



FINAL

DHS Children, Adults and Families
Child Welfare Advisory Committee
Future Issues Work Group
September 3, 2008

Attending: Janet Arenz, Mike Balter, Mickey Serice, Judy Stiegler

Minutes recorded by Pam Pearson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The 7/28/08 Future Issues Work Group minutes were approved.

FRAME ISSUES FOR 9/10/08 CWAC MEETING AND BEYOND

- Stiegler: On 8/13/08 CWAC approved FIWG's proposed changes to the bylaws and operating procedures. The draft minutes from 8/13/08 are not available for today's meeting. The 9/10/08 draft agenda will be based on those minutes and our ongoing list of issues.
- Serice: Several CWAC members responded to his request for comment on whether or not they support the legislative concept on disproportionality of children of color in foster care.
- Arenz: Suggested adding to the agenda time for Erinn Kelley-Siel to comment on the agency's presentation scheduled for 9/4/08 to the House Human Services and Women's Wellness Committee. They will be addressing some companion pieces to our agenda items.
- Stiegler: Erinn is also scheduled to give CWAC an update on the Casey Foundation grant.
- Arenz: Iris Bell would also be able to update us on the Casey Foundation grant. Another suggestion is to invite Rep. Tomei, chair of the House Human Services and Women's Wellness Committee, to share what the focus of the committee has been during the interim and their vision for next session.
- Balter: Rep. Gelser is the vice-chair of that committee and a CWAC member. Recommends making that request through her..
- Stiegler: Rep. Gelser may choose to invite Rep. Tomei. Judy will call Rep. Gelser to invite her to give this update at the 11/12/08 CWAC meeting.
- Balter: Referring back to CWAC's approval of the operating procedures, there was a question if the use of email to vote conflicts with the public meetings laws.

- Stiegler: We discussed how telephonic or email voting is permitted and does not exclude the public meeting laws. We would still need a quorum.
- Balter: Other organizations have addressed the public meeting laws and could be consulted on how they comply with the law when voting by email or phone.
- Arenz: One thing that is not on the agenda or list of issues is the Behavioral Rehabilitation Services Redesign. At a previous CWAC meeting, Donna Keddy shared the plan for the redesign that included an RFP to rebid the private system serving Child Welfare children. CAF did a research project to learn more about the children served. Wants to keep this population on our radar. Would like Donna Keddy to share what CAF learned from the research and how the redesign is working. Providers and CAF are meeting later this month.
- Stiegler: It would be better to have this on the November agenda since the providers and CAF are meeting after the September CWAC meeting. That would allow both prongs to be presented together.

ACTION: Judy Stiegler will invite Rep. Gelser to inform CWAC during the 11/12/08 meeting of the House Human Services and Women's Wellness Committee's actions during the interim and vision for next session.

The rest of the meeting time was spent reviewing the list of issues and determining if any were ripe for the September or November CWAC agenda.

Current initiatives

- Balter: Does CAF have an up-to-date list?
- Serice: Maurita Johnson is cleaning up the list. We should have one ready for the 9/10/08 meeting.
- Balter: Erinn wanted it sorted by CWAC's four major goals. Is that possible?
- Serice: Would CWAC do that or would Erinn do an initial sort?
- Balter: Understood that Erinn said she would bring some order to it first, but it would be good to see what is available to know what is going on in the division.

- Serice: If Rep. Tomei comes to the November meeting, she might find the list of interest so we might want to dovetail those two together. This would allow her to hear what is of value to CWAC.
- Balter: Having a draft in September would give us a sense of what CAF is dealing with and allow for a deeper conversation in November.
- Stiegler: It would be shared with the understanding it is a first cut and precursor to a November presentation.

Implementation of workload staffing

- Serice: The legislative concept is being drafted by Legislative Counsel. The workload staffing study will be mentioned at the House Human Services and Women's Wellness Committee hearing tomorrow.
- Stiegler: We can discuss this during the time for updates on legislative concepts and POPs. Also Erinn's report can touch on it as she talks about the legislative presentation.

Family Based Services – review and possible reorganization

- Arenz: Before we remove this from the list, we need a status update.
- Serice: Benjamin Hazelton is on a work group to restructure Family Based Services. Mickey is not sure what the status is. A restructure would touch a large population we serve.
- Balter: The notion was to give CWAC an early heads up about the possible restructure. Suggested checking with Benjamin Hazelton and Jan Slick.
- Stiegler: Pam Pearson will check with Benjamin and Jan if this is ready for a CWAC presentation in September or November.

How DHS can best engage CWAC

- Stiegler: We handled this with the changes to the bylaws and operating procedures. It can be removed from the list.

Property crimes initiative

- Stiegler: Will share information with CWAC on September 10.

CFSR

- Serice: Final approval of our PIP is expected in October so the last update would be at the November 12 CWAC meeting.

How well prepared are teens when they exit the child welfare system to enter adulthood?

- Stiegler: The Teen Issues in Child Welfare Subcommittee will report to CWAC on 9/10/08. Keep/remove from list depending on decision by CWAC following the subcommittee report and recommendations.

Review of the CIRT process

- Serice: Will ask Nancy Keeling if the CIRT Review final report is completed.
- Stiegler: The DHS CIRT protocol outlines a CWAC role that may have changed as a result of the CIRT Review. If CWAC does play a role, we need to operationalize it. Perhaps FIWG could prepare a proposal.
- Arenz: It is easier when CWAC has a proposal to start with rather than having the full committee develop the proposal.
- Serice: Will add to the September 10 agenda.

CWAC and Sensitive Review Committee interface

- Balter: Suggested holding this for a FIWG meeting to review the statute and determine if there is a reason CWAC should/should not be involved.
- Arenz: Would CWAC be involved in the SRC work on specific cases or as an interface with policy?
- Stiegler: We cannot be part of an actual review.
- Serice: The statute was written for legislators to ask for a review of a specific case. The DHS Director appoints the committee.
- Arenz: Does not see a CWAC role other than if there is a challenge to the process.
- Serice: The SRC recommendations are to guide policy and practice, they are not case specific.
- Arenz: That is a more natural place for CWAC.
- Stiegler: Will put on October 8 FIWG agenda to determine what CWAC role is if any. If yes, FIWG will develop a proposal for how CWAC will operationalize to present to CWAC for approval.

Transportation of foster children to school (HB 3075 – 2005 session)

- Balter: Suggested putting this on the FIWG agenda to decide what is wanted from CWAC.

Overrepresentation of Children of Color in Foster Care

- Stiegler: Is on the 9/10/08 CWAC agenda along with legislative concepts. Judy will contact Judge Waller in advance to see if she wants to share info from the recent disproportionality conference. CWAC members responded individually to CAF's request for support for the disproportionality legislative concept.
- Serice: An update on the Casey Foundation agreement is also on the agenda. Judge Waller is involved in that work and disproportionality is one of the issues the agreement will address.

Adoption Resource Center

- Stiegler: When the final report is distributed to CWAC, this issue can be removed from the list.

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services for Parents with Children in Foster Care

- Serice: CAF will be reporting to the House Human Services and Women's Wellness Committee on 9/4/08. Those materials can be sent to CWAC and then this issue can be removed from list.

Oregon Child Welfare Safety Model Quality Assurance Measurements

- Stiegler: The Teen Issues in Child Welfare Subcommittee will report to CWAC on 9/10/08. Keep/remove from list depending on decision by CWAC following the subcommittee report and recommendations.

Meeting adjourned.