

Child Protection Accountability Commission (CPAC)
Quarterly Meeting Minutes

WEDNESDAY, April 15, 2015
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – New Castle County Courthouse
500 King Street, 12TH Floor, Wilmington, Delaware

Those in attendance:

Members of the Commission:

C. Malcolm Cochran, IV, Esq., Chair
Dr. Victoria Kelly
The Honorable Chandlee J. Kuhn
The Honorable Joelle Hitch
The Honorable Melanie George Smith
Susan Cycyk
Eleanor Torres, Esq.
Corporal Adrienne Owen
Dr. Garrett Colmorgen

Jennifer Donahue, Esq.
Nicole Byers
Dr. Allan De Jong
Mary Lou Edgar
Sgt. Reginald Laster
Ellen Levin
Randall Williams
Janice Mink

Staff:

Tania Culley, Esq., Executive Director
Rosalie Morales

Members of the Public:

Shinille Bost
Colin P. Dunlavey, Esq.
Kelly Ensslin, Esq.
Craig R. Fitzgerald, Esq.
Eliza Hirst, Esq.
Caroline Jones
Jacqueline Mette, Esq.
Julie Miller, Esq.

Statutory Role:

Child Protection Community 16 Del. C. § 912 (a)(16)
Dir., Div. of Family Services 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(2)
Family Court 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(4)
Family Court 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(4)
House of Representatives 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(5)
Dir., Div. of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(9)
Domestic Violence Coordinating Council 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(10)
Designee for Superintendent of the Delaware State Police 16 Del. C. § 912 (a)(11)
Chair of the Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(12)
Investigation Coordinator 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(13)
Young Adult 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(14)
At-large Member - Medical Community 16 Del. C. § 912(a)(16)
At-large Member - Interagency Committee of Adoption 16 Del. C. § 912 (a)(16)
At-large Member - Law Enforcement 16 Del. C. § 912 (a)(16)
At-large Member - Child Protection Community 16 Del. C. § 912 (a)(16)
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I. Chairman's Welcome

Mike Cochran, Esq. opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. Mr. Cochran stated April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and discussed the connection between the Blue Bow and child abuse prevention. He shared the story of Bonny Finney, whose grandchildren were victims of child abuse. She tied a blue ribbon to her van antenna and asked others to wear ribbons in memory of her grandchildren. The color reminded Ms. Finney of their bruised bodies, and the blue ribbon was a reminder of the fight to save thousands of more children.

Mr. Cochran also discussed the release of the annual KIDS COUNT in Delaware Fact Book on April 1, which is available on the KIDS COUNT website. He referenced the column called "cause for applause," which identified the following successes: fewer teens having babies; fewer kids locked up; fewer drop outs; and, a dramatic decrease in the number of children poisoned by lead. In addition to these accomplishments, he mentioned the "cause for concern" on the opposite side of the ledger – child poverty. Since 1994, the child poverty rate in Delaware has nearly doubled, and almost 25 percent of Delaware's children live in poverty. Without government programs, that number would be 35 percent. The News Journal reported that, over the same period, the number of good paying, middle class manufacturing jobs has dropped by more than 50 percent. Mr. Cochran noted the obvious link between the increase in child poverty and the decrease in the number of middle class jobs. According to KIDS COUNT, Delaware's child poverty rate is continuing to increase, while the rate nationwide is in decline. With the increase in child poverty, the need for public services is more imminent. Mr. Cochran commented about the incredible responsiveness of the child welfare system in Delaware, the Markell administration, and the General Assembly.

II. Approval of Minutes – 1/7/15 Commission Meeting

The minutes of the January 7, 2015 meeting as amended were approved.

III. New/Old Business

a. Joint Commissions Meeting/Retreat

Tania Culley, Esq. stated the Commissioners received a handout with the prioritized recommendations from the Joint Commissions Retreat. She explained the recommendations will be presented for formal approval at the next Joint Commission Meeting on May 13. In advance of the meeting, Ms. Culley asked the Commissioners to review the action plans and time deadlines associated with their individual agencies, and she asked Commissioners to be prepared to review the recommendations and to propose revised dates as needed. The Commissioners also gave Jen Donahue, Esq. approval to schedule the first meeting of the Joint Committee on Substance-Exposed and Medically Fragile Children.

b. DFS Update on SDM, Safety Planning and Related Issues

Dr. Victoria Kelly reported that DFS held training on February 26, 2015 with the Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Panel. In addition to panel members, Commissioners from CPAC and the Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission (CDNDSC) attended. Dr. Kelly noted good feedback and discussion following the meeting.

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DFS also continues to work on the analysis of data, particularly the cases with significant risk. Dr. Kelly explained that the small subset of cases reviewed at the CAN Panel exist within a larger population of cases with significant risk. As a result, DFS is working on a plan to develop a triaged and tiered response based on risk. No other state has been successful with developing a methodology due to the number of variables in these cases. Despite this, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago has agreed to help DFS with assessing the different levels of risk and matching responses according to risk. Dr. Kelly hopes to share preliminary recommendations from Chapin Hall at the next quarterly meeting.

c. Stop Child Abuse License Plates

Rosalie Morales stated a link to the application for the Stop Child Abuse License Plates was distributed by email on Friday, April 10, 2015 to CPAC, Office of the Child Advocate (OCA), and OCA volunteer attorneys. Ms. Morales asked Commissioners to forward the email to their respective agencies and to consider ordering a license plate.

Randy Williams also shared an update on the Protecting Delaware's Children Fund. He stated the Joint Commissions established the CPAC/CDNDSC Mandatory Reporting Outreach Committee before the Bradley case, and the Committee was charged with developing the annual outreach campaign for the state. To support the campaign, the Protecting Delaware's Children fund was established at the Delaware Community Foundation (DCF). Since many of the annual campaign activities were facilitated by individual agencies, the Committee disbanded and the responsibility of the fund came to the CPAC Training Committee, including the following expenditures: billboards, bus boards, community giveaways, and paid radios ads.

However, due to impending changes in the fee structure at DCF, approval is needed to move the fund to OCA. Beginning on July 1, 2015, the fund will be subject to an annual fee of \$500, which is more than the balance of the fund. To circumvent this yearly fee, the Administrative Office of the Courts has agreed to create another line at OCA, similar to its current donation line, which will not expire at the end of the fiscal year.

In addition to moving the fund, approval of the governance form (Governance of the Protecting Delaware's Children Fund) is needed to allow the CPAC Training Committee to govern and approve the expenditure of funds. It is anticipated that the personal income tax contributions and license plate sales will greatly increase the revenues. As a result, CPAC will need to consider an audit process (e.g. involving the CPAC Executive Committee). It was recommended that the CPAC Training Committee provide a recommendation regarding the audit process at the October quarterly meeting.

A motion was approved to adopt the governance form, to require the agencies represented on the Committee to have mandatory members, to transfer the fund from DCF to OCA, and to request the CPAC Training Committee provide CPAC with its recommended controls in October.

IV. CPAC Committee Reports

a. Abuse Intervention

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Craig Fitzgerald, Esq. reported the Abuse Intervention Committee met on February 2, 2015 to provide oversight for the Children's Justice Act Grant. The grant award for the current federal fiscal year (10/1/14 – 9/30/15) is \$88,780 and the funding activities include: the Training Coordinator's Salary; Partial Scholarships for National Conferences; Speaker fees for the Protecting Delaware's Children Conference; and the ChildFirst® three-day course. Mr. Fitzgerald stated a total of \$8,895.38 was spent during the first quarter. At the last meeting, the Committee received a report from the Training Coordinator. Ms. Begley provided 17 onsite general mandatory reporting trainings and 6 onsite school trainings. She was also responsible for updating the mandatory reporting training for medical professionals and managing registration for the Protecting Delaware's Children Conference. The Committee is preparing to submit the CJA Annual Report and Three-Year Assessment to the Administration for Children and Families on May 29, 2015. The Committee will share the report with CPAC at its quarterly meeting on July 8, 2015.

b. Data Utilization

Ms. Morales stated the Commissioners received the updated CPAC Dashboard through December 2014, but the presentation will feature only a few highlights identified by the Committee.

Data Analysis Process

First, the proposed data analysis process was discussed. After CPAC did not receive an updated dashboard at the quarterly meeting in January, Ms. Morales developed this process to streamline how data requests are made to agency partners, to prepare the data more efficiently, and to ensure that it is regularly presented at quarterly meetings. Ms. Morales requested a formal vote from CPAC to approve the process.

Ms. Morales stated the process begins six weeks prior to each Commission meeting, and OCA is largely responsible for collecting the data and preparing the dashboard. OCA sends a data request to agency partners and receives the data from the previous quarter four weeks in advance of the CPAC meeting. Once the data is received, OCA prepares and presents the draft CPAC Dashboard to the Committee. At the Committee meeting, members review each of the charts to ensure the data is relevant and to identify trends for CPAC. Following the Committee meeting, OCA makes revisions based on the feedback by the Committee and presents the finalized dashboard to CPAC.

Since quarterly CPAC meetings are held within a week or two of the end of the quarter, it is impossible for the Committee to review the data for that three-month period and for OCA to prepare the dashboard with the current data for CPAC. As a result, with this new process, all data points will be presented a quarter behind, including the DFS caseloads. However, CPAC may want to consider restructuring its quarterly meetings to give the Committee sufficient time to review the current quarterly data, particularly the DFS caseloads from the prior three-month period. A second option is for the Committee to include the DFS caseloads for the first two months of the previous quarter, and Dr. Kelly can report out on the caseloads for the last month in the quarter. The Honorable Chandlee Kuhn suggested adding an additional meeting to the calendar for May and convening the CPAC Legislative Meeting in April. The Commission delayed voting on the process until the next quarterly meeting. The process is outlined below.

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Actions	Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data requested from agency partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 weeks prior to quarterly CPAC meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data collected from agency partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 weeks prior to quarterly CPAC meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dashboard updated through quarter before last	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 weeks prior to quarterly CPAC meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data analyzed and trends identified by Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 weeks prior to quarterly CPAC meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dashboard revised and distributed to CPAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 week prior to quarterly CPAC meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dashboard presented to CPAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At each quarterly CPAC meeting

Ms. Morales shared highlights on the charts listed below.

DFS Caseloads (Charts 1.11 & 1.21)

The Committee was concerned with the Investigation caseloads in Kent County. At the end of December, 90% of fully functioning workers in Kent were over standard. The Committee did not note any concerns with the Treatment caseloads through December.

DFS Hotline Reports Received (Chart 2.11)

DFS updated the chart to include the following categories: screened in FAIR, screened in investigation, screened out general, and screened out law enforcement. Dr. Kelly arranged for OCA to receive the screened out reports to law enforcement (subset of screened out general), so this data point will be included in the next dashboard.

Cases Opened During Quarter – Investigation Coordinator (Chart 2.21)

The Committee noted the Investigation Coordinator received over 962 referrals and opened 214 or 22% of referrals in the last quarter.

Open Cases at End of Quarter - Investigation Coordinator (Chart 2.24)

At the end of December, the Investigation Coordinator was responsible for 783 cases, the majority of which are intra-familial cases. The Committee noted a steady increase in the Investigation Coordinator's caseload.

Case Outcomes for Cases Closed During Quarter/ Criminal - Investigation Coordinator (Chart 2.27)

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The Committee noted the Investigation Coordinator closed 132 cases in the last quarter. Jen Donahue, Esq. explained the number of cases closed is relatively low, because the case remains open with the Investigation Coordinator until the criminal and civil components conclude.

CAC Incidents Received – Intra-familial (Chart 2.51)

The CAC provides data for the intra-familial and extra-familial incidents received. The Committee noticed a 5% decline in the number of incidents received by the CAC in the last quarter.

Youth with Permanency Plan of APPLA by County as of Dec. 2014 (Chart 4.32)

The Committee noted that, although the population of youth was lower in Sussex County, the percentage of youth with the permanency plan of APPLA was higher.

DSCYF Involvement by Division for All Children in Out-of-Home Placement (Chart 6.12)

The Committee added a new chart that shows the percentage of all children involved with DSCYF who are in out-of-home placement. The Venn diagrams do not capture the children and youth in DSCYF custody, so the Committee plans to explore whether this data can be provided instead.

2-Year Comparison of Attendance Rates (Chart 7.11)

The Education Committee shared the 2014 data received from DOE, which is four years worth of data on the educational success of children in foster care. In the past, the Committee found few significant disparities between the two populations with attendance rates. However, the two year comparison shows a decline in attendance in 9th and 10th grades for students DSCYF custody.

2014 Discipline Rates for Children in DSCYF Custody (Chart 7.13)

The Committee noted a significant increase (29%) in the number of discipline incidents between elementary and middle school for DSCYF students.

4-Year Comparison of Reading DCAS Scores (Chart 7.15)

The last chart shows a significant disparity in proficiency rates for reading between children in DSCYF custody and all students.

Ms. Morales agreed to forward the charts to the CPAC Education Committee for review and to request definitions for several data points. The Commissioners also agreed that a letter would be sent to Secretary Murphy, on behalf of CPAC, enclosing the charts and asking him to discuss the educational outcomes for children in foster care at the October meeting. In addition to the CPAC Dashboard, the Commissioners agreed that clarification is needed from DOE on its involvement and commitment in the following areas: CPAC Education Committee, DSCYF access to the Ed Insight Dashboard, DOE's authority vs. individual school districts, and the cost of transportation for homeless children.

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The Honorable Chandlee Kuhn reported the Judge's Retreat in the spring will focus on education for youth in DSCYF foster care and juvenile justice. Secretary Ranji will be giving a presentation on the EO 45 Task Force on Delaware Youth Re-entry Education. In addition, the judges will hear from national and local presenters (including Eliza Hirst, Esq. and Jackie Mette, Esq.) on topics relating to education. Two judges from Cincinnati will be speaking about the KISR! Project, and Michelle Marinucci from the Woodbridge School District will be giving a presentation on the dashboard used by DOE. The second day will be facilitated by Kathleen McNaught, JD, from the American Bar Association, and the judges will have the opportunity to decide what information should be asked related to education, what should be included in court orders, and how the court should obtain the information. Family Court will be able to share this plan at the next quarterly meeting.

c. Education

Eliza Hirst, Esq. reported for Tina Shockley on the three workgroups under the CPAC Education Committee. The MOU Workgroup is overhauling the current MOU between DOE, Local Education Agencies (LEAs), and DSCYF. Ms. Hirst stated the workgroup identified gaps for children remaining in their school of origin or transferring to a new school feeder pattern, reporting requirements, and information sharing and confidentiality.

The Data Workgroup is interested in learning whether children in DSCYF custody are doing better academically once they enter foster care. Ms. Hirst stated 35%-50% of children in DSCYF custody that are school aged have IEPs, but it is not known whether they had an IEP when they entered foster care. In addition, the drop-out rate for youth in foster care is higher than for all students. However, the workgroup learned the drop-out rate is determined when a child enters the 9th grade and is assigned a four-year cohort. The children are not actually dropping out; they are not graduating in that four-year cohort. Since children with IEPs have until the age of 21 to graduate, they may be automatically assigned to the drop-out rate if they take the extra time to graduate. The workgroup will continue to explore this data point.

The Collaboration Workgroup discussed creating a local education agency out of DSCYF; however, there are not corresponding data tracking devices for the Kids Department. DOE uses Ed Insight Dashboard, which every school district has access to. The Kids Department does not have access to the dashboard, and they cannot look at the child's history until they receive a cumulative folder. The folder does not include the level of detail that is necessary. Likewise, the school the child returns to does not have access to the information until the folder is received. Ms. Hirst has been working with Cara Sawyer, Esq. to obtain permissions for DSCYF to access the dashboard. The workgroup hopes to improve information sharing for children transitioning to and from DSCYF to LEAs. The Frequently Asked Questions document developed by the workgroup is an additional aide.

Jacqueline Mette, Esq. added the Education Demonstration Project has engaged six school districts in the Compassionate Schools program developed by Washington State. They had a dynamic training in March, and Ms. Mette's work will be ongoing with the districts to help staff become more trauma-sensitive and trauma-informed.

d. Legislative

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Ms. Culley reported the Committee has not met, but informed the Commission that there are a few bills to watch for this session.

e. Medical Child Abuse Expert

There was no report by the Committee.

f. Permanency for Adolescents

Ms. Culley reported the Permanency for Adolescents Committee met at the end of March, and she provided an update for the three workgroups under the Committee. The APPLA Workgroup met at the beginning of January and reviewed six children between the ages of 11 and 13 with a permanency plan of APPLA. The group did a retrospective review to determine what they could have done better or differently to prevent those children from having a permanency plan of APPLA and to identify if there is anything that can be done now. Following the review, the group developed an action plan which listed the recommendations under two categories, permanency options and court hearings. The action plan was later approved by the workgroup and Committee. Judge Jones and Judge Crowell plan to discuss the Action Plan with the other judges. The Committee also continues to track the statistics for youth with a plan of APPLA, and no new young children are entering care with this plan.

The recommendations pertaining to permanency options were forwarded to the Permanency Options Workgroup. As a result, the workgroup will continue to develop tools and trainings regarding different permanency options and to consider financial and other supports available to families.

Lastly, both the Permanency Options and Extended Jurisdiction Workgroups presented a workshop at the Protecting Delaware's Children Conference. The presentations were videotaped and will be available online. The Court also plans to take the lead on making a few revisions to the Extended Jurisdiction statute.

g. Training

Ms. Morales acknowledged Family Court and Chief Judge Kuhn for contributing Court Improvement Program funds towards the Protecting Delaware's Children Conference. Ms. Morales also thanked two CPAC Commissioners: Dr. De Jong for his opening plenary session and Mary Lou Edgar for her workshop on The Impact of Trauma in Adoption. The conference featured over 39 workshops and 40 local and national speakers. In addition to Dr. De Jong and Mary Lou, the conference featured 17 local speakers from the following agencies: the Education Demonstration Project, CASA, DOJ, DYOI, DFS, Family Court, OCA and PBH. Twenty-one national speakers were also featured. Many of the presentations are available on the OCA website. In total, 524 professionals attended the conference.

V. Commissioner Reports

a. Child Death, Near Death, and Stillbirth Commission

Dr. Colmorgen reported the CAN Panel continues to struggle with reviewing cases and having cases prepared for the reviews. The subpoena process remains an ongoing problem, particularly the privacy

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issues related to the child's name being listed on the subpoena. Allison Reardon, Esq. and Patricia Dailey Lewis, Esq. are attempting to resolve the subpoena issues. The CAN Panel has 83 cases pending, and 15 CAPTA reports are being prepared by staff for CDNDSC to approve on May 13. Ten cases are pending prosecution, and four were not done as initial reviews. Eight cases are out of compliance with statute, and several new cases were received. Dr. Colmorgen acknowledged Janice Mink for her role as Co-Chair on the Panel.

b. Department of Education

No report was provided.

c. Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families

Cara Sawyer, Esq. provided an update on a few of the legislative proposals mentioned by Secretary Ranji at the last meeting. As Ms. Hirst mentioned, DSCYF is trying to get the Education Unit designated as a local education agency for limited purposes. This would allow teachers to apply for state, federal, or private loan forgiveness. The Education Unit would have the ability to apply for federal, state, or private grants and issue credits to youth who complete coursework. Ms. Sawyer also mentioned the revision to the Mandatory Reporting Statute, which clarifies that the reporter must be the person who has direct knowledge. A third proposal relates to civil fines for unlicensed care. It allows for the Office of Child Care Licensing to civilly penalize individuals who operate unlicensed childcare centers. The current statute only allows for criminal prosecution. DSCYF has also proposed revisions to Title 16 to allow DFS to compel uncooperative parents to complete mental health and substance abuse evaluations and developmental screenings for the child. DSCYF is also looking to modify the criteria requiring DFS investigations. Currently, Title 16 lists multiple criminal violations rather than actions that signify harm. They plan to do a crosswalk between the criminal violations and the list of actions, so they do not miss anything. Dr. Kelly added they also want to expand the list to include "risk of." The last legislative proposal involves the background checks as a result of EO 42. It will create baseline prohibitions for individuals who work with children, and a system for checking backgrounds for individuals working for youth camps and private schools. Private schools will have the option of opting out of background checks, but it will require signatures from every parent in the school. Lastly, per the recommendation in EO 42, DSCYF has scheduled two Background Check Forums for April 16 at Salesianum School and April 25 at St. Thomas More Academy, and the background check requirements for summer youth camps will be discussed.

i. Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services

Susan Cycyk reported that PBH had a Prevention Forum this week, and over 400 people were present. On May 1, the Mental Health Forum is scheduled at Dover Downs. A few years ago, the General Assembly gave PBH 2.2 million dollars for after-school summer prevention programs, and those are currently out to bid. In addition, all community-based services are out to bid. They need after-school, evening, and weekend treatment services for families.

ii. Division of Family Services

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Dr. Kelly reported that DFS is on track to receive 19,500 calls this year, and about 11,000 will be identified as neglect and many related to poverty.

Dr. Kelly provided additional details on the caseloads. Dr. Kelly, Shirley Roberts, and Sue Murray receive a detailed caseload report every Monday morning, and they are monitoring the caseloads very closely. It was mentioned at the last meeting that DFS received ten full time positions. They are in the process of hiring for these positions. It will take approximately three months to get workers to the fully functioning status, so they do not anticipate seeing any benefit until June. Of those ten, nine will be in investigation (3 in KC, 2 SC, 2 Beech, and 2 UP) and one Report Line Supervisor. Without the full impact of these new employees, they are seeing the numbers trending down already. In January, DFS had 59 fully functioning workers, and at the end of March, they had 62. In addition to volume, workers on medical leave have had an impact on caseloads, particularly in Kent County. As of this week, 5 of the 15 investigators will be at or below the standard in Kent County, where 100% were above standard at the end of December.

DFS is also looking at realignment and contracting for services as an alternative. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has made it clear that it is more financially feasible to approve short term contracts rather than creating full time employee positions. As a result, DFS has issued a Request for Information (RFI), which lays out the challenges with caseloads, models used around the country, and concerns about risk categories for families. DFS is exploring whether there are ways to partner with community resources to serve sub-categories of families differently, which might free up capacity internally to divert positions. Feedback from the RFI will help inform the ongoing conversation with OMB.

Dr. Kelly reported that 685 children are in DSCYF custody. They have continued improvements in placement stability.

Dr. Kelly also shared an update on the Taskforce on Health Needs of Children in Foster Care. With the resources from the Taskforce, they have worked with the University of Delaware and Medicaid to explore utilization claims data for children in foster care. They have been able to make a comparison between children in foster care and other children on Medicaid. They found that when children come into foster care 40% of those children had no billable claim in the year preceding their entry into foster care. As a result, they see a dramatic increase in medical services. In addition, the major source of billable claims for 61% of the children in foster care is in behavioral health. The Taskforce is looking at that and the corresponding use of psychotropic medications. They had a meeting with Medicaid and the Medicaid MCOs on Monday to talk about the data and the need for care coordination.

Lastly, the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF) has started the third round of Children and Family Service Reviews, which occur about every seven years. Delaware is the first jurisdiction selected in the first year of the third round. This week, the first on-site review of cases is scheduled for Sussex County. A team of federal partners is also present. In addition to a cumbersome tool, all of the case participants have to be interviewed. Additionally, since October, they have completed two lengthy documents in preparation for the reviews. ACF has

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since requested on-site interviews for the week of May 11 and many partners will receive invitations.

d. Interagency Committee on Adoption

Mary Lou Edgar reported the Interagency Committee on Adoption (ICOA) scheduled a Worker Invitational for May 13. They do publicity for the families who are interested in adopting and the children they have available for adoption. ICOA has the meeting twice a year with private and public workers statewide. The Community Education and Adoption Committee developed a Fact Sheet to give people information about the children who are adopted from foster care. Currently, WJBR is doing a PSA on recruiting foster and adoptive families. Agencies statewide are holding informational meetings once a month, so families have the opportunity to learn about this adoption process. ICOA continues to work with the mental health community, and they had two meetings with different components of PBH. They are also going to begin working with private agencies to inform mental health practitioners about the issues for children who have been adopted from foster care. At the same time, they are going to work with the families to teach them new ways to deal with the children's behavior. ICOA plans to address the education community next. Lastly, ICOA is offering the six week evidenced-based training program, Triumph to Challenge, for families and professionals working with children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. It is scheduled for the first Thursday in May.

e. Investigation Coordinator

Jennifer Donahue, Esq. shared a quarterly data report with the Commission. Currently, the Investigation Coordinator's office is monitoring 492 intra-familial sexual abuse cases, and the report provides a profile for these cases. Of the 492 cases, 243 are in New Castle County, 120 in Kent County, and 129 in Sussex County. Two thirds of the victims are female, and one third is male. The bulk of the perpetrators are relatives residing in the home. Ms. Donahue also discussed the status of the criminal case. There are 341 cases still pending, and there were no charges in 75 of the cases. In the majority of cases, the initial charges often involve Unlawful Sexual Contact and Rape Second. They also see Continuous Sexual Abuse of a Child and Sexual Abuse of a Child by a Person in a Position of Trust or Authority. When there is a good disclosure, there is really no hesitation to file charges in these cases. For the 54 cases in which prosecution was declined (subset of the 75 cases with no charges), there was no disclosure by the victim in 21 cases and insufficient evidence or inconsistent statements in 16. The other reasons listed for prosecution declined were as follows: unknown, exceptionally cleared due to ages, counseling agreement, lack of victim cooperation, and victim recantation. Ms. Donahue also discussed how law enforcement miscoded the complaints in 50 of the cases, and the majority (34) was listed as miscellaneous. It can skew the stats reported by the individual agencies. They also found that a specific law enforcement agency is not entering its police reports into LEISS. The Investigation Coordinator's office will address this directly with the appropriate law enforcement agencies and will provide an update at the next meeting. For the next quarterly data report, it was requested that Ms. Donahue include plea patterns, law enforcement use of the CAC, multigenerational impact of abuse, presence of sex offenders, and an analysis of the serious physical injury cases.

Lastly, Ms. Donahue presented data on substance-exposed infants. Between January 1, 2015 and April 20, 2015, DFS received 111 reports from hospitals. Dr. Colmorgen stated that many of the medications have been prescribed to the mothers for pain management. They are not all illicit drug users. Last

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month, the state guidelines to manage these newborns were approved, and they are currently being implemented by hospitals.

f. Law Enforcement

No report was provided.

d. Public Defender's Office

No report was provided.

VI. Other Child Protection Updates/Reports

a. Delaware Youth Opportunities Initiative

Julie Miller, Esq. reported House Bill 46, which is the Rights of Youth in DSCYF Custody, made it through the House. It has been assigned to the Senate Committee, but no Committee meeting has been scheduled yet. The Delaware Youth Opportunities Initiative (DYOI) scheduled a statewide job shadow day on May 5. Twenty-five employers are participating from across the state. Forty youth are eligible to sign up, including youth participating in independent living services. Ms. Miller will be sending out the registration for the youth. DYOI's Housing Committee has created the ON PAR pilot program for youth on board extensions to practice living independently over the summer. They just started the conversations with transitional living providers and independent living providers across the state.

b. Youth Advisory Counsel

Nicole Byers reported the January meeting was canceled due to snow. During the February meeting, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) broke into focus groups for the federal survey from the Child Welfare Strategy Group Center for Systems Innovation of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. DFS was asked to interview youth in care or who have experienced care. During the focus groups, they talked about various aspects of the youth's experience in the foster care system. Felicia Kellum was responsible for collecting the data and submitting the federal survey. In March, they reflected on the focus groups and had a positive response. In addition, Ms. Miller presented information on the ON PAR program and House Bill 46. Ms. Byers stated they are planning the annual youth conference for August 5, and they discussed themes, topics, speakers, and activities. The next meeting is scheduled for this evening. They will be discussing the annual conference and reconvening the focus groups. Lastly, Ms. Byers mentioned upcoming events including Rita's Mental Health Awareness Day on May 7, Adopt a Highway, and National Foster Care Month in May. Ms. Miller stated the Destined for Greatness event will occur in August this year and professionals will have the opportunity to nominate youth in foster care to receive wishes. The nominations will begin in May. Ms. Miller will distribute information to CPAC.

VII. Public Comment

As there was no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm.