

Central Region **Family Safety Newsletter**

Circuit Implementation Meetings

Please take notice of the next Implementation Meetings in each Circuit:

C5: Every other Thursday, 1:00 PM, Call 1-888-670-3525 Participant Code: 2238254363

C9: Every Friday, 1:00 PM, Call: 1-888-670-3525 Participant Code: 3205606139

C10: Every Friday, 2:00 PM, Call: 1-888-670-3525 Participant Code: 8423437105

C18: Has been fully implemented and will be providing updated information via email. Please contact Nellie Warriner at Nereida_Warriner@dcf.state.fl.us to be added to the mailing list.

Come join your Circuit and share your ideas and needs for a successful Implementation!

Central Region Implementation

Circuit 5: Circuit 5 is pleased to report that Hernando and Citrus Counties have joined the Region in Implementation. Hernando rolled out 2 units and Citrus rolled out 1 unit on August 18th. Circuit 5 is hoping to be fully implemented by mid September. Two Refresher trainings were held to help make this a successful roll-out!

Circuit 9: Congratulations to Osceola County who became fully implemented on August 25th. Orange County rolled out three units in August and is preparing to roll out many more in September.

Circuit 10: Circuit 10 continues to be fully implemented as of July 21st. They continue to work hard and collaborate with the CBC on making the New Methodology a success in Circuit 10. Way to go!

Circuit 18: Brevard County has been fully implemented as of June 2 with all CPI & CBC staff rolled, trained and on-board with the new Methodology. They have been working closely with the CBC as well as providing several trainings on Safety Planning and Risk Assessments.

Children's Advocacy Center **Online Training Opportunities**

The CAC for Orange and Osceola Counties now offers e-learning modules on their website at no cost to you in courses such as Mandated Reporter Information & Human Trafficking. They are also developing several courses regarding pertinent topics of Child Abuse & Neglect. Please take a moment to visit their website at <http://caccentral.com/training-education/> and see what you can learn!

FSFN Data Reporting Workgroup

The FSFN Data Reporting Workgroup met at the end of August to go over several new reports that are in the process of becoming a reality. The main focus is wrapping up the CPI Critical Activity Report. Input from Child Protective Investigations Management and CPI Supervisors was discussed on how the draft report was working and what tweaks could be made before its release to better serve our managers and supervisors. There will be a couple of changes made to the report but hopefully the report will be ready for full release at the end of September, early October. In regards to adding 2nd Tier to the report, the group went over the State's policy guidelines on 2nd Tier criteria and looked in to several ways the information could possibly be obtained with the current fields available in FSFN. This is going to take some time to develop; however, the decision was to release the report without 2nd Tier so that managers and supervisors have a report available to them that will show pending work which needs to be completed either by a PA, CPIS or CPI. We will continue to keep you posted.

Other reports OCWDRU will be developing are; FSFN Training hours report, management reports to support the CPI evaluation process, open safety plans with safety plan details, FSFN active/inactive user report and a Foster Home Licensing Management report to include reason for closure.

Change Request Process Update

The Statewide change request process has reignited itself and caught on quite well here in Central Region over the last 60 days! We have processed a handful of request thus far ranging from Supervisor Consultation screen enhancements to partnering with the statewide CBC lead to discuss ICPC screen shots in FSFN. We currently have three additional requests in the pipeline and will be sending these out to the team for review shortly! Thank you to everyone for embracing this process!

Region Consultation/Fidelity Calls

The Central Region continues to hold Circuit Fidelity calls one per week, per Circuit. Time and call in information regarding these calls are discussed during the Circuit Implementation meeting agendas. If you would like to receive an invite for these calls, please contact your local Circuit Implementation meeting lead.

CBC Happenings

Circuit 5:

In June, Kids Central became the lead agency for a multi-faceted diligent recruitment grant for a range of resource families for children in foster care, including kinship, foster, concurrent and adoptive families. The program includes the design and on-going implementation and evaluation of diligent and targeted recruitment efforts in the foster care system. These efforts will occur in six Judicial Circuits and 21 counties throughout Florida. The grant will spearhead the redesign of the Department's efforts in order to increase permanency for children in Florida's child welfare system by identifying and increasing permanent resource families (foster, adoptive, concurrent) for Florida's difficult to place youth, in order to ensure permanency when aging out of care, and better integrate agency case management offering across a system of care. Kids Central is partnering with Big Bend CBC, Heartland for Children and Our Kids in implementation of the program.

Circuit 9:

CBC of Central Florida has begun a "Permanency Power Push". During the months of July-October 2014, each CM unit will work diligently to ensure a minimum number of children per Case Manager are finalized. To make substantial progress in achieving permanency for the children, each CMA unit will be working to successfully finalize adoptions, reunify children with parents, close cases and identify relative and non relatives for children in foster care, while focusing on safety and permanency. CBC of Central Florida's Permanency Power Push goal is to reduce the (over all-including the projected intakes) number of children served in OHC placements by 30% by October 31, 2014.

Circuit 10:

Way to go Heartland for Children! Heartland's July placement stability was 91.3%. Outstanding improvements have been made over the last 6 months in this area. In addition to placement stability, HFC continues to reduce the number of children in group care both in the 0-5 and 6-11 age range.

Circuit 18:

On July 1, 2014, Brevard Family Partnership subcontractor IMPOWER began providing case management services to children in court-ordered dependency. IMPOWER responded with a service plan to incorporate the strategic priorities outlined by BFP, including engaging more families in high-fidelity Wraparound and Family Team Conferencing programs. IMPOWER's plan further established specialty substance abuse units to help address a significant issue with many families in Brevard County. In its role, IMPOWER provides trained and experienced case managers for children in Brevard's foster care system. Case managers conduct home visits of children while in foster or group homes, organize services such as counseling and therapy, and interact with Child Welfare Legal Services and Guardians Ad Litem in the best interests of the children in their care. IMPOWER also provides public adoption services for BFP, assisting in the recruitment of adoptive families, matching children with prospective families and providing post-adoption services.

Central Region QA Happenings

The Statewide QA Managers meeting was held in August in Ocala. Topics of discussion are the upcoming 2016 Federal CFSR and how each chosen CBC and DCF site will be involved in the case review, the current Rapid Safety Feedback QA process and any trends in the current Rapid Safety Feedback process for both CBC and CPI. Each CBC is required to submit their individual FY QA plans to the Department for review and approval. The Family Safety Program Office will be partnering with our Contract Management Program to review these documents and provide quality feedback to each CBC where necessary. We are looking forward to several quality plans!!

For the month of August 2014, the Central Region's QA Unit completed a Rapid Safety Feedback review of 80 investigations. The Central Region was above the statewide average by 6.4% in July 2014 regarding areas scored such as Information Collection. The Central Region was above the statewide average by 4.1% in for Identifying Danger Threats and Caregiver Capacity. The Central Region was also above the statewide average by 31% in July 2014 scoring a 80% on Safety Planning. The Central Region was again above the statewide average by 6.3% for Supervisor Reviews. Give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done!

QA Specialist Adriana Cardona & FSS Lisa Zmuda participated in a QA review of the Abuse Hotline. During this review, calls to the hotline were reviewed and assessed

Central Region Leadership Academy & Professional Development

The time has come that we have all been waiting for....many have applied... and fifteen DCF participants have been chosen for the Central Region Leadership Academy! Our applicants came from a multitude of DCF programs and we are proud to say that each and every program was well represented!! We are looking forward to our annual kick off on September 25th to be held at the Disney Complex. An introductory meeting for our mentors was held in August in preparation for the assignment for each participant. Mentors will be assigned to the mentees early in the month of September. Congratulations to all who were accepted!

Circuit 5

2015 World's Greatest Baby Shower:

Circuit 5 is participating in the planning of the 2015 "World's Greatest Baby Shower" in Hernando County. Providers and the community come together to bring information and education to the families in Hernando. Sponsorships will be offered and swag bags will be offered as well. The event services over 700 residents of Hernando and will allow the Department to provide education and information regarding; safe sleep, drowning, supervision, etc. The next planning meeting is September 30.

CPI Recruitment Efforts:

Circuit 5 is continuing to partner with St. Leo University and have joined the Human Services Advisory Board with College of Central Florida and St. Leo to enhance the CPI employment pool, offer internships and provide education to the colleges about the many initiatives the Department is working on in the State. The Universities have talked about adding Child Welfare specific classes to their curriculums to help students better prepare for positions in that field. The next meeting is November 6.

Fatality Workgroup:

Circuit 5 has started a Fatality Workgroup and has reached out to partner with the CBC, KCL, to develop a plan to positively impact child fatalities and investigations as a whole. The Department has pulled data and geographical information with reports and will be presenting the data at the Child Protection Summit. Circuit 5's primary focus for now will include training and outreach.

Circuit 10

On August 15th Circuit 10 OPS Manager David Stoops had an interview with Highlands Today newspaper along with CPI Destyn Bailey about the effects of Methodology and SB 1666 and the potential benefits to Highlands County. The article titled "New laws mean more investigators and different ways of investigating child abuse" was published on August 18th and showed the positive side to the changes to the system of care.

Circuit 10 held an all staff meeting on August 27th to show staff appreciation and called it the "Back to School Bash". Staff enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and a host of other goodies. The Circuit introduced two new rotating trophies for CPI of the Month, one for East side (Stephanie Sanchez) and one for West Side (Andy Taylor). Each month a CPI will be picked based on a combination of performance and positive attitude. They will be displayed for that month in the CPT's home office. Overall, we had excellent feedback on the meeting from staff, both in content and style.

Circuit 9 & 18

Operations continues to work in partnership with Nemours, the Howard Philips Center (CAC), and the FSPO in developing ongoing medical neglect training. The most recent meeting was held on August 15. The decision was made to proceed with trainings that settled on an initial grouping of disease processes (Diabetes, Asthma, and Sickle Cell disease) and the flow for the training. We will be using a combination of multimedia learning modules, facilitated discussion and interactive panel lecture to help CPIs better understand the disease, its assessment, treatment and ways to improve home visits with information collection targeted to disease management/adherence. The next meeting is set for the Summit on September 5th, 2014.

The Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) continues to move forward in Circuit 18. This system change will use available resources to divert DJJ children from entering the dependency system, or diverting dependency children from entering the DJJ system through prevention. The team met on August 25th and 26th with consultants from Georgetown University. It was decided that since Brevard and Seminole have two different systems, there would be two teams created to tackle the process of how the system will function. The target population was identified as being any youth in the DJJ system that comes to the attention of the CBC as having current open supervision. This identification would trigger the practice model.

Child Care Regulation

CCR had an exemplary month with 24 new licenses approved and 180 re-licensures conducted Region wide all while maintaining a 100% inspection rate for both facility and home daycares. Way to go!

On August 20, 2014 Circuit 10 Supervisor Nancy Ebrahimi attended a Board Meeting with the Early Learning Coalition of Polk County. The most critical agenda item was clearly the notification that the Polk County Commissioners' Office may no longer provide funds to the coalition; which in turn means slots would be cut and children would be affected. Diane Bowman, Director of Eligibility and Client Services ELC of Polk has been working diligently to place children under a different category so that children would be able to continue with their services. Ideas were pitched on how to get people to understand why the Commissioner's Office funding is so critical.

Adult Protective Investigations

Pre-Service is in full swing and there are 7 new APIs currently in training. Pre-Service started the week of August 18th. The group in Pre-Service is a fun mix of people who are eager to learn the job and make a difference. We welcome all of the new hires to this amazing journey!

Polk County Sheriff's Office, RNS Stewart and APS PA Antoine met with Medical Examiner Dr. Nelson. Dr. Nelson was able to participate in "white boarding" a current death investigation. The outcome was very positive and shed new light into how knowing the background of a victim can have a direct impact on determining if their death was related to abuse/neglect.

If you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations regarding our local Implementation plans please email: CNR_childwelfare_Transformation@dcf.state.fl.us

Statewide Policy Questions and Requests for Assistance may be submitted via email to: Safety_Methodology@dcf.state.fl.us