

**Child Welfare Improvement Committee
Indiana Court Improvement Program
MINUTES**

**Friday, January 10, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

1. Members present. Magistrate Heather Mollo, *chair*, Lisa Rich, Leslie Dunn, Elana Salzman, Angela Reid-Brown.
2. Guest Present. Mike Commons.
3. New Member. Magistrate Mollo welcomed Lisa Rich, DCS Services and Outcomes Deputy Director to the Committee. Lisa explained that she oversees home based services, community based services, data governance, performance and quality reviews, research and evaluation, older youth services and collaborative care.
4. Member Updates. Lisa Rich provided an overview of the DCS evidence based practice models that are being implemented. These models include family centered treatment, functional family therapy, trauma focused-behavior theory (TF-CBT), motivational interviewing, applied behavior analysis, and alternatives for families- cognitive behavior therapy (AF-CBT).

Lisa also reviewed the Children's Mental Health Initiative and the Medicaid State Plan Amendment 1915(i) program, which replaced the CA-PRFT program. She explained that these programs are virtually identical except the services provided under the 1915(i) program are covered by Medicaid and the services under the Children's Mental Health Initiative are paid with state funds and are provided to children who are not eligible for Medicaid.

Leslie Dunn asked Lisa if training could be provided to GAL/CASA on the evidence based practice models. Lisa agreed to present these models at an upcoming GAL/CASA meeting.

Leslie Dunn reported that GAL/CASA is considering applying for an older youth grant from the Department of Justice.

5. CIP Court Performance Measures. Elana Salzman provided a report on the status of the Court Performance Measures project. She reviewed the five elements that are being reviewed 1) time to permanent placement, 2) time to first permanency hearing, 3) time to termination of parental rights petition, 4) time to termination of parental rights, and 5) time to all subsequent permanency hearings. She reported that the federal fiscal year 2013 data has been submitted to the federal government. The data is currently being analyzed and will be used to help establish a baseline for future improvements. She said the numbers tended to be in a bell curve and that there were no real causes for concern. She also reported that approximately 80% of permanency hearings are being with within the statutory guidelines.

Elana reported that DCS helped provide data for the timeliness measure project and that we may want to work with DCS in the future on additional data elements. Magistrate Mollo stated that she has found the project to be very interesting. In her county, she reviews all of the reportable cases and if she finds a case out of compliance, she documents the reason for non-compliance.

6. CIP Strategic Plan. Angela Reid-Brown reported the current strategic plan expires on September 30, 2014. She asked the committee to start thinking about new outcomes they would like to see in the new plan. Angela said one project that she would like the committee to consider is reducing the number of legal orphans who age out of foster care. She reported that she, Justice Rush, Judge Pratt and Director Bonaventura attended a legal orphans meeting in July and that the leadership expressed an interest in CWIC working on this project.

The Committee agreed to work on the legal orphans project. Lisa Rich stated that the committee would need to determine how it wants to define legal orphans. Should it be defined as kids whose parental rights have been terminated, or should it also include kids whose parental rights have not been terminated because an identified adoptive family has not been secured yet? Leslie Dunn suggested using the definition in the NCJFCJ Technical Assistance Bulletin-Forever Families: Improving Outcomes by Achieving Permanency for Legal Orphans.

Angela asked for the committee's input on the CIP sub-grant program. She reported that the majority of CIP funding is used to provide sub-grants. She asked for the committee's thoughts on whether CIP funds should continue to be provided to support individual programs or if CIP should begin to use the money for more statewide or regional programs. In addition, if we continue to award sub-grants, should there be a limit to the number of years a grantee can receive funding for the same program?

Angela stated she has started researching Zero to Three programs as a possible statewide or regional program. Leslie said she likes the idea of focusing on statewide training and initiatives. Mike Commons suggested there should be a limit to the number of years a grantee can receive funding. Magistrate Mollo liked the idea of working with the Zero to Three age group. She is also interested in doing another Statewide Summit.

Future Meeting Dates:

March 7, 2014	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Indiana Judicial Center
May 2, 2014	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Indiana Judicial Center
August 1, 2014	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Indiana Judicial Center
October 3, 2014	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Indiana Judicial Center