

**Eastern Citizen Review Panel
Meeting Summary
September 16, 2016
10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

Attendees:

Panel Members: Mary McCarthy, Erin Christopher-Sisk, Joanne Merriman, Edward Blatt, Maureen McGloughlin, Angela Baris

Guests: Steve Brown, PSY.D., Director Traumatic Stress Institute of Klingberg Family Centers
Sarah Yanosy, Director of the Sanctuary Institute
Lisa Gordon, OCFS
John Thompson, OCFS
Jeanette Feingold, Director of Child Protective Services (by phone)
Jessica Pryce, Eastern Panel Guest

WRI Staff: Judy Stanger, Program Specialist and CRP Coordinator
Cindy Alois, Administrative Support Specialist

Handouts:

- Agenda
- OCFS: Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016: New York State's Position
- Engaging Parents, Developing Leaders: A Self-Assessment and Planning Tool for Nonprofits and Schools
- Traumatic Stress Institute: Risking Connection: A Transformative Whole System Intervention that Lasts, Risking Connection Trauma Training, TSI: Overview, Whole System Transformation to Trauma Informed Care
- Development and Psychometric Evaluation of the Attitudes Related to Trauma-Informed Care (ARTIC) Scale
- Risking Connection Trauma Training: A Pathway Toward Trauma-Informed Care in Child Congregate Care Settings
- Trauma-Informed Care: Current State of the Field and Interventions to Change Whole Systems-of-Care
- 9/7/16 Summary of CRP Chairs' Meeting with NYS DOB
- Home Visiting Need NYS Infographic
- 8/15/16 Home Visiting Advocacy Meeting Agenda
- 4/13/16 HEARTS Leaders Meeting Draft Agenda
- 8/25/16 Summary of CRP Chairs meeting with OCFS
- 6/9/16 Summary of National CRP Conference
- 6/9/16 Joint CRP Minutes

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Mary McCarthy opened the meeting and introductions took place. It was decided the election of a new chairperson would occur at the conclusion of the meeting.

Agenda Item: Building a Trauma Informed Child Welfare System . *Steve Brown, PSY.D., Sarah Yanosy*

Dr. Brown began his presentation by discussing the current state of the Trauma Informed Care field. Presently in New York State implementation of TIC is not consistent. Dr. Brown then presented a brief overview of the current field of TIC. The Trauma Stress Institute (TSI) assists in transforming whole systems into Trauma sensitive organizations. TSI Practice model is based on two pillars: 1) Risking Connections Trauma Training Model 2) Restorative Approach (for child congregate care). A whole-system change to TIC is an 18-24 month implementation process consisting of:

- Proposal and contracting
- Meeting with leadership
- Consultation to TIC Task Force
- 3-Day Risking Connection (RC) Basic Training
- 1 Day Restorative Approach (RA) Training (for child congregate care)
- Training of Trainers
- Rollout of RC and RA training within organization
- Coaching and consultation about RC and RA rollout and other implementation goals
- Program evaluation

Presently, TSI is working with 40 organizations and two providences in Canada. Dr. Brown stated that TSI works in collaboration with Sarah Yanosy of the Sanctuary Institute, which serves the tri-state area. The overall focus of TSI is to look at systems of trauma. TSI takes the position that the signs of trauma existing within systems are very similar to the signs of trauma present in individuals. Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) study provided the framework for the TIC movement. Current trends reflect an increased awareness in the TIC movement driven by ACE research and ACE-related intervention; cross sector awareness and implementation; growth of community-wide and statewide efforts. Dr. Brown also addresses challenges within the TIC movement:

- TIC has become a buzzword
- Implementation and sustainability is difficult
- Defining measurable change
- Most TIC interventions not related to trauma
- Practice ahead of research

Ms. Yanosy stated that the Sanctuary Institute (SI) is also a system-wide TIC model. Sanctuary works with 350 organizations (20 in NYS), 30 states and 7 countries. The implementation of Sanctuary is closer to a 3 year implementation process, with a similar set of benchmarks, tracking, and program evaluation process.

Four Sanctuary models are currently supported by OCFS:

- Twenty volunteer residential programs: SI implementation occurred over three-year process.
- Juvenile Justice Programs: Implementation of thirty JDD programs and Division of Juvenile Justice Opportunities for Youth (DJJOY). Ms. Yanosy reported mixed results with this program.
- Intervention/TIC within public schools: Program took place in Mt. Vernon, Peakskill, Yonkers and NYC. TI assisted public schools in connecting with community partners.
- Working with Family Court Judges: Outreach programs related to trauma-informed care.

A Panel member asked about cost of implementation. Ms. Yanosy responded that for some agencies, a portion is supplemented through OCFS.

Ms. Yanosy briefly addressed SI outcomes: individuals reflected a decrease in length of stay along with improved coping abilities; and for staff, a decreased rate in turnover, a decreased rate of trauma, and the improvement of client to staff relationships.

A Panel member asked if there were any examples of how child protective cases would be different if caseworkers received TIC training. Ms. Yanosy responded that there has been a lot of preventive work in this area. A protocol has been developed using Home Visiting as a model for families. Ms. Yanosy concluded her presentation stating that the overall goal is to give families the tools to model relationships that will make children safer in the home.

Agenda Item: OCFS Updates *Lisa Gordon, John Thompson*

The following updates were provided by OCFS in regard to the CRP's recommendations:

- Child/Family Service Review with Public Catalyst: OCFS is working with a consultant, Public Catalyst, at the home office and regional offices to assess why the federal measures in NY are so poor. The process involves looking at data with OCFS and establishing a basis to improve outcomes.
- Permanency: Ms. Gordon reported that some counties are doing well in this area.
- Safety: Ms. Gordon commented about the lack of improvement in the area of safety. OCFS has contracted with Federal consultant to look at safety data and prioritize efforts.
- Trauma Informed Care: Mr. Thompson reported OCFS began incorporating TIC into all trainings in 2015. Ms. Gordon acknowledged that more needs to be done with self-care.
- Incarcerated Parents: OCFS is currently more involved in this work.
- Child Fatality Reports: OCFS has hired and trained six new staff members tasked with reviewing Fatality reports and developing a more stream-lined approach. Goal is to be ready by November 2016.
- Safe Sleep: Currently OCFS has a pilot program in four hospitals located in Western NY. OCFS developed a packet containing Safe Sleep information for parents (sleep sack, baby book on Safe Sleep, informational door hangers, Safe Sleep DVD). Nurses as well as Social Services staff are instructed to hand out the Safe Sleep packets. At this time, parents are also asked if they are willing to have a 6 week follow up call. Ms. Gordon reported that OCFS has had many requests for the Safe Sleep packets. Ms.

Gordon also asked for the Panels' assistance in contacting any other hospitals or organizations that would be willing to participate in the Safe Sleep program.

- Abuse/Maltreatment of Foster Children: OCFS is working on closer monitoring.
- RFPs in Development: Ms. Gordon concluded her presentation stating that OCFS currently has two RFPs in development related to Healthy Families and Permanency Research. Ms. Gordon also stated that four additional programs have been added to existing agencies.

Mr. Thompson began his report discussing the Principles of Partnership program. He acknowledged that there is a need to make sure that all training projects are consistent; moving beyond focusing solely on CPS. OCFS is developing a new model training system for 2017. The new web-based model will include: on-the-job training; establishment of coaches in the field who will hold case workers accountable (skills practice); and the development of pre/post assessments.

Agenda Item: Nassau County Blind Removal Program *Jeanette Feingold*

Ms. Feingold stated that the Nassau County Blind Removal Program was implemented in 2009-10. Nassau County has always had a removal system in place that involved the caseworker and their supervisor. A Removal Committee was established along with the implementation of the Blind Removal Program consisting of: legal services, CPS Director, Director of Child Services, Caseworker, Supervisor, Home Findings Unit, and Foster Care. Prior to the establishment of the Removal Committee, caseworkers relied solely on their supervisors for support. During a Blind Removal, the committee is unaware of any demographic information related to the family, names or family history. The purpose of implementing a Blind Removal system is to eliminate bias. Ms. Feingold will send the program's statistics and agreed to call in to the next meeting to discuss the stats.

Agenda Item: WRI Updates *Judy Stanger, Mary McCarthy*

- Summary of OCFS and DOB meetings with Panel Chairs: Ms. McCarthy reported the Panel representatives discussed New York's very poor data outcomes on the federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) measures and pointed DOB staff to the tables of CFSR data in the CRP 2015 Annual Report. DOB staff asked questions about trends in CFSR data over time and the underlying conditions behind New York's poor outcomes. There was discussion about the top performing states, and what they have in common. Ms. McCarthy pointed to several states and the fact that they each have implemented a statewide practice model, driven by data, embedded in training, and modeled through leadership. Ms. Stanger reported that she is drafting a thank you letter to DOB reinforcing points from the meeting.
- Hearts Leaders Meeting: Ms. Stanger began attending these quarterly meetings and referred members to the agenda in the handouts.
- Home Visiting Advocacy Meeting: Ms. Stanger began attending the home visiting work group chaired by SCAA and referred members to the agenda in the handouts.

- National CRP Conference: Ms. Stanger asked panel members to refer to handout for a summary of the conference.

Agenda Item: Electing a New Chairperson *Mary McCarthy*

Edward Blatt, Ph.D has accepted the position of Chair for the Eastern Citizen Review Panel.

The meeting was adjourned.