

OMHSAS Children's Bureau Updates
March 2009

Initiative/ Activity	Children's Bureau Contact	Type of Meetings & Frequency	Youth and Family Involvement	Current Activities	Next Steps
Adolescent Co-Occurring Training of Trainers (TOT)	Doris Arena	On-going	Family member Sharon Smith participated as an observer for the two day training	As a result of the recent Co-Occurring Training of Trainers (TOT) for Adolescent Co-Occurring, a cadre of trained professionals (educators, clinicians, other professionals) from various regions across the state are now equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to train the larger workforce across the state; thus, alleviating the barrier of access to adolescent co-occurring training resources. The list of regional trainers and their contact information is available on the DPW and DOH websites.	The participants will provide four trainings within their individual communities to transfer the knowledge and skills to the larger provider community across the state. OMHSAS will monitor the trainings and provide information on future training dates and locations.
Alternatives to Coercive Treatment (ACT)	Scott Talley or Courtney Coover The ACT Initiative is supplemented by the Quality of Residential Services Workgroup as part of the PeopleStat Office. This DPW level group includes Office of Child	Ongoing	Family members	As part of the Alternatives to Coercive Techniques restraint free initiative, the Department has developed a core competencies document.	Disseminate Core Competencies document broadly and present to Advisory. Sanctuary Model Booster Trainings are being held over the winter months. This is an opportunity for providers to regroup and ask any questions they may have to peers as well as Sanctuary and state staff. There are currently 29 RTF's in PA that are participating in a pilot project to further develop Sanctuary practices in PA. The goal is to have these sites ready for certification within 3 yrs.

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	Development, Office of Mental Retardation, Office of Children Youth and Families, Office of Medical Assistance and all residential programs including those operated directly by DPW				
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)	Bi-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. 	The Northwest region has been targeted for recruitment and training of Citizen Review Panel Members in early 2009.
Child and Family Services Review Steering Committee (CFSR)	Crystal Doyle This group includes policy,	Monthly meetings	Youth Ambassadors, parents, and advocates are represented and participate on the steering	<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 	Develop and implement a Program Improvement Plan (PIP) to address issues of non-conformity after the Statewide Assessment conducted by the Federal

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	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).		committee. If interested in learning more about this committee, please contact Stephanie Maldonado at smaldonado@state.pa.us	provided to the Office of Children, Youth and Families after the Statewide Assessment	Children's Bureau.
Commonwealth Student Assistance Program	Denise Short or Sherry Peters	Advisory Council meets periodically; Commonwealth Approved Trainers meet twice a year; Regional SAP Coordinators meet monthly via conference calls, video, and face to face meetings	Two family members on Advisory Council	<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 throughout the Commonwealth. Currently SAP teams are in high schools, middle schools and some elementary schools. • 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. • OMHSAS has recently been given 	All the Single County Authorities have registered and most of the Mental Health

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				<p>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 will be 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.</p>	<p>Programs have registered. Still working on gathering data for 1st quarter reports but second quarter reports are in progress as well.</p>
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	Continue to develop and implement plan
Early Childhood Mental Health Initiatives	Sherry Peters or Harriet Bicksler	CASSP Coordinators and ECMH Consultants meet periodically; ECMH Advisory Committee meets quarterly; children's bureau staff participate in various ECMH-related initiatives (e.g.,	*A family member is co-chair of the ECMH Advisory Committee; additional family members with young children are being recruited for the advisory committee (around 3 family members currently)	<p>Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) and OMHSAS have been working together on the ECMH Consultation project.</p> <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' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OMHSAS is providing psychiatric consultative services to the ECMH Consultants via phone, e-mail, and in person consultations through a child psychiatrist. (In the event that additional consultant services are needed, there is potential to access consultant services in each of the regional keys.) • Early Childhood Mental Health Advisory Committee has met four times. The three workgroups (prevention and intervention, communication and collaboration, and workforce development) are developing specific recommendations to present to the DPW program office deputies by September 2009. The next meeting will

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		Strengthening Families Leadership Team, Room to Grow Committee, ECMH Advisory Steering Committee, etc.)		<p>capacity to encourage development of positive relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ create a learning environment which promotes positive behaviors. <p>A “periodic update on early childhood mental health initiatives in Pennsylvania” published and available online at www.parecovery.org (click Statewide Initiatives/ECMH and scroll down to link). (Latest edition dated November 2008)</p> <p>Approximately 30 ECMH practitioners from across the state are enrolled in the Infant Mental Health certificate program at Chatham University through funded provided by OMHSAS.</p>	be held on June 2, 2009.
Evidence-Based Programs (EBPs)	Courtney Coover, Elizabeth Campbell, and Jessica Umbrell	<p>Participation in quarterly Prevention Subcommittee Meetings at PCCD</p> <p>Quarterly MST provider calls</p> <p>Quarterly FFT provider calls</p>		<p>Children's Bureau is aware of two recent RFP's for FFT, one in York Co and one for Buck/Montgomery</p> <p>Quarterly meetings for FFT providers have been established. The 1st meeting will be held on March 25th.</p> <p>MST provider calls continue on a quarterly basis</p> <p>Meetings with PCCD, OCYF, and the Center for EBP to coordinate roles related to funding, data collection, and</p>	<p>Identify categories of data to be collected and reported to the Children's Bureau by enrolled MTFC programs.</p> <p>Collaborate with PCCD to obtain performance data PCCD is collecting for grant-funded EBPs.</p> <p>Write summary of findings of FFT and MST site visits</p> <p>Develop the Youth and Family Team process as a practice model to support EBPs</p>

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				technical assistance to providers	Utilize appropriate resources to identify further EBPs and promising practices.
Family-Based Regulations Workgroup	Lee Yates	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.	. Consumer family focus groups completed. A small group of volunteers reviewed qualitative data and submitted preliminary comments.	Convene a conference call to flesh out major themes from focus groups and draft report.
Family-Group Decision Making (FGDM)	Lee Yates	Statewide Implementation Team Meetings are quarterly; Evaluation sub-committee meetings are also quarterly	Advocating for family and youth involvement on the evaluation subcommittee; implementation team has representation	Attend meetings as scheduled.	Continue to share information.
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Services Development	Lee Yates (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	-Invited to serve on the BDAP Executive Committee of the Statewide FASD Task Force -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. -Participate on planning committee for the Children's Interagency Conference in the development of FASD programming to include presentations and a round table discussion.	-Seek presenters for the conference. -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. 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.)

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				-Advocate for inclusion of FASD presentations at the SWAN/IL Conference as a member of the Conference Planning Committee	
Individualized Planning for Children With Complex Issues Workgroup	Courtney Coover or Sherry Peters or Scott Talley	Subcommittee of the OMHSAS Children's Advisory: Conference calls held between meetings	Shelly Dorfi chairs this group and at least 3 family members participated	The subcommittee has met to define action steps that would further enhance the recommendations provided to OMHSAS. Examples of this are requesting OMHSAS provide an overview of what Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Multi Systemic Therapy (MST) are as well as what counties they are available in.	This group's recommendations will be carried out by other existing groups.
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 policies and procedures, provide feedback on best practices on integration of services and to assist in the review of county integrated plans.	County plans were reviewed in late October and November. Final comments are being compiled.
MacArthur MH/JJ Model Systems Project	Stan Mrozowski	Quarterly	Families involved in project	Screening and assessment, development of county efforts to implement elements of position statement, family involvement. Beginning study of Juvenile Mental health Courts.	

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OMHSAS Advisory Executive Committee	Sherry Peters, or Doris Arena, or Shaye Erhard	Every other month	Youth and families involved	<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 to the three committees. 	
OMHSAS Youth Advisory Subcommittee	Doris Arena	Every other month	Youth and families involved	<p>The OMHSAS Youth Advisory Committee recently appointed two new mentors to the Subcommittee.</p> <p>The OMHSAS Transition Cross Systems Workgroup was recently convened to identify and prioritize policy and/or practice barriers that impede successful transition for youth and young adults. The workgroup is comprised of state level policy staff from various youth serving systems, as</p>	The committee will continue to provide feedback to the Deputy Secretary on matters related to the needs of transition age youth.

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				well as a family member and two young adults The workgroup's goal is to develop a work plan by the summer that will detail actions steps to address these barriers across systems.	
PA Juvenile Fire Setter Interagency Coalition	Lee Yates	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.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two service descriptions for juvenile fire setters (JFS) treatment programs have been received by the Bureau for review. To better understand the proposed services, Bureau staff gathered additional information about the protocol developed by the Coalition, attended a training program offered by the OPSFC, and had internal discussions about how the proposed services could fit within MA standards. • Bureau staff met with PCPA and a group of providers interested in delivering JFS treatment services to discuss how to create a clinically sound service that also fits within MA requirements. The Bureau has since been working closely with one provider, who is taking a leadership role, to develop a template for a JFS treatment program that other providers can also implement. • Provided information to the State Fire Commission on the 16th Annual Forensic Rights and Treatment Conference 	<p>Attend the Juvenile Firesetter Advisory Group for a 'state of the group' presentation and to discuss and perhaps make some decisions as to the future of this initiative.</p> <p>Finalize the template JFS treatment program.</p>

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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.
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 in September; work groups to collect data on out-of-state issues, community alternatives, outcomes, pay for performance, and implications of FGDM and High Fidelity Wraparound.	

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<p>Resource Facilitation Team (RFT)</p>	<p>Doris Arena</p>	<p>Monthly</p>	<p>This is an internal DPW workgroup and specific cases are discussed; therefore youth and families are not involved.</p>	<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 program, • referring any individual, for whom the team members cannot find placement, to the Executive Steering Committee for further action • 	

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Respite	Crystal Doyle	Bi-monthly meetings	Youth (1) and Family Members (4) involvement on the Workgroup. *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 2nd quarter data from reporting forms received from counties. • Making contact with Counties to ensure that allocated respite funds will be spent by the end of the current fiscal year. 	<p>Meetings for 2009 have been pre-scheduled to occur bi-monthly. The group continues to identify Counties/Joinders that need technical assistance based on the reporting form data and overall expenditures from fiscal year 2007-2008.</p> <p>Participants from the Workgroup agreed that the following three areas would focus the ongoing work of the group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring the expenditure of allocations for the use of respite services; 2. Developing resources such as training curriculum, informational brochures, rural issues; balancing safety with parent choice; 3. Developing consistent evaluation information that would demonstrate the value of respite and the need for additional funds for expansion.
School Based Behavioral Health Leadership Team	Denise Short, Sherry Peters or	Conference calls or face to face meetings at least quarterly	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.	PBS Summit was held on 12/11/08- Lucile Eber was the keynote speaker. Two districts who have implemented PBS in two of their schools presented information regarding the significant gains they have seen in student performance and decrease in discipline referrals as well as a decrease in referrals to special education. 400 people were in attendance at this conference from across the Commonwealth.
School Based Behavioral Health Workgroup	Denise Short or Sherry Peters	Subcommittee of the OMHSAS	At least 3 family members are involved.	Members of the OMHSAS Children's Advisory Committee's School Based Behavioral Health Workgroup and	The workgroup is joining forces with the School Based Leadership Team to work on a variety of documents and help to design an

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		Children's Advisory: Conference calls held between meetings every other month		other interested stakeholders have initiated a process with a series of meetings to develop a position paper that will clearly identify and define the various initiatives and how they will support a collaborative framework and how to function in schools.	approach to expand School Wide Positive Behavior Support.
Statewide Adoption Network	Lee Yates	Monthly mtgs on the Conference Planning Committee and quarterly mtg on the Advisory Board		Continue membership on the Conference Planning Committee for the Permanency Conference 2009.	Contact Dan Dubrovsky to encourage his submitting of proposal to present at the 2009 Permanency Conference. 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.	<p>The Youth Advisory recently met to identify and prioritize goals and objectives and completed the process of updating the Youth Suicide Prevention Five Year Action Plan.</p> <p>The Youth Monitoring Committee provides consultation and directs the agenda and activities for the Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative. The committee plans to meet quarterly at various locations throughout the State for the 2008 calendar year. The committee has been working on a mission statement and prioritizing objectives for the year.</p> <p>OMHSAS and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, along with other state partners and stakeholders made application to SAMHSA to receive</p>	<p>PA Suicide Youth Prevention Initiative web site at www.payspi.org is developing pages featuring each county's suicide prevention efforts and resources. (This is ongoing)</p> <p>Efforts are under way to implement the Garrett Lee Smith Grant-Youth Suicide Prevention in Primary Care. Two successful kick-off events held 12/2 and 12/5. Luzerne/Lackawanna combined their efforts. Schuylkill County held a separate event. Each county has identified a primary care office that has agreed to partner with us on this project. The trainings will begin in March for the primary care setting regarding youth suicide prevention and the use of the screening tool. The trainings for the Behavioral Health Providers on Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Attachment Based Family Therapy will begin in April.</p>

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				funds through the Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Grant. OMHSAS learned in September that we received the grant, which will be for \$500,000 for the first year with continuing funding for two more years. Check www.payspi.org for more information.	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.
Transition Cross Systems Workgroup	Doris Arena	Monthly face to face meetings.	One family member and two transition age young adults. *Currently recruiting an additional family member to participate.	The OMHSAS Cross Systems Transition Workgroup met for the first meeting on February 18 th . The focus of the group is to involved cross system policy partners, family members and transition age youth and young adults to identify and prioritize policies or practices embedded in policy that hinder successful transition.	The goal of the workgroup is to develop a work plan by late June 2009 that will identify cross systems policies that impede transition and outline specific strategies to address these obstacles. The workgroup will continue to meet on a monthly basis to work through this process.
Systems of Care	Lee Yates	Conference calls with Calibur as schedule permits as well as local meetings periodically.	Family involvement with cross system representatives on both state and local levels.	The five year System of Care (SOC) grant period has passed. Sustainability Conference Call Series are held monthly. The last two covered family involvement with a focus on sharing leadership and moving beyond comfort level in order to work together in new ways. The presenters included Executive Director of Circle of Parents and a parent leader and trainer from	Participate in the local meetings for planning of the one year no cost extension. Although Pa's request has not been officially approved to date; it is expected to meet with the Fed's approval.

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				Prevent Child Abuse.	
Transition State Leadership Team	Doris Arena (Statewide Cross-Systems representatives)	Quarterly meetings	PA State Youth Leadership Network	The SLT is currently reviewing proposals from various individuals and providers to present at the 2009 Community on Transition conference in State College, July 22-24, 2009. Family and youth scholarship information will be coming in the near future, when the official conference brochure is released.	The SLT is currently working on the details of the 2009 Community on Transition Conference.
Youth and Family 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" and public education presentations.	Begin implementation in the early counties; continue public education; Technical Assistance for new counties.

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