

Eastern Citizen Review Panel for Child Protective Services

Meeting Summary May 3, 2018 • 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Attendees

Edward Blatt, Panel Chair
Mary McCarthy, Panel Co-Chair
Jennifer Goldman, WRI

Handouts

Agenda	Home Visiting – unmet need by county
Talking points	Legislator profiles
Minutes 3.8.18	CRP jurisdiction by county
Empire Plaza map	CRP 1 page description

Legislative Advocacy Meetings

- On May 3, 2018, Panel Chair Edward Blatt, Panel Co-Chair Mary McCarthy, and CRP Coordinator Jennifer Goldman met with the following legislators to discuss the CRPs' 2017 Recommendation – additional funding for home visiting programs statewide:
 - Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy
 - Assemblyman John McDonald
 - Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh
- The Legislators and Eastern Panel members discussed the following topics at each meeting:
 - Additional investment in home visiting programs
 - Proven improved outcomes for children and families in home visiting programs
 - Cost savings from home visiting programs
 - Identification of areas underserved by home visiting programs

NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) Updates - *Lisa Gordon, OCFS (via email)*

- Child and Family Service Review – NYS has still not heard back from the federal Administration for Children and Families regarding the approval of NYS Program Improvement Plan. OCFS continues to implement strategies in the plan while awaiting approval.
- Family Assessment Response (FAR) – A strategic planning workgroup is working on revisions to the FAR curriculum and surveying counties to identify needed updates in FAR protocols. OCFS is also looking at county plans to identify new counties that could benefit from FAR implementation.

- Home Visiting – OCFS is looking for ways to expand existing programs and also identify potential sites for new programs through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funding.
- CPS Caseload Study – OCFS is still interested; however there is no update.
- Raise the Age – A Request for Applications to develop Raise the Age related programs was released. Thirteen sites were selected, and the foster care model contract for these sites will be revised to include Raise the Age programming. OCFS is also convening a Raise the Age taskforce to work out implementation details.
- Family First Act – OCFS has been convening weekly meetings to assess the potential impact of this new federal law and is awaiting additional guidance from the federal government.

Next Steps

- Panel members in attendance will debrief the panel members on legislator meetings.
- Panel members will continue to maintain regular contact with legislators
- Next meetings
 - Joint Panel Meeting – June 14, 2018
 - Eastern CRP Meeting – September 20, 2018