

## West Virginia Commission to Study Residential Placement of Children Summary Notes

**Group Meeting:** Quarterly Commission Meeting

**Meeting Date:** December 7, 2017

**Location:** Saint John XXIII

**Members Present:** *Cabinet Secretary Bill J. Crouch, Honorable Jack Alsop; Keith King (Representing Cynthia Beane); Stephanie Bond; Debi Gillespie (representing William Marshall); Cammie Chapman; Susan Fry; Frank Andrews (Representing Jacob Green); Christina Mullins (Representing Dr. Rahul Gupta); Cindy Largent-Hill; Sheila Paitsel (Representing Pat Homberg and Dr. Steven Paine); Honorable Gary Johnson; Philip W. Morrison; Nikki Tennis (Representing Nancy Sullivan), Rhonda Hayes; Honorable Phillip M. Stowers; Steve Tuck; Linda Watts.*

**Members Absent:** Jessica Ritchie-Gibson and Honorable David Hummel

**Guests Present:** Becky Derange; Angie Hamilton; Kim Brown; Kelly Sergeant; Raymona Preston; Lynn Stevens; Carolyn Duckworth; Katrina Harmon; Tammy Pearson; Trudi Blaylock; and Alicia Lauderman-Mascioli.

**Administrative Assistance:** Gary Keen

Commission Meeting	Decisions
<p><b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b></p> <p>Cabinet Secretary Crouch called the meeting to order at approximately 10:30 a.m. Several members were recognized for their new positions. Stephanie Bond, Director for Probation Services and William Marshall, Director for the Division of Juvenile Services (who was unable to attend), and Dr. Steven L. Paine, New State Superintendent</p> <p>Members and guests introduced themselves.</p>	
<p><b><u>Meeting Notes</u></b></p> <p>Secretary Crouch moved the agenda to the review and approval of the meeting notes from the last commission meeting on December 15, 2016. The meeting notes were reviewed and approved with no revisions.</p>	<p>The meeting notes were approved and will be provided to members and posted on the Commission's website:</p> <p><a href="http://www.wvdhhr.org/oos_comm/">http://www.wvdhhr.org/oos_comm/</a></p>
<p><b><u>Work of the Commission Members</u></b></p> <p>Secretary Crouch stated that the Commission is tasked with addressing issues relative to children in out-of-home placement, as well as the reduction in out-of-state placement.</p> <p>The following members provided a brief update:</p> <p><b>Service Delivery &amp; Development</b></p> <p>Susan Fry, provided an update on the Service Delivery and Development Workgroup (SDDWG). The SDDWG is the only workgroup of the Commission. The SDDWG has three task teams. The Integrated Data, Outcomes &amp; Evaluation Task Team, the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (or CANS) Implementation Task Team, and the Best Practice Task Team. The CANS is a tool that supports the Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management (TCOM) framework. This framework, and the tools that support TCOM, include strategies and tools to address the needs of the people we serve. The Best Practice Task Team includes the sub-committee, Transition to Adulthood. The SDD, Transition to Adulthood would like to study and formulate recommendation relevant to youth ages 17 to 21. This group has already begun this study when researching materials for the It's My Move interactive website for older youth.</p>	<p>The following handouts were provided with the meeting packet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service Delivery &amp; Development (SDD) Workgroup Organizational Chart;</li> <li>• Members List and list of task teams;</li> <li>• It's My Move brochure</li> </ul> <p>The Commission is interested in the Study and recommendations on the best practices for youth transitioning from out-of-home care to Adulthood.</p> <p>The following handouts were</p>

<p><b>Juvenile Justice Commission</b></p> <p>Cindy Largent-Hill provided an update on the Juvenile Justice Commission. She provided the recent Administrative Order that outlines the scope of the Juvenile Justice Commission; the History of the Juvenile Justice Commission; and the Juvenile Justice Commission Member List. Ms. Largent-Hill stated that they are trying to broaden the scope of out of state visits. She stated, it is alarming how many children with autism contributing to the number of children needing assistance. She was appreciative of the JJC and the DHHR's relationship. Ms. Largent-Hill participated in a weekly phone call with the Shelter Care Workgroup.</p> <p><b>Division of Juvenile Services</b></p> <p>Debbie Gillespie, proxy for Dr. William Marshall with the Division of Juvenile Services, spoke on the population of youth that is currently placed with the DJS. Some children placed in DJS facilities are not appropriate for these placements and they are trying to address these directly and in collaboration with others.</p> <p><b>Division of Probation Services</b></p> <p>Stephanie Bond with Probation Services provided an overview of the services offered by the Division of Probation Services. The Division of Probation Services is responsible for the development and oversight of the West Virginia Adult (ADC) and Juvenile (JDC) drug courts. JDC also oversees the School Based Probation Officer program that provides full-time probation officers to work intensively in public schools. The Probation Officers provide early intervention at the schools for students who may exhibit behavioral and/or truancy problems.</p> <p>The Probation Officers Conference is scheduled for November 6-7, 2017</p> <p><b>Education of Children in Out of Home Advisory Committee</b></p> <p>Frank Andrews who was there on Jacob Green's behalf, provided an update on the activities of the Education of Children in Out of Home Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Frank discussed the data system interface as part of the MOU between the West Virginia Department of Education and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.</p> <p><b><u>Court Improvement Program</u></b></p> <p>Cammie Chapman, Director of Children Services, West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, provided an update on the Court Improvement Program. Cammie Chapman added that the CIP Conferences attract field workers and provide them with information on ways to help individuals. This year a survey was distributed at the CIP Conferences that were held on July 10-11, 2017 in Morgantown and July 17-18, 2017 in Charleston. One of the results from the survey indicated that, consistently throughout the state, children age 14 and older are not attending a transitioning hearing. The CIP is now trying to determine reasons the youth are not attending.</p>	<p>provided with the meeting packet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Administrative Order regarding the Juvenile Justice Commission</b></li> <li>• <b>History of the Juvenile Justice Commission</b></li> <li>• <b>Juvenile Justice Commission Member's List</b></li> </ul> <p>The following handouts were provided with the meeting packet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MDTs Matter Brochure</b></li> <li>• <b>Memorandum for Notification and Participation of Education at the Multidisciplinary Treatment Team Meetings (sent to all County Superintendents of Schools and DHHR Community Service Managers)</b></li> <li>• <b>Education Report for Multidisciplinary Team Meeting form</b></li> <li>• <b>Education of Children in Out-of-Home Care Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda (from meeting 10/10/17)</b></li> <li>• <b>How Can We Better Serve Students? From the Office of Diversion and Transition Programs</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Child Welfare Reform</b></p> <p>Linda Watts, Acting Commissioner for Bureau for Children and Families provided a presentation on Child Welfare Reform. The reform will support the findings of the U.S. Department of Justice 2015 Report that indicated that</p>	<p>The Child Welfare Reform presentation handout was provided with the meeting packet</p>

there were many youth in out of home congregate care with mental health conditions; a full continuum of community-based services and supports; and a service delivery model that is evidence-based and/or practices that has been proven to improve outcomes and incorporates System of Care values and principles.

Several factors have contributed to the need for child welfare reform. These include the increase in substance abuse trends since 2001; increase in children entering care; workforce insufficiencies; and no substantial increase in resources.

The current strategies include: a reduction of Out of Home congregate care due to: increase in Safe at Home referrals; increase in kinship/relative care; reduction in parental placements to Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs); reduction in out-of-state facilities; HealthCheck Program; and an increase in community mental health resources.

DHHR is proposing that Child Welfare Reform include the following objectives:

**Objective 1: Increase Foster Family Care Homes**

- Establish Emergency Homes
- Increase in the per-diem for the family
- Increase recruitment efforts statewide

**Objective 2: Recruit and Retain CPS Workers Statewide**

- One-time recruitment bonus
- Job fairs
- Retention bonus (2 and 5 years)
- Streamline New Worker Training
- Develop a mentoring program for new workers and supervisors
- Develop new CPS job classifications

**Objective 3: Expand Treatment Options for Substance Abuse Disorders**

- Implement the SUD Waiver
- Expand Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome centers
- Expand Drug-Free Moms and Babies Sites

**Objective 4: Implement Health Management Strategies for Children in Foster Care or Adoptive Care**

- Develop a plan to place children in foster and adoptive care into a managed care environment
- Develop a plan to ensure there is an electronic record for each child in foster care

**Objective 5: Increase the Availability of at Least Five Community-based Services (Programs/Services Not Statewide)**

- Expand Safe at Home (parental and child welfare)
- Increase the number of families receiving home visitation
- Evaluate and expand School Mental Health Services
- Evaluate expansion of existing juvenile diversion programs (inter-cept,

<p>inspire)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate other programs such as Mobile Crisis Response and Stabilization Teams, First Episode Psychosis program</li> </ul> <p>Objective 6: Increase the Number of Children Appropriately Screened for Mental Health Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an inventory of approved screening tools</li> <li>• Increase the number of certified professionals using the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strength Assessment (CANS)</li> <li>• Integrate the ACEs Screening Tool throughout DHHR programs</li> <li>• Implement the Family Assessment and Support Tool (FAST) statewide</li> <li>• Develop a Triage Screening Instrument for youth at their point of entry into the system</li> </ul> <p>DHHR is implementing strategies that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase community-based services and support</li> <li>• Keep children and their families together</li> <li>• Provide early identification and treatment</li> <li>• Reduce redundancy and maximize resources</li> <li>• Provide assessment tools and practices that are provided across the bureaus</li> <li>• Increase stakeholder involvement and support</li> <li>• Ensure continuous quality assurance process that is data driven</li> </ul> <p>The financial constraints and risks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial – Budget Reduction</li> <li>• Workforce insufficiencies across systems</li> <li>• Federal Health Care Reform – impact our current Medicaid population</li> <li>• Reauthorization of Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)</li> <li>• Remove the ‘silos’</li> </ul>	
<p>Secretary Crouch proposed we review the Commission’s Priority Goals to ensure they reflect the purpose established for this Commission and identify the goals of our members and partners that align with the Commission’s purpose. Secretary Crouch made a motion to begin mapping out the Commission’s Priority Goals and those goals of our members and partners.</p> <p><b>2017 Performance Scorecard</b></p> <p>The Performance Scorecard includes January 2017 through September 2017 data. Commissioner Watts provided a brief review of the Performance Scorecard.</p>	<p><b>The motion to review the Priority Goals to ensure they reflect the purpose of the Commission and identify the goals of our members that align with the Commission’s goals was approved.</b></p>
<p>Secretary Crouch thanked everyone in attendance and adjourned the meeting shortly after 1:30pm.</p>	

**Next meeting: December 7, 2017 and will be held at the Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center.**

**2018 Tentative Quarterly Meeting Dates**

March 1, 2018

June 7, 2018

September 7, 2018

December 7, 2017