

Western Citizen Review Panel for Child Protective Services

Meeting Summary
September 28, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Attendees

Citizen Review Panel (CRP) Members

Ellen Kennedy

Linda Brown

Sarlyn Tate

Welfare Research, Inc. (WRI)

Jennifer Goldman

Ellen Unruh

Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

Amy Papandrea

Handouts

Agenda

Western CRP Meeting Summary 5.18.18

Welcome – *Panel Chair Ellen Kennedy*

- Panel members discussed strategies for increasing participation and representation of panel members.

Updates from August CRP Advocacy Day – *CRP Coordinator Jennifer Goldman*

- CRP Coordinator Jennifer Goldman provided a summary of the CRP Advocacy Day on August 27, 2018. Panel members met with Assemblymember Patricia Fahy, staff from Senator George Amedore's office, and staff from the republican senate finance committee and Division of Budget.
- The meeting with Assemblymember Fahy confirmed that the Panels will be more successful with focus on one budget ask. She was extremely engaged and agreed to support the Panels' work to increase funding for home visiting programs. Senator Amedore's staff was also receptive to supporting the Panels' ask.

WRI Updates – *Jennifer Goldman and Ellen Unruh*

- CRP Coordinator Jennifer Goldman provided updates on planning for the CRP Fall Home Visiting Symposium.
- WRI Associate Executive Director Ellen Unruh provided updates on a letter sent to OCFS on behalf of the CRPs requesting changes to CONNECTIONS to improve mandated reporter notifications.

OCFS Updates – *Amy Papandrea*

- Family First Act – OCFS hosted a webinar on the Family First Act and an initial convening with the goal of developing a blueprint for implementation.
- Raise the Age – Thirteen agencies are certified to accept 16 and 17 year old youth previously housed in adult correction facilities. OCFS convenes monthly learning collaboratives to discuss plans for implementation, challenges, and lessons learned.
- Family Assessment Response (FAR) – OCFS is providing data to FAR counties to improve performance and also encourage FAR program model fidelity. OCFS is also planning on hosting learning meetings for counties that have implemented FAR to gather and share lessons learned. Expansion plans continue for all boroughs in NYC. OCFS is looking into ways that FAR principles and engagement techniques can be infused into other program areas and trainings.
- Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) Program Improvement Plan (PIP) Implementation – OCFS continues to host quarterly meetings tracking progress on the implementation of PIP strategies and is currently meeting targets.
- Home Visiting – No new report.
- The Statewide Training Center is on track to open in January 2019.

Local Advocacy Discussion

- Panel members discussed plans for local level advocacy including:
 - Creating a template letter and/or email
 - Meeting one on one with legislators in their districts
 - Hosting a regional press conference.

Next Steps

- Next meeting
 - Fall Home Visiting Symposium – October 11, 2018
- Panel Chair Ellen Kennedy adjourned the meeting.