

Attending: Janet Arenz, Mike Balter, Iris Bell, Lois Day, Helen Hoang, Leola McKenzie, Don Darland, Mickey Serice

MINUTES

The 4/13/11 FIWG minutes were approved.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

- Balter: Proposed changing the layout of CWAC agendas by replacing the current goals of the CWAC Work Plan with CWAC's four goals of:
 - Identifying strategies to reduce over-representation of children of color in the child welfare system.
 - Preventing foster care placement.
 - Assuring that children placed in foster care are safe and are thriving.
 - Providing permanency for children placed in foster care in a timely manner.

Some of the briefings and cross-over reports could be moved under one of these goals.

- Day: That is how her office is arranging its work so this would be a good match.
- Balter: Any items on the consent agenda that do not fit under a goal would be dropped. At the start of the July CWAC meeting, he will present a recommendation for CWAC approval.
- Bell: Agrees with this proposal and fitting our work under these goals.
- Balter: If our role is to give advice, then we should give advice on large issues only, unless invited to give advice on smaller issues.
- Serice: Sounds good. Lois mentioned organizing initiatives under these goals.
- Day: Yes, that will be completed by June 20 so we can provide that to CWAC for the July meeting so they can see how we are allocating our work.
- Balter: The agenda would be organized under these goals, recognizing some briefings and reports overlap under more than one goal. Today we can set an agenda as if the CWAC approves of this new layout to illustrate how it will work. As for the current goals 2 and 3 under the work plan, we have done what we can for them.¹

¹ Goals 2 and 3 from the current CWAC work plan are:

2. To expand the representativeness in CWAC discussions.
3. To coordinate and leverage state and local efforts to improve policy, program and practice.

ACTION: FIWG will present a recommendation that CWAC adopt the four CWAC goals as their Work Plan and revise the layout of future agendas accordingly.

CONSENT AGENDA

Calendar

- McKenzie: Added the following events to the calendar:
 - 8/16/2011: JCIP Model Court Day – Statewide Summit on Child Abuse and Neglect
 - 8/17/2011: Early Learning Symposium for Casey Partnership Teams

Dashboard

- Nothing to report at the July CWAC meeting.

BRIEFINGS

Legislative Update

- Serice: This update should be a wrap up of the 2011 session.
- Balter: Suggested focusing on the top 5-6 changes.
- Serice: HB 2053 (Equity Task Force recommendations) is not likely to pass. We knew it would be an uphill challenge.
- Balter: Could CWAC still have it as a project to advance the concept?
- Serice: Is not sure where the Governor will be in regards to agencies advancing legislation for the February 2012 session. Agencies will be allowed to introduce a limited number of bills. He does not know what the criteria will be.
- Balter: Asked about differential response.
- Serice: That is SB 964, which will probably pass out of committee today.
- Day: SB 964 includes funding to provide some staff to prep for differential response. She asked about HB 3659 (regulatory and streamlining).
- Arenz: Does not expect it to pass. The bill sponsors will probably ask providers to proceed on their own.

- Day: HB 3584² will likely pass. HB 2052³ passed. Is not sure what is happening with HB 3686⁴. SB 964 is the most significant bill for her office. She will talk about it during the July meeting and include information about planning for differential response.
- Balter: Some of this may fit under the CAF Director's Report.

Federal Policy Discussion

- Balter: Asked about the two concept papers.
- Day: Will find out where we are with them.
- Balter: We could line up CWAC members who have federal connections so that, with a common theme, we can help move things along.
- Day: These concept papers got lost in the legislative workload; however, things are not moving at the federal level right now anyway.

Casey Partnership 2011 Plan and Permanency Roundtable Report Out

- Day: Can give a report in July. The permanency roundtables will be posted soon. The model court is scheduled for August as is the Early Learning Symposium. We are bringing on three new counties.
- Balter: Considering the proposed new agenda format, which goal would future updates fall under?
- Day: Safe and equitable reduction of foster care.
- Balter: If we can agree to find a home under one of the goals for reports, we can remove them from briefings and cross over reports. Is there a priority order for the goals?
- Day: They don't have a priority, but the usual order is first – keeping kids safe and healthy in foster care; second – safe and equitable return home; and the equity category overarching everything. Then we have tools like the dashboard and OR-Kids.

² HB 35894: Directs Department of Human Services, in consultation with Oregon Health Authority, to provide training to foster parents regarding appropriate ethnic aesthetic care for children of African-American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian-American or multiracial descent.

³ HB 2052: Expands definition of "child" for purposes of payments to subsidize adoption made by DHS. Requires department to pay nonrecurring adoption expenses in adoption of child with special needs. Clarifies limits on payments to adoptive parents. Requires parents receiving adoption payments to inform department of circumstances affecting eligibility. Becomes operative October 1, 2011. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

⁴ HB 3686: Requires Oregon Health Authority, Department of Human Services and Department of Consumer and Business Services to report to Legislative Assembly on steps taken to streamline regulatory requirements in specified areas and reduce administrative burdens on persons contracting with or regulated by authority and departments. Sunsets February 28, 2013. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

- Balter: CWAC adopted four goals (see page 1 above). Do we want to use those or readjust to those Lois mentioned?
- Day: We can use CWAC's goals. Then she recommends putting the Casey work under the CWAC goal of reducing over-representation.
- Arenz: Like the idea of keeping CWAC's work under these four goals to keep us focused.
- McKenzie: Agrees it is the way to go.
- Bell: Also agrees.
- Balter: We will continue to have briefings on legislature, OR-Kids and federal policy separate from the four goals.
- Arenz: The legislative briefing could be in the toolbox category.
- Balter: Let's rename the topic Briefings / Toolbox.

OR-Kids

- Serice: Janel Pettitt, OR-Kids, asked Mickey if CWAC would like an update in July or if they wanted to wait until the statewide roll out.
- Balter: CWAC will be notified when the go-live date is set and would then like an update at the CWAC meeting immediately following.
- Serice: Questions can be answered anytime before the update to CWAC.
- Day: We will send notice out two weeks before the switch is turned on.

CWAC SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT (CJA)

- Balter: Subcommittee reports will continue on the agenda as separate items outside the four goals.
- McKenzie: Has some concerns about the CJA report that was submitted – about the court piece. The program laid out in the CJA plan focuses on the court's role in placement with relatives. She is not sure that will be a high priority in the JCIP report that will be coming out in August.
- Serice: It might be too late to amend the current CJA report.
- McKenzie: JCIP will know by July if it can fit this in its strategic plan.
- Bell: What is the concern?
- McKenzie: The CJA report includes a plan to contract with Travis Consulting Services next year for model court work and group work on relative placement projects. The concern is that this project does not fit with the statewide JCIP strategic plan.
- Day: We can adjust the CJA report when the JCIP report comes out.

- Balter: Let today's minutes reflect that the CJA Subcommittee may adjust their plan based on the report of the JCIP to align with the courts' and priorities.
- Day: Helen Hoang will look at the process needed for adjusting the report.
- McKenzie: There will be many priorities that cross over between CJA and JCIP, but does not think the relative placement project will be one.
- Balter: The intent will be that once the JCIP report is out, the CJA annual work plan will be aligned as needed.

CWAC SAFETY IN FOSTER CARE SUBCOMMITTEE

- McKenzie: She and Pamela Butler worked with Benjamin Hazelton to lay out a work plan for the subcommittee to meet monthly. There was an agreement to have the CPS and Foster Care program managers involved in these meetings. Additional members still need to be identified and a meeting schedule needs to be set.
- Balter: Will the work plan need to come back through FIWG or can it go to CWAC for approval when it is ready?
- McKenzie: It can go to CWAC. She and Pamela will make sure a clear statement is prepared so CWAC understands clearly what they are approving.
- Balter: Asked that FIWG be allowed to review the draft work plan first so that a recommendation can come from FIWG to CWAC.
- McKenzie: She committed to having something ready before the end of next week.
- Balter: FIWG can do an e-vote on the draft. Asked that it include suggestions for additional members.

ACTION: Leola McKenzie and Pamela Butler will submit a final draft of the subcommittee work plan to the FIWG. FIWG will prepare a recommendation to CWAC to accept the subcommittee work plan.

CROSS-OVER REPORTS

Child Welfare Racial Equity Task Force

- Balter: CWAC received the task force report, but has not discussed it yet. Is the task force closed now?
- Serice: Yes.

- Balter: This work falls under the equity goal. What is the carry-over work? HB 2053?
- Serice: HB 2053 was a small piece – three ideas vetted at the time when we had to propose legislation and before the task force was finished.
- Balter: We may need to spend time in July asking for DHS' response to the task force report.
- Day: It is broader than DHS. It impacts courts, community, etc.
- Balter: How can we make it manageable for CWAC? How do we make this larger concept something on which we can give advice or educate members to go back and educate their communities?
- Serice: Equity is one of Erinn's priorities. CWAC could have a conversation on the recommendations and what DHS is trying to do to support them.
- Balter: Asked if Lois, Mickey and Erinn could tell CWAC what CAF's response is and suggest a role for CWAC. Erinn probably has ideas on what she wants to pursue.
- Arenz: HB 2053 was put forward before the task force work was completed because it had to be pre-session filed. Shifts in thinking happened after that time. There may be an opportunity to reaffirm the concepts in the bill, amend them slightly, build a different package or implement incrementally. It would be good to have a CWAC conversation on what the report means and what a roll out plan might look like to achieve some of the recommendations.
- Serice: Because Janet served on the task force, he asked her if she recalled whether there was a recommendation specific to CWAC. The task force report is not a DHS report so he is not sure DHS has authority to do anything with it.
- Day: It was a Governor's task force report to the legislature. It is not ours to grapple with.
- Bell: What will the legislature do with it?
- McKenzie: Even if it is not a DHS report, don't you as a state agency have a certain responsibility?
- Day: Yes, we are doing some things that match things in the report.
- Arenz: Should still have the conversation.
- Serice: We recognize there are some things we can do that do not require legislation. The racial impact analysis was that only thing in HB 2053 that required legislation.
- Day: Other entities represented on CWAC may also be able to share how they will respond to the task force recommendations.

- Balter: We have a goal of addressing disproportionality and there has now been an event in the task force. Will CWAC form a response or action plan for itself?
- McKenzie: Asked CWAC to focus on the recommendations that apply to them for the group discussion on how to implement and how they fit with other priorities.
- Balter: Asked that DHS share that the Child Welfare response will be. It is a system-wide report and each CWAC member should look at it from their perspective.
- McKenzie: The purpose of the conversation can be to leverage resources and opportunities for those that it directly relates to.
- Balter: We need to keep the momentum going to keep it advancing as a core issue.
- Serice: Some examples of completed work: Erinn has created a DHS Diversity Office that provides an overarching look at the way we deliver services and efforts to diversify our workforce. Those activities have ties with the task force recommendations. Globally we will be working on some of the recommendations. Other groups can look at the report in the same way.

ACTION: Mike Balter will draft a CWAC chair message to ask CWAC to come prepared to discuss the task force recommendations from their individual perspectives.

HB 2009 and DHS/OHA Transition

- Serice: On July 1, the two agencies are officially created, though work has been done over the last two years to make that happen.
- Balter: Is it time for a report? Leola had requested at a previous meeting an update on the policies that are in place regarding limited A&D resources for child welfare families.
- McKenzie: Those services will be paid out of OHA.
- Serice: No reductions in services resulted from the split to two agencies.
- Day: Our clients are still prioritized. Our presentation to Ways & Means showed that we will keep the A&D teams and funding to support such prioritization.
- McKenzie: Are policies in place that state this prioritization?
- Day: Can do some research.

- Serice: Nothing changed in ITRS (Intensive Treatment and Recovery Services) funding to AMH (Addictions and Mental Health Division) for Child Welfare.
- Day: Can give an update in July. Will check if that ITRS for Child Welfare is in writing.

Wraparound

- Balter: Under which goal would Wraparound fit?
- Day: It falls in two places for her office: She has it under the goal of keeping kids safe and healthy while in foster care, but the overall concept fits in all categories.
- Balter: Suggests putting it under the goal of keeping kids safe and thriving while in foster care, at least temporarily while we look at the Wraparound Report. That report will be ready for review in July.

Juvenile Dependency Interbranch Work Group

- McKenzie: The group is meeting in September when the legislature is here for their interim committee meetings. Several legislators are interested in being involved in the work group, including Sen. Ferrioli, Sen. Bates, and Rep. Frederick. Judge Leonard plans to meet with them before session ends to get their commitment. We hope for more diversity and more voices from the legislative side. She will not have anything to report in July.

IV-E Waiver Demonstration

- Day: There is an indication our waiver will be renewed. SB 964 directs us to renegotiate the waiver and we will move forward with that. She will ask Angela Long to come to CWAC to talk about the waiver and how we make it work. At the federal level, the research model of demonstrating success may be removed. In the counties where we are required to have a control group for the research model, we talk to the judges about the requirements of the waiver.
- Serice: Nationally, five states have waivers left and they are trying hard to hang on to them.
- Day: Some states have a control year rather than a control group. Oregon doesn't so we have to use the research model. It isn't that we stop providing services to the control group, but the waiver provides enhanced services.
- McKenzie: Which counties?
- Day: She can get that information. Suggested putting this discussion under the briefing for federal policy discussion.

- Balter: The briefing will describe what the waiver is, how it works and the model.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Workload Staffing Model

- Balter: CWAC received the legislative report on workload staffing. Is a CWAC discussion needed?
- Day: The informative section of the report shows the increases and decreases of workload demand over time and gives a view of demands relative to staffing levels.
- Balter: Asked Lois to pull out a page or two to highlight. Move this under the heading of “Briefings / Toolbox.”

CAF ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Lois Day and Mickey Serice will give this report. The items listed on the draft agenda are correct. If information about the position of CAF Administrator is known, it will be shared with CWAC.

CWAC WORK PLAN

Current Work Plan	FIWG Proposed Work Plan
1. To advise the Department of Human Services (DHS) on development and administration of child welfare policies, programs and practices related to reducing over-representation of children of color in the child welfare system.	1. Identifying strategies to reduce over-representation of children of color in the child welfare system.
2. To expand the representativeness in CWAC discussions.	2. Preventing foster care placement.
3. To coordinate and leverage state and local efforts to improve policy, program, and practice.	3. Assuring that children placed in foster care are safe and are thriving.
4. To advise DHS on the practice of the Oregon Safety Model (OSM).	4. Providing permanency for children placed in foster care in a timely manner.

- Balter: Suggested dropping #2 and #3 from the current work plan. Item #4 would go under the Safety in Foster Care Subcommittee. What about Pam Patton's question about CIRTs? Does CWAC need an update on how the CIRT process works?
- Day: CIRTs are part of the sensitive issue review process. Rule defines what constitutes a sensitive issue. The CIRT manager reviews these reports and determines if one qualifies for a CIRT. All CIRT reports go to CWAC. If a member wants more information about a particular CIRT, it is that member's responsibility to let us know. We do not make general summary reports to CWAC.
- Balter: CIRT is a tool. How about getting a quick briefing or primer on the relationship between sensitive issue reports, CIRTs and the CWAC relationship?
- Day: It is in the Sensitive Review Committee process where CWAC has a relationship, not the sensitive issue process. It can be confusing because of the use of similar terms. We can talk about that and explain both and how they relate to each other.

CWAC BYLAWS

Don Darland, CJA Subcommittee member, requested time on today's agenda to bring a concern of the subcommittee about the possible need to revise the CWAC Bylaws.

- Bell: The CJA federal law changed recently. Is Don here to talk about the implications?
- Darland: There are some action items CWAC needs to address in July not related to the federal law change.
- Serice: Have we come up against a situation where the different funding timelines of feds and state resulted in the need to revise the plan because a better way to spend the CJA funds was found?
- Darland: In the past some adjustments have been made to the plan and we have not done some projects and we realigned the money to different projects. He is here today for a different reason. There are some changes in the federal law that require states to align CJA projects to the following:
 - (a) GRANTS TO STATES. – The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General, is authorized to make grants to the States for the purpose of assisting States in developing, establishing, and operating programs designed to improve-

- 1) the assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases, including cases of suspected child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child and the child's family;
 - 2) the assessment and investigation of cases of suspected child abuse-related fatalities and suspected child neglect-related fatalities;
 - 3) the investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation; and
 - 4) the assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.⁵
- Darland: In preparation for the next 3-year plan, the timeline to submit recommendations to CWAC will be December 2011 so the assessment process can be completed in time for a January 2012 approval. The 3-year report is then written and due 5/31/2012. Karly's Law, JCIP, CIRTs, the IV-E Waiver, etc., are reviewed by subcommittee members and considered when they make their recommendations.
 - Balter: Is it possible for a subcommittee member to write up this work plan?
 - Darland: Yes, that will be done for the July meeting.
 - Balter: CWAC needs to know that FIWG vetted it and that it come to them as a FIWG recommendation.
 - McKenzie: Looking at existing assessments and evaluations is very good. Suggested they also look at the permanency roundtable assessments and the Wraparound Report.
 - Darland: The challenge is that the CJA projects must align with the purposes of the federal law. We must be careful that our recommendations are drafted with how we are tasked by the law. Another challenge is that we don't have the staff support that we had in the past.

The subcommittee operates under the CWAC Bylaws. The subcommittee requests that CWAC consider amending the bylaws to incorporate the CJA oversight. There are a couple of membership requirements for CJA that are not required for CWAC. The amended bylaws need not spell out everything in detail.
 - Balter: Asked Mickey to see how the bylaws could be amended.
 - Serice: We looked at both memberships which led to the decision to move the CJA oversight to CWAC. We found the only vacancy was the health professional representative.

⁵ Section 107 (a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106c) is amended-(CAPTA Reauthorization Act of December 20, 2010)

- Pearson: CWAC member Leslie Currin had contacted DHS a while back to point out that she, as an RN, fills that role.
- Hoang: New CJA membership categories are for a former victim of child abuse and an individual experienced with working with homeless and runaway youth.
- Serice: Pamela Butler and Jamie Hinsz fill the first category.
- Balter: Boys and Girls Aid Society operates a homeless and runaway program so he fills the second category. We could revise the bylaws with a general statement about adding members to the subcommittee to fill the needs of the CJA. Another option would be to approve the charge that the subcommittee is to abide by the CJA.
- Serice: Suggested adding a point in the bylaws section on subcommittees that any subcommittee must follow all relevant state and federal laws. He offered to draft language.
- McKenzie: The bylaws require two-week notice for any amendments.

ACTION: Mickey Serice will draft an amendment to the bylaws. Don Darland will draft the subcommittee work plan for 2012-15, route it to the subcommittee and then to FIWG.

Meeting adjourned.