checkbox"/> Cathy Kaufmann | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pam Patton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Stiegler |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janet Arenz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Darland | <input type="checkbox"/> Jean Lasater | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angela Sherbo by phone | <input type="checkbox"/> Christine Stolebarger |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Balter | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kris Skaro for Rep. Sara Gelser | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christina McMahon | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Smith | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruth Taylor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iris Bell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Hazelton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Moore | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christine Stetzer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nan Waller |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robyn Cole | | | | |

DHS Staff

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erinn Kelley-Siel | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Keeling | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbi Kraus-Dorn |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mickey Serice | <input type="checkbox"/> Madeline Olson | |

Minutes: Pam Pearson

Guests: Michelle Cole, *The Oregonian*

OVERVIEW OF AGENDA, APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Stiegler: Reviewed agenda. Announced this is her last full CWAC meeting because she has been elected State Representative. She will talk with Bruce Goldberg and Erinn Kelley-Siel about her recommendations on how to fill the CWAC chair position. If members have their own recommendations, please let her know and she will relay them to Bruce and Erinn. She will attend the December Future Issues Work Group (FIWG) meeting and her resignation will be effective immediately thereafter.
- Patton: Is there any news about the CAF assistant director position?
- Keeling: The search has not been closed, but there is no active search at this time.
- Patton: Who filled Erinn’s position in the Governor’s Office?
- Keeling: Claudia Black.
- Stiegler: Encourages CWAC to continue to do the good work it has been doing and to remember its mission to advise DHS on what is good for children.
- Arenz: Judy transitioned CWAC from a committee with a division assistant director as chair to a constituent chair. She moved us to where we are at now with great attendance and commitment at the table.
- Stiegler: We have a diverse group, each with his/her own focus, but we endeavor to understand the bigger picture. Our role is not to advocate for our

own, but to be part of a group that makes recommendations that benefit all children with whom the agency has contact.

ACTION: The 8/13/08 and 9/10/08 CWAC minutes were approved.

RECOMMENDATION ON THE CIRT – CWAC INTERFACE

- Hazelton: Potentially audit points may be developed as a result of a CIRT review. The FIWG wanted to make sure CWAC doesn't get caught up in the audit process. The purpose of CWAC receiving CIRT reports is to look at broader issues and themes, not get involved in the audit points. There are others that do the audit work. We are an advisory, not an oversight board. Our role would be to look at the broad-brushed themes and how they fit with the themes we have identified.
- Keeling: Asked for confirmation that CAF's role is to forward CIRT reports to CWAC in addition to posting them online. CWAC will find what they need in the CIRT reports.
- Stiegler: Yes.
- Hazelton: If a CWAC member sees something in a CIRT report that rises to the level he described above, that member will be responsible for forwarding the concern to the CWAC chair to get it on a future agenda. All CWAC members are responsible for looking for those themes.
- Stiegler: It is appropriate for CWAC to look for patterns and big picture issues in the CIRT reports and make recommendations on them rather than dealing with the details.

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation of the FIWG. No further discussion.

VOTE: Unanimous vote to accept the recommendation:

Recommendation on the CIRT – CWAC Interface

As explained in the final report from the CIRT Review Committee, the CIRT process is a co-occurring event with other actions that are or may be taken as a result of a critical incident, such as CPS assessment and criminal justice involvement. The committee found the primary purpose of the CIRTs to be to rapidly draw "lessons learned" for systemic improvement that will improve safety for other children. Secondly, it can be a mechanism for accountability and transparency with the public. It is not a means of investigating or imposing discipline on a specific employee.

Contained in the recommendations of the final report is a recommendation that the CIRT reports be circulated to CWAC. Erinn Kelley-Siel agreed to do this at the CWAC meeting September 10, 2008. The Future Issues Work Group (FIWG) discussed this further at their meeting October 8, 2008. There is concern that the regular distribution

of the reports, combined with the recommendation for "audit points," might lead CWAC to believe their role is an oversight function. CWAC has no oversight authority and is advisory in nature. The oversight of the "audit points" is an appropriate function of the Quality Assurance Program of the division.

FWIG recommends that CWAC review and discuss CIRT reports in a way that is focused on system improvement, including reading for issues and patterns that may require a more comprehensive assessment of practice than may be achieved in the review of an individual case.

CWAC INTERFACE WITH SENSITIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

- Stiegler: In February 2008, then-Assistant Director Bryan Johnston had a special interest in this issue. A Sensitive Review Committee (SRC) is activated in only extreme circumstances.
- Darland: One SRC came as a result of an international adoption, so it is not only death or serious injury that activates an SRC.
- Keeling: It is in statute.
- Waller: The legislature can initiate an SRC.
- Serice: An SRC is convened by Bruce Goldberg at the request of the legislature.
- Stiegler: Bryan Johnston drafted on how CWAC could interface with the SRC. FIWG modified his draft to clarify that the slots for CWAC should be filled by CWAC members dependent on the expertise for the issue. Subsequent review by CWAC is to be high level. The CWAC members that participate in the SRC are involved in the minutiae.
- Keeling: Will CWAC review the SRC's recommendations?
- Stiegler: Yes.
- Arenz: Not to assess the investigation, but to look for patterns in their findings to see if the issue is particular to the case or broader.
- Darland: Two SRC slots would be CWAC members. When an SRC is convened, two CWAC members would be there?
- Stiegler: Yes. Each SRC has different members. Up to two CWAC members would participate in the process itself and would be members of that SRC.
- Darland: Would those two CWAC members have input into the details of the SRC?
- Stiegler: Yes, but the subsequent CWAC review would not get into those details.
- Balter: The CWAC members on an SRC would look at the case from two perspectives: their individual expertise and from their experience in hearing patterns through their membership in CWAC.

- Stiegler: The CWAC review would be to look for larger statewide policy impacts. The recommendation says CWAC could. We may find there is no need for a CWAC review following a particular SRC.
- Moore: Who would be on an SRC?
- Serice: Statute only requires the Senate and House appoint. Each case points to certain expertise. We have had only two so far. The first was regarding a permanency plan. The second was regarding an adoption. Members can include psychologists, legislators, CASAs, etc.

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation of the FIWG. No further discussion.

VOTE: Unanimous vote to accept the recommendation:

**Recommendation on CWAC Interface
with Sensitive Review Committee**

1. Create up to two slots as standing members of the Sensitive Review Committee (SRC) for CWAC membership. The CWAC member(s) filling these slots shall not be permanent, but shall be selected on an ad hoc basis by the CWAC Chair in consultation with the Assistant Director for CAF, based on the circumstances of each case and the expertise of CWAC members.
2. The purpose of CWAC participation on the SRC will be to bring questions, recommendations or possible policy issues that come out of SRC findings and subsequent report to the DHS Director, to the CWAC for a high level review and perspective, commensurate with their advisory role to DHS. Specifically, CWAC could:
 - Convene a subcommittee to address a larger statewide issue
 - Identify whether the types of issues considered by the SRC are unique to the specific case reviewed or whether they raise larger statewide policy or practice issues that should be considered.
 - Make recommendations to the Legislature as appropriate.

**NEXT STEPS FOR TEEN ISSUES IN CHILD WELFARE
SUBCOMMITTEE (TICWS)**

- Balter: The subcommittee first reported on the over or under representation of teens, to answer the question if the Oregon Safety Model had a bias toward younger children. The FIWG's recommendation acknowledges the well-written report by the subcommittee. It was data driven and reported that the results were inconclusive due to data access limits. FIWG is unsure CWAC can do anymore with this first question. FIWG suggests the subcommittee and FIWG meet to set the next mandate on how to answer the second question: How well prepared are teens when they leave the child welfare system into adulthood. A six-month charge would be set to report back to CWAC. We may need to narrow the questions to make it manageable and data-based.

- Stiegler: When framing the future task of the subcommittee, consider the new federal law (Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act) and how CWAC can help leverage resources for older foster care youth across DHS divisions.
- Balter: This is a well-studied issue so it would be a matter of collecting existing data.
- Stiegler: We will have a joint meeting or invite a few subcommittee members to the next FIWG meeting to work out the details.
- Patton: The TICWS wanted DHS to continue to send CWAC data on the first question to see if there is any change over time. The subcommittee did not expect to see change in the first six months of the OSM implementation. She is concerned about setting the issue aside and not getting those reports. Concerned it will become a problem if we brush it off the table.
- Hazelton: Rather than DHS being responsible for automatically providing reports on a long term basis, he recommends the responsibility be shifted to the CWAC or subcommittee chair to request the reports.
- Patton: This is not a subcommittee issue, but a CWAC issue.
- Balter: We have asked for reports in the past and then don't pay attention to them. Ask the subcommittee if they know what they are looking for in the reports. Embed it in the subcommittee to look for movement and report to CWAC. If CWAC gets the reports, we will see it as nice information and nothing more.
- Patton: The TICWS is an ad hoc committee activated when an issue arises. Asked if the data and noticeable trends can go to CWAC.
- Serice: He will have to ask Anna Cox, CAF researcher. She has pulled this data before so it should be doable.
- Balter: When FIWG and TICWS meet, we will work out how to manage the collection and distribution of data with the next charge to the subcommittee.
- Stiegler: Pam's point is well taken about out-of-sight, out-of-mind. However, the subcommittee's report said there is nothing more to say about the first question at this time. How do we avoid getting a report and then not doing anything with it?
- Keeling: It is important that Anna Cox know exactly what the question is so she can get the right data for the question.
- Patton: She has no problem coming up with the questions. Again, the data needs to go to CWAC and not the TICWS. It can go to the subcommittee in advance if the subcommittee is active.

- Stiegler: We are talking about how it is filtered; does it come directly to CWAC or through the filters of more specialized groups such as the TICWS.
- Serice: Every six months Anna could generate the same set of data as previous reports for the subcommittee to look for trends. It might be better for the subcommittee to report to CWAC than for CWAC to get the data.
- Patton: If the subcommittee is not meeting when the report comes out, then it needs to go to CWAC because it is a CWAC issue not a subcommittee issue.

MOTION: Benjamin Hazelton motioned and it was seconded that CWAC amend the second of FIWG’s recommendation to include that the FIWG and TICWS will meet to review both the access and preparedness issues in terms of logistics.

VOTE: Unanimous vote to accept the amended recommendation (amended language underlined):

**Recommendation on the
Teen Issues in Child Welfare Subcommittee**

The FIWG thanks the Teen Issues in Child Welfare Subcommittee (TICWS) for its work and report. The FIWG agrees with the TICWS that the available data was inconclusive on the question of change in access for teens due to the implementation of the Oregon Safety Model.

FIWG recommends that the question of access should be set aside at this time.

The data did raise interest in the second question of “how well teens are prepared when they exit the Child Welfare system.”

FIWG recommends that it work with the TICWS in the next 60 days to review both the access and preparedness issues in terms of logistics and to frame the next subcommittee charge to answer the second question of teen preparedness upon exit from the Child Welfare system.

ACTION: During the 12/10/08 FIWG meeting, the TICWS chair and possibly other subcommittee members will meet with FIWG on 12/10/08 to develop the TICWS future charge based on the above recommendation.

DHS TRANSFORMATION – Misty Dvorak, Lois Day

- Day: On rotation to DHS Transformation from her position as Lane County Child Welfare program manager.

- Dvorak: Lois is the project manager for all child welfare rapid process improvement projects (RPIs). Misty is returning to CAF, but will continue working on DHS Transformation with the LEAN leaders.
- Day: Currently three RPIs in child welfare. 1) She should have results of the Central Office Adoptions RPI by the next CWAC meeting. 2) Child Welfare payment process. A triad of small, medium and large branches will be implementing the results of the RPI. 3) In December an RPI on how SSAs are used in the Portland area will begin. Several other possible RPIs are in the sizing and mapping stages. They will be prioritized for the next series of RPIs. Lois is preparing a high level road map of all transformation projects for the next 18-24 months. She can share the schedule by email.
- Cole: Is it possible staff will be redistributed as a result of these RPIs?
- Day: The goal is to create efficiencies to allow staff time to do necessary work. If for example, efficiencies in payments resulted in fewer staff needed to do payments, they would be assigned other support work to offload caseworkers.
- Keeling: The adoptions RPI allowed staff to be creative in finding solutions such as using volunteers to clean up the backlog of files.
- Day: Another example: Legal assistant specialists were technologically behind and now have laptops, a common drive and a template. They can enter their information directly where it needs to be instead of hand-writing in a paper notebook. RPI events provide time to slow down and think about innovative ideas and common sense.
- Stiegler: Some time ago, Michelle Wallace offered a transformation training for CWAC. It would be about two hours. Are members interested?
- Day: If held in January or later, it can include the high level road map.
- Balter: What is CWAC's relationship to transformation? Is it to communicate this information to others? There is a concern out there that DHS Transformation is high level corporate only and no action. It could benefit DHS if CWAC were able to share concrete examples of the results.
- Patton: Who decides which actions from an RPI get to happen?
- Day: The RPI events are the vehicle to bring common players together. It includes tracking the improvements to ensure they are done. The LEAN process provides the RPI and management afterward. Within an individual RPI, there is a sponsor to go to if things are not getting done. In the adoption RPI, the magic to reducing the backlog was not only cleaning up the backlog, but putting a process in place so it does not happen again. Files will now be purge-as-you-go.

- Waller: Is interested in a more detailed presentation. Wants to know that the purging of files and help for the legal assistance specialists will meet the goal of reducing the time to adoption.
- Balter: He does not want training on the RPI process but to know if the process is working and to understand why it is or is not.
- Stiegler: Can continue to have reports at CWAC meetings.
- Taylor: Is interested in knowing how the RPI on the use of SSAs in Portland will look like.
- Day: Can update CWAC on specific RPIs as often as you want.
- Balter: Gave a warning that if you give us the invitation to provide input, you will get a lot of input. There is a difference between asking for input and reporting results. If you ask for input, you need to include a process for CWAC to give that input.
- Day: We have governance bodies that set priorities and an executive committee to address what the governance bodies cannot resolve. It would not be a good use of CWAC meeting time to discuss the specifics the governing bodies deal with. Can report to CWAC and then members are welcome to contact her individually.
- Patton: One CWAC role is to advocate. We can take messages to the legislature, such as a need for more staffing after the agency has done all it can to be more efficient.
- Balter: A question we might ask the DHS director is whether CWAC should be represented on a governing body to report back to CWAC.
- Stiegler: We don't want to create additional work for DHS. FIWG can look at what CWAC's involvement should be for the benefit of child welfare – if there is an advantage to having CWAC involved in the process.
- Balter: A question that might come up is how important transformation is to DHS with Fariborz Pakseresht moving from DHS to OYA and Misty going back to CAF.
- Day: We are moving forward with a project management office. Each division has a project manager. The LEAN leaders are on board. We have a road map for each division. Fariborz did what he needed to do. Misty has not left transformation. She is returning to CAF to work on transformation.
- Kelley-Siel: One message to share with others is that transformation is not about a single individual. Bruce Goldberg is the true leader. The work is moving to division-specific.
- Balter: An email from Bruce laying out the next phases, drilling down to the divisions, would be helpful.

- Kelley-Siel: She will relay that request to Bruce.

ACTION:

- **Erinn Kelley-Siel will relay to Bruce Goldberg the request for an email from him laying out the next phases, drilling down to the divisions.**
- **Transformation updates will continue to be included on CWAC agenda and will include a report about how the process is working and to understand why it is or is not.**
- **FIWG will look at what CWAC's involvement should be for the benefit of child welfare – if there is an advantage to having CWAC involved in the process.**

**HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES AND WOMEN'S WELLNESS COMMITTEE
– Kris Skaro, legislative aide to Rep. Gelser**

- Skaro: Rep. Gelser and Rep. Tomei were unable to attend today. Many of the bills the committee will see will be recommendations from other groups. A legislative concept from a Sensitive Review Committee proposes changing the time to qualify for current caretaker status from six to 12 months. The committee will want a status report of the Casey Foundation grant. The committee hopes to improve the quality of legal representation of parents in foster care and adoption proceedings. This concept has a price tag. It will likely go to the House Judiciary Committee.
- Waller: A legislative committee looking at adoptions, chaired by Ingrid Swenson, is interested in a Washington study to increase compensation to attorneys who represent parents.
- Skaro: There is a DHS policy option package to place a domestic violence specialist in every child welfare office. The HSWW committee supports the idea, but it has a fiscal impact. Rep. Chip Shields is interested in the connection between juvenile corrections and child welfare. There will be hearings on that and on training foster caregivers. No legislative bill proposed. There will be some tweaks to Karly's Law to clarify the sharing of information. There will be a request to provide itinerant doctors to do child abuse exams in rural areas. There will be a tax credit proposed for doctors who do the exams in rural areas. And a final issue will be health care for all children.
- Patton: Is increasing mental health care for children in foster care on Rep. Gelser's list?

- Skaro: It is not on the list she has with her today, but is aware that Rep. Gelser is working on something.
- Waller: With the passage of Measure 57, there is an anticipated increase in the number of women going to prison and a likely consequence of more children coming into foster care.
- Sherbo: A 10/20/08 draft of the legislative concept on current caregiver status changes the definition of current caregiver such that to be an intervener, one must be a caregiver. It addresses non-relative foster parents as interveners. It is LC 1381.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Erinn Kelley-Siel

Foster Care Rate Redesign – Jason Walling

- Kelley-Siel: Jason Walling is the project coordinator. Communities are having conversations on foster rate redesign. The goal is more fairness, consistency and transparency.
- Walling: We are seeking to fairly apply standards across the state. Subcommittees are looking at two models: medical and supervision. The subcommittees include foster parents. A foster parent project advisory group includes over 100 foster parents from all 16 districts. They are reached by email for input on proposals.

The supervision model includes an assessment of every child coming into care using the CANS (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths) instrument. This instrument is used by 20 other states. In Oregon it will be used for: 1) rate setting, 2) child-specific case planning and 3) as a placement matching instrument. The findings will be available to foster parents to assure the foster parent knows the child's needs and to help determine what home to put a child in if a move is needed.

The rate will follow the child and will not be determined by the needs of the home. There will be a tiered level of reimbursement: base and two levels above base. Most children in foster care have some enhanced level of need. This will be acknowledged in the base level.

- Patton: One current concern with special rates is that the rate decreases when a child gets better, which can have a negative impact in discouraging efforts to get the child better.
- Waller: A level of consistency needs to be accounted for in the model to recognize the effort needed to maintain a child in the home after the child's

behavior has improved. To acknowledge the maintenance of a high needs child.

- Cole: Is there a distinction between child and adolescent?
- Walling: Yes, there are two groups: 0-3 and 3-20 years of age. Different expertise needed to assess in the two groups. We are building upon an existing model and the work of previous rate redesign groups.
- Taylor: Is the premise that all children coming into care have been traumatized?
- Walling: Nothing is a given but it is an acknowledgment that these children typically have a different level of needs than the general population. The majority of personal care and special rates are between \$1 and \$400. We plan to capture that in our base rate. By reinvesting current personal and special rates into the base rate, more children will likely receive a higher base rate.
- Patton: Agrees with the specialty of skills needed to assess the 0-3 age group. Expertise is also needed for gender, race, ethnicity and adolescents.
- Walling: In developing the model for the 3-20 age group, foster parents for adolescents were included. We also considered cultural needs.
- Patton: DHS has a gender specific policy and it should be incorporated into the assessment. Offered to help.
- Kraus-Dorn: When interviewing the foster parents during the assessment, are the previous foster parents or the new foster parents being interviewed?
- Walling: Both when applicable, while also waiting a few weeks for a child to settle in the new home to get a more accurate picture of the child's needs.

The medical model subcommittee includes nurses, foster parents, and certifiers. We are clearly delineating the difference between medical and supervision needs.

To determine reimbursement, we are using reports including "Hitting the Mark" and USDA and Consumer Expenditures. There are areas where we can create line-item savings through consistency and reinvest those savings into the base rate. For example: removing the clothing reimbursement line item from the monthly reimbursement and creating a clothing account using technology similar to an EBT card. Foster parents sometimes have problems using vouchers at some stores. A clothing account will bring more consistency to clothing purchases. We are also clearly stating what is a reimbursable expense outside the base rate and what is not.

We are working with the LEAN leaders so that the proposals fit in with LEAN concepts.

- Stiegler: Can we expect updates as time goes on?

- Kelley-Siel: Yes, we can provide overviews. Opportunities for input will be coming. We have a tight timeline due to federal requirements. The changes must be in place by September 2009. Tens of millions of federal dollars are at stake.
- Stiegler: Asked that CWAC be seen as a partner in the role out. The more information we have, the better we can advocate.
- Balter: There are a number of organizations that certify foster homes. There is a need to coordinate with them.
- Walling: We are collecting key partner names for mailings.
- Arenz: What about coordination with foster parents?
- Walling: We are in contact with Don Darland and the Oregon Foster Parents Association and many foster parents are participating in the development of the new structure.
- Balter: The Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs has an affinity group on adoptions that could be used.
- Walling: We want to be clear on how we got our rates.
- Balter: It will affect BRS rates.
- Keeling: The base foster care rate will have to go up significantly before it will affect BRS.
- Cole: OYA rate restructure is very different. Have you talked with OYA?
- Walling: We are working to be in alignment with federal funding streams, Titles 4E and 19. We will make sure it does not negatively impact our partners. Other questions can be emailed to Jason. The website will be updated with FAQs: www.oregon.gov/dhs/children/fostercare/rates/. Questions can be sent to Jason or to rate.redesignproject@state.or.us.

Budget and POPs Update

- Kelley-Siel: The revenue forecast comes out next week and we do not expect good news. It will be the base for the Governor's budget and for how DHS finishes this biennium. The Governor is committed to expanding OHP Standard so more families qualify, there is more access to mental health and addiction treatment and more children have health coverage. This will help foster children in that as they transition to and from DHS they will have coverage and child welfare placement will not be the only way to meet the serious mental health needs of children.

We are focusing on how to move forward with wraparound in the current budget outlook. It would be different in a different economy. We are looking

at how to continue what exists and move forward with the wraparound approach and philosophy, even if it means looking to the future for funding.

Regarding psychotropic medications, we are working with the Addictions and Mental Health Division and Seniors and People with Disabilities Division to leverage their expertise. We will add this topic to a future CWAC agenda.

- Patton: At an OYA advisory committee meeting, OYA projected their population increasing by 10% so their required 10% budget reduction exercise ended up maintaining current levels. Did CAF have to make cuts to meet the 10% reduction?
- Kelley-Siel: The 10% reduction exercise is in statute. Not every agency takes the same percentage reduction in the Governor's approved budget. In Child Welfare, caseloads are going down. The revenue forecast is such that we expect program reductions to CAF, but we don't know where they will be.

For the good, even in the midst of reductions we are working to set goals in Child Welfare to better serve children and safely reduce the need for foster care. Given the budget environment, we will tell the story of how budget will impact our ability to meet our goals. We will continue to work on ways to meet these goals but we need to be honest about what is achievable. The Casey Foundation agreement and NGA technical assistance will move forward. Those commitments mirror the work with the Child and Family Services Review and DHS Transformation.

ACTION: Future CWAC meetings will include updates on foster care rate redesign and psychotropic medications for foster children as part of the assistant director's report.

CFSR – PIP UPDATE AND ONGOING DIALOGUE – Angela Long

- Long: At least one more update will be needed. The materials distributed today give an overview of the different areas of the PIP. We have gone from five to four areas, incorporating “engagement” into the other four. We are identifying the “who” and “when” of the action steps and how to document to the feds when each step is completed. The feds will give us the minimal improvement required and we will use data to report back. We hope to have the final draft PIP in December, but that is dependent on when we receive the feds' comments.

LEGISLATIVE CONCPETS – Mickey Serice

- Serice: We have two legislative concepts in child welfare that are still alive and both have been sent to CWAC. We hope they make it into session. If you have comments regarding the child welfare workload LC, please send them to Jim Neely. Comments on the disproportionality LC can be sent to Mickey. We are receiving some LCs from legislators and legislative committees. If CWAC members have any legislation they are willing to share, please send to Pam Pearson and she will forward them to CWAC.
- Stiegler: This segues to asking if we want to activate the CWAC Legislative Subcommittee again. If members are interested in participating, let Pam know. If we get enough interest, FIWG will decide the mechanics of when/where the subcommittee will meet.
- Sherbo: Is interested.
- Kelley-Siel: The Child Safety Work Group will be reviewing their final report and releasing it in the next few weeks. They talked about convening an advocacy agenda and coalition around child safety and child welfare issues. It would be an overlay to a CWAC legislative subcommittee. Going back to the disproportionality LC, we plan to move forward with the task force with or without the legislation. One element of the Casey Foundation grant is to develop the task force. Legislation could codify the group already in existence. The LC would develop the model and charge. We will keep you apprised and want you to be involved in it. We appreciate the help CWAC gave to developing the concept.
- Stiegler: Moving forward with or without the legislation will portray how the agency is serious about addressing disproportionality. Does not see much interest in forming the legislative subcommittee.
- Sherbo: She has other ways to keep connected if the subcommittee is not activated.
- Patton: Other CWAC members not here today may be interested.
- Hazelton: Perhaps the purpose of the legislative subcommittee could be met by having CWAC member participation in the group Erinn talked about.
- Stiegler: Regardless, we need to keep ourselves informed of the legislative efforts of the CWAC membership.

ACTION: Pam Pearson will send an email to CWAC soliciting interest in activating the Legislative Subcommittee. Based on the amount of interest shown, FIWG will decide if the subcommittee will be activated or if other methods will be used to keep apprised of the legislative efforts of the CWAC membership.

HIGHLIGHTS AND HOT TOPICS

- Taylor: Christine Stolebarger could not attend today due to illness. She is a parent mentor and was a keynote speaker with the Governor at a recent Children First for Oregon event. Also, due to Planned Parenthood budget cuts, a family mentor program will be cut.
- Hazelton: A pilot of a quality assurance instrument begins in Marion County next week. It is a child-focused model from Wisconsin. Offered to give a report to CWAC at a later date on lessons learned from the pilot.

Meeting adjourned.