

**OMHSAS Children's Bureau Updates
March 2010**

Initiative/ Activity	Children's Bureau Contact	Type of Meetings & Frequency	Youth and Family Involvement	Current Activities	Next Steps
Act 62 External Advisory Committee and ad hoc Meetings with Counties/BH- MCOs/private sector	Sherry Peters	Monthly meetings	At least 3 family members involved.	Act 62 is the Autism Insurance Act that took effect in July, 2009 requiring certain private insurance to cover autism services. The advisory group is assisting in planning for a smooth transition. Information can be found at www.paautisminsurance.org	Ongoing forums to provide information for families and providers are available as needed. Meetings have been held between private insurers, counties, BH-MCOs, Insurance Department and DPW and will continue through the next year at least quarterly.
Alternatives to Coercive Techniques (ACT)	Scott Talley or Courtney Coover The ACT is cross systems group that includes the Office of Developmental Programs, the Office of Children Youth and Families, OMHSAS, Provider Association representation, the Department of Education and family members. The group is committed to supporting	Ongoing	Family members	A clarification to the informational bulletin 3800-09-02 "Prone Restraints in Children's Facilities" was released to clarify existing regulation prohibiting prone restraint effective June 21, 2010. Attachments to this bulletin included an update to the Special Transmittal and a list of restraint reduction core competencies. As a result of the Sanctuary State Core Team retreat a Needs Assessment was created as a way to further collaboration with providers. A member of the State Core Team will partner with each of the pilot providers to ask them a series of questions to determine how we as a State Core Team can better assist them. A statewide webex was conducted with Sanctuary Providers to review first year preliminary data and discuss the trends found in each of the three training cohorts. Overall restraints and	As of June 21, 2010, prone restraints will be prohibited in all 3800 child residential facilities including RTF's. Review Needs Assessment data to determine next steps Sanctuary sites are focused on achieving certification and identifying what activities will bring them closer to that goal

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	alternatives to restraint and other coercive methods while promoting a more supportive and trauma informed culture in residential and day treatment programs serving children			critical incidents were found to be decreasing.	
Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) Workgroup	Crystal Doyle This is a collaborative effort by the Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF), The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training Program (PACWTP), and the Pennsylvania Child and Youth Administrators (PCYA)	Monthly Meetings	Parents, advocates, and youth are represented and participate on this Workgroup. If interested in learning more about this Workgroup, please contact Cindi Horshaw at chorshaw@state.pa.us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CAPTA Workgroup has been divided into two groups – Citizen Review Panel Committee and the Children's Justice Act Committee/Task Force. • Citizen Review Panel Committee has developed a timeline for establishing six regional Citizen Review Panels across Pennsylvania and two local panels in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh areas. • Current efforts are focusing on finalizing recruitment and training materials. • Training for Panel Members are scheduled for November and December. 	<p>Eight Citizen Review Panels will be established across the Commonwealth. The first phase will consist of a total of three panels in the north west, south central and north east regions of Pennsylvania. The panels are required to meet at least quarterly and provide annual recommendations to the Department regarding the continuous improvement of child welfare services in Pennsylvania.</p> <p>Citizen Review Panels are composed of volunteer members, including individuals with expertise and interest in the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Citizen Review Panels evaluate practices as well as policies and procedures, develop a means for public outreach, and prepare an annual report highlighting panel activities and recommendations to improve child welfare</p>

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					<p>services. For more information on Citizen Review Panels or to apply to be a panel member please visit the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training Program's website at www.pacwcbt.pitt.edu/CAPTA.htm or contact Christine Reese at 717-795-9048. You can also send any questions via email to pacrp@pitt.edu.</p>
<p>Child and Family Services Review Steering Committee (CFSR)</p>	<p>Crystal Doyle This group includes policy, licensing and operational staff from the Office of Children Youth and Families (OCYF), County and Private Children and Youth agencies and the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS).</p>	<p>Monthly meetings</p>	<p>Youth Ambassadors, parents, and advocates are represented and participate on the steering committee. If interested in learning more about this committee, please contact Stephanie Maldonado at smaldonado@state.pa.us</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee continues to meet on a consistent basis to define action steps that would further enhance the recommendations provided to the Office of Children, Youth and Families after the Statewide Assessment 	<p>Develop and implement a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) to address issues of non-conformity after the Statewide Assessment conducted by the Federal Children's Bureau.</p>
<p>Commonwealth Student Assistance Program</p>	<p>Denise Short or Sherry Peters</p>	<p>Advisory Council meets periodically; Commonwealth Approved</p>	<p>Two family members on Advisory Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Student Assistance Program (SAP) has been in existence for 23 years and provides screening, consultation and support services to youth in all 501 school districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SAP is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Regional Coordinators and Statewide staff developed a toolkit to be used by SAP teams. The toolkit is available on-line.

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		Trainers meet twice a year; Regional SAP Coordinators meet monthly via conference calls, video, and face to face meetings		<p>throughout the Commonwealth. Currently SAP teams are in high schools, middle schools and some elementary schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 12 of the PA School Code was revised to include planning and provision of SAP for all school entities, kindergarten through grade 12. • SAP is an important service that is part of the joint initiative to provide School Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS) in schools. • Last year OMHSAS was given the opportunity to collaborate with BDAP and PDE to develop an on-line reporting system for Student Assistance Program (SAP) liaison services through the existing SAP website. Aggregate data is collected on-line by each SAP Liaison Provider agency by school district on a quarterly basis using a web-based reporting system. The data will help to substantiate all of the hard work and dedication that the SAP Liaisons have provided to children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional coordinators and state staff are also revised the SAP Q&A which is also available on-line. • The online data reporting system has been functioning for approximately one year and staff has begun to look at ways data may be most useful for all parties involved. We are continuing to streamline content and we are working on developing aggregate reports. A copy of a PowerPoint presentation explaining the data collection system is online at www.sap.state.pa.us.
Cross Systems Workgroup	Scott Talley	Subcommittee of the OMHSAS Children's Advisory:	Family and youth members from the OMHSAS Advisory Committee and Sunshine members will participate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mission of the group is "To support increased awareness, understanding, and communication across Pennsylvania's child servicing systems at local, county, 	Group members have decided that they find it helpful to participate and communicate via e-mail and will conduct Conference Calls as determined by group members.

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		Conference calls held between meetings	in this workgroup.	and state-wide levels.”	
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Workgroup	Stan Mrozowski	Quarterly Meetings in SE	Several consumers are members of the work group.	Developing continuum of community services, including small residential, which is being developed by Milestones in Montgomery County. This program is expected to open soon.	Continue to develop and implement plan; follow-up with the group in Western PA to address issues of statewide significance for youth and adults.
Early Childhood Mental Health Initiatives	Sherry Peters or Harriet Bicksler	ECMH Advisory Committee meets quarterly; children's bureau staff participate in various ECMH-related initiatives (e.g., Strengthening Families Leadership Team, Room to Grow Committee, ECMH Advisory Steering Committee, etc., Autism in Early Childhood	A family member is co-chair of the ECMH Advisory Committee; additional family members with young children are still being recruited for the advisory committee (around 3-5 family members currently, plus advocates). Contact Michele Walsh at micwal@berksiu.org for information.	Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) and OMHSAS work together on the ECMH Consultation project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project promotes healthy social-emotional development in young children while addressing challenging behaviors to prevent the need for a more intensive intervention in the child's future. • ECMH Consultants work with Early Care and Education Practitioners to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ observe children and program practices ○ develop goals and strategies to enhance the practitioners' capacity to encourage development of positive relationships ○ create a learning environment that promotes positive behaviors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The advisory committee met on March 2, and plans to invite DPW Acting Secretary Harriet Dichter and program offices deputies to the June meeting to discuss the status of the committee's recommendations. • A number of efforts are under way to ensure that the ECMH advisory committee and current momentum in early childhood mental health continue into the next administration.

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		<p>Education committee, PCPA early childhood behavioral health workgroup); CASSP Coordinators and ECMH Consultants meet periodically.</p>		<p>OMHSAS provides psychiatric consultative services to the ECMH Consultants via phone, e-mail, and in person consultation with a child psychiatrist. The child psychiatric consultant currently facilitates a weekly conference call with ECMH consultants to provide clinical consultation and professional support. (In the event that additional consultant services are needed, there is potential to access consultant services in each of the regional keys.)</p> <p>A "periodic update on early childhood mental health initiatives in Pennsylvania" is published and available online at www.parecovery.org (click Statewide Initiatives/ECMH and scroll down to link). (Latest edition dated June 2009; March 2010 edition in progress))</p> <p>The Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Committee has developed action plans for implementing the recommendations presented to DPW Secretary Estelle Richman and program office deputies in September 2009. The recommendations are in three focus areas: prevention and intervention, professional workforce development, and communication and collaboration. The complete recommendations document is available online at</p>	

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				www.parecovery.org (click Statewide Initiatives/ECMH and scroll down to link).	
Evidence-Based Programs (EBPs)	Courtney Coover, Elizabeth Campbell	Participation in quarterly Prevention Subcommittee Meetings at PCCD Quarterly MST provider calls Quarterly FFT provider calls		All calls were held as scheduled. There are no significant updates at this time.	
Family-Based Regulations Workgroup	Deb Hardy	Stakeholders completed their work and their final work product was forwarded to Policy Division	Participants included OMHSAS, service providers, family members, MCO's, and County Representatives.	Workgroup meets regularly to refine FB requirements for training, supervisory requirements and outcome measures to determine how best to assure fidelity to the PA model of FB. Met with PCPA to discuss potential impact on FB providers of several FB strategies under consideration such as increased training and supervisory requirements.	Plan to meet with counties and BH-MCO's, PCPA as well as with statewide FB providers to discuss current operating procedures and potential impact of changes to FB requirements in staffing, training and supervision.
Family-Group Decision Making (FGDM)	Courtney Coover	Statewide Implementation Team Meetings are quarterly; Evaluation sub-	implementation team has representation	No update to report	Continue to share information.

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		committee meetings are also quarterly			
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Services Development	Deb Hardy (Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs (BDAP) FASD Task Force under leadership of the Department of Health)	Executive Committee meetings/Task Force Meetings are focused towards building a system of care to meet the service needs of those children, adults, and families living with FASD. Quarterly Task Force Meetings	Parents, advocates, physicians, researchers, service providers, nurses and government policy makers participate	<p>-Invited to serve on the BDAP Executive Committee of the Statewide FASD Task Force</p> <p>-Continue involvement as a member on the Statewide Task Force, which will reconvene in December to develop an implementation strategy for the Five Year Plan.</p> <p>-Participate on planning committee for the Children's Interagency Conference in the development of FASD programming to include presentations and a round table discussion.</p> <p>-Advocate for inclusion of FASD presentations at the SWAN/IL Conference as a member of the Conference Planning Committee</p>	<p>-Continue to assist in expanding public and private child-serving agencies' involvement to increase awareness and get out important message of need to combine prevention with active intervention.</p> <p>The Five Year Plan for FASD is available online at www.parecovery.org (click on Statewide Initiatives/Early Childhood Mental Health and scroll to last item on page.)</p>
Integrated Children's Services Planning Advisory Committee	Sherry Peters	Quarterly	Youth and family subcommittees meet before the advisory committee. At least 10 family and youth are involved in this committee.	The Integrated Children's Services Plan Advisory Committee is comprised of county representatives and staff from MH/MR, C&Y, EI, D&A, Juvenile Detention Centers, DPW, PDE, and DOH. This external Committee also includes service providers, family members, child advocates and youth. The role of this committee includes providing the Department input and recommendations on integrated service	Plans for 10/11 were submitted in August and September. Preliminary reviews took place in December and feedback to counties is being prepared.

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				policies and procedures, provide feedback on best practices on integration of services and to assist in the review of county integrated plans.	
MacArthur MH/JJ Model Systems Project	Stan Mrozowski	Quarterly	Families involved in project; Wendy Luckenbill has developed a Guide for Families in working with the Juvenile Justice System	Screening and assessment, development of county efforts to implement elements of position statement, family involvement. Beginning study of Juvenile Mental Health Courts and other initiatives to address behavioral health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system.	Work with Juvenile Detention Centers and Juvenile Probation Departments to establish screening, assessment, and treatment protocols.
OMHSAS Advisory Executive Committee	Sherry Peters, or Doris Arena, or Shaye Erhard	Every other month	Youth and families involved. Co-chairs from Older Adult, Adult, and Children's Advisory Committees attend these meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The OMHSAS Advisory Executive Committee is comprised of the Co-Chairs of the Children's Adult, and Older Adult Committees to provide a structure for the coordination of the Advisory Committee's activities, concerns, and issues. • The Committee is responsible for the development of agendas, completing required correspondence, making recommendations of specific tasks and assignment of workgroups to develop information and recommendations on these issues, and making decisions on behalf of the Committee between meetings. • The Executive Committee acts as the Membership Committee, and having the authority to recommend to the Deputy Secretary persons to be appointed 	

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				to the three committees.	
OMHSAS Youth Advisory Subcommittee	Doris Arena	Every other month	Youth and families involved	<p>The OMHSAS Youth Advisory Committee is currently seeking applicants to fill positions on the Subcommittee.</p> <p>OMHSAS staff (Ann Litzelman) has developed a workgroup to explore curriculum develop for TAY peer support specialist training.</p>	The committee will continue to provide feedback to the Deputy Secretary on matters related to the needs of transition age youth.
PA Juvenile Fire Setter Interagency Coalition	Deb Hardy	Under leadership of the PA State Fire Commissioner's Office, to establish intervention efforts to address the problem associated with juvenile fire setting within the Commonwealth ; meetings held quarterly or as needed.		Attended the Juvenile Firesetter Advisory Group held June 22, 2009. The curriculum continues to be updated to meet the requirements of an MA eligible service.	Finalize the template JFS treatment program, planned to be completed by November 2009. Determine possibility for certification of training program.

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Public Health Workgroup	Stan Mrozowski	Subcommittee of the OMHSAS Children's Advisory: Conference calls held between meetings	Family and youth members from the Advisory Committee and Sunshine members will participate in this workgroup.	One of the three workgroups of the Children's Advisory Committee. .	Identification of ways to use the OMHSAS website to provide resources and information. Learn about national efforts, including SAMHSA, and determine how to connect our efforts.
Residential Treatment Facilities (RTF) Cross System Workgroup	Scott Talley The group includes policy, licensing and operational staff from the Office of Children Youth and Families (OCYF), Office of Medical Assistance Programs/the Bureau of Program Integrity (BPI), the Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS).	Ongoing		The integration of the approval, licensure, and certification of Residential Treatment Facilities (RTFs) is an initiative within Department of Public Welfare. Since 2002 the DPW/RTF Cross System Workgroup has met regularly to implement a cross system team approach to the review, approval, as well as improving the quality of care provided to residents within RTF's through the regional and field offices.	Targets established by the workgroup are: 1) To establish consistent review and approval guidelines of RTF's and to improve the quality of care provided to residents. 2) To increase communication between state departments for the purposes of incident and site review reporting.

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Residential Initiative	Stan Mrozowski, Sherry Peters, Scott Talley	ongoing	Periodic	Development of draft RTF regulations; Development of a White Paper on PRTFs; retreat with OMHSAS and OCYF; work groups to collect data on out-of-state issues, community alternatives, outcomes, pay for performance, and implications of FGDM and High Fidelity Wraparound.	Follow-up to meeting of OCYF/OMHSAS to finalize the report and develop action plans. Develop RTF Regulations Work Plan
Resource Facilitation Team (RFT)	Doris Arena	Monthly	This is an internal DPW workgroup and specific cases are discussed; therefore youth and families are not involved.	<p>The Resource Facilitation Team (RFT) facilitates the transition of physical health (PH) age-outs from the Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program to an alternate package of home and community-based services, to avoid institutionalization, and remain a viable part of their family and community. The RFT consists of representatives from the Office of Social Programs (OSP), Office of Program Development (OPD), Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF), and Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) to include long term care, managed care, and fee-for-service.</p> <p>The RFT's functions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gathering and reviewing assessments and other pertinent material to determine an individual's eligibility for a specific package of service or waiver 	

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				program, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> referring any individual, for whom the team members cannot find placement, to the Executive Steering Committee for further action 	
Respite	Crystal Doyle	Bi-monthly meetings	Family Members are involvement on the Workgroup. Currently in need of youth representation. *The group has identified a need for additional representation specifically in the following categories: rural, youth, cultural diversity, parents of MH children/youth, MH case managers and service coordinators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of the 1st and 2nd quarter reporting forms received from counties. Making contact with Counties to ensure that allocated respite funds are being spent per the established guidelines and allocated funds will be spent by the end of the current fiscal year. 	The group continues to identify Counties/Joinders that need technical assistance based on the reporting form data received during of fiscal year 2008-2009.
School Based Behavioral Health Leadership Team	Denise Short, Sherry Peters or	Conference calls or face to face meetings monthly	At least 3 family and youth members are involved along with multiple advocates.	OMHSAS has been participating on a School Based Behavioral Health Leadership team with the Department of Education and other stakeholders to Promote joint initiatives such as Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports, School Based Behavioral Health pilot programs, and providing ongoing training and consultation for education staff and provider agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration continues with DPW, PDE, DOH, PATTAN PGH to lead the effort for Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support. A two day meeting was held in August to streamline the statewide efforts. The new PA PBS web site is now live at www.papbs.org, and will be developed further.

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three informational sessions were recently held in November across the Commonwealth to explore and develop a Commonwealth Network of Approved facilitators for SWPBS.
Statewide Adoption Network	Crystal Doyle	Monthly mtgs on the Conference Planning Committee and quarterly mtgs on the Advisory Board	This is not an OMHSAS facilitated group. More information on Family involvement may be obtained by contacting the Statewide Adoption Network. OCYF Youth Ambassadors participate in these meetings.	Continue membership on the Conference Planning Committee for the Permanency Conference 2010.	Continue to provide technical assistance and access to resources that will best be suited to the intended audience of child welfare providers and resource families.
Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative	Denise Short or Sherry Peters	Youth Monitoring Committee meets at least quarterly with occasional conference calls and Youth Advisory meets at least 2 times per year.	2 family members are involved.	The Youth Monitoring Committee provides consultation and directs the agenda and activities for the Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative. OMHSAS and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, along with other state partners and stakeholders made application to SAMHSA to receive funds through the Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Grant. OMHSAS learned in September that we received \$500,000 for the first year with continuing funding for two more years. Check www.payspi.org for more information.	PA Suicide Youth Prevention Initiative web site at www.payspi.org includes pages featuring each county's suicide prevention efforts and resources, and is continually adding more information and resources. Garrett Lee Smith grant update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 30, 2009 marked the end of Year 1 of the grant. Strategic Planning continues regarding implementation of grant as well as training efforts. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Attachment Based Family therapy and Co-occurring trainings were well attended in Year 1 and will continue in Year 2. Input regarding additional training needs is being explored with MH

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					<p>and PCP providers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly conference calls occur with each county along with monthly in person meetings with a continued focus on strategic planning and implementation of the grant. • Each county has identified Primary Care & Behavioral Partners. • Luzerne County: Screening began 9/09 with 3 screens to date and 5 additional Primary Care sites scheduled to join the project • Lackawanna County: Screening began 10/09 with 10 screens to date (2 positive for depression and suicidal ideation, immediate & appropriate follow up occurred) • Schuylkill County: Screening began at 2 sites in 12/09, 2 screens to date. One additional primary care site to begin late Jan 2010. • Exploring outreach and community awareness efforts to foster more PCP & BH partnerships.
Transition Cross Systems Workgroup	Doris Arena	Monthly face to face meetings.	One family member and two transition age young adults.	The OMHSAS Cross Systems Transition Workgroup has concluded their work and the recommendations have been forwarded to management. The group has since decided to meet quarterly, rather than monthly	The goal of the workgroup was to develop a work plan that would identify cross systems policies that impede transition and outline specific strategies to address these obstacles.

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Systems of Care	Stan Mrozowski	Monthly meetings of the State Team	State Team will be comprised of six individuals representing OMHSAS, OCYF, Juvenile Court Judges Commission, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Governor's Commission on Children and Families, and the DPW Secretary's Office AND an equal number of youth and family representatives.	There are a number of start-up activities, including staff recruitment, recruitment of youth and family members, and training to learn how to implement the Grant.	The family and youth representatives to the State Partnership Team have been appointed. The first official meeting is scheduled for March 24 th . The Grant requires that the first year focus on start-up and strategic planning.
Transition State Leadership Team	Doris Arena (Statewide Cross-Systems representatives)	Quarterly meetings	PA State Youth Leadership Network	The SLT met on December 8 th for their quarterly meeting. A major point of discussion was agency support and buy-in for the efforts of the MOU team.	Development of subcommittees to address goals outlined in MOU.
Youth and Family Advocacy Workgroup	Sherry Peters	Subcommittee of the OMHSAS Children's Advisory: Conference calls held between Advisory meetings	Family and youth members from the Advisory Committee and Sunshine members will participate in this workgroup.	One of the three workgroups of the Children's Advisory Committee. This workgroup will focus on developing and promoting a statewide strategy to build capacity for youth and family advocacy at the local level.	Continue to schedule conference calls in between Advisory meetings.
Youth and Family Training Institute Development	Stan Mrozowski Sherry Peters or Scott Talley	Weekly meetings to discuss implementation	Periodically	Creation of Advisory Board, testing financing models working with counties to serve as "Early Implementers" of High Fidelity	Continue to support implementation in the 5 early counties; develop plans for the next four counties; continue public education; establish work group to identify operational

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				Wraparound and public education presentations.	processes. Insure coordination with the new System of Care initiative.

CONTACTS

1. Stan Mrozowski smrozowski@state.pa.us
2. Sherry Peters shepeters@state.pa.us
3. Scott Talley stalley@state.pa.us
4. Doris Arena darena@state.pa.us
5. Harriet Bicksler c-hbicksle@state.pa.us
6. Elizabeth Campbell c-ecampbel@state.pa.us
7. Courtney Coover ccoover@state.pa.us
8. Crystal Doyle crdoyle@state.pa.us
9. Shaye Erhard eerhard@state.pa.us
10. Deb Hardy dehardy@state.pa.us
11. Denise Short dshort@state.pa.us
12. Ann Litzelman c-alitzelm@state.pa.us
13. Patrick Rieker c-prieker@state.pa.us
14. Cynthia Christenson c-cchrste@state.pa.us