

State of Delaware Child Protection Accountability Commission Data Utilization Committee

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2016 – 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

In Attendance:

Rosalie Morales	Office of the Child Advocate
Mike Peyser	Division of Family Services
Ashlee Starratt	DSCYF, Office of the Secretary
Brittany Willard	CPAC Data Analyst
Rachael Neff	Family Court

I. MINUTES – 9/25/15 – Approved with noted revisions

II. REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 10, 2016 DASHBOARD

At the next CPAC Commission meeting, the Committee will prepare a presentation highlighting the trends in the February 2016 dashboard. The data will be presented through December 31, 2015, so the report to the Commission will be current.

Dashboard 1.0 Caseload

1.1 DFS Investigation Caseloads (DFS data)

- 1.11 – Statewide investigation – The fully functioning caseload average has been consistently over the standard throughout the year. Even with adjustments with staffing, there have been increasing calls at the report line
- 1.14 – Kent – This location has been especially over the standard. Kent has a difficulty keeping positions filled; they have a high turnover rate.

1.2 DFS Treatment Caseloads (DFS data)

- Statewide treatment average has been at or below the standard.
 - The last quarter (10/15-12/15) will be fixed for this chart. It should represent that the state is currently at the standard.
 - These cases include both treatment families and permanency cases with a single child.
 - A separate query is being worked on to separate out the two program areas.

Dashboard 2.0 Processing of Child Abuse Cases

2.11 DFS Hotline Reports Received During Quarter

- This chart was corrected from the last commission meeting to represent the “law enforcement screened out” properly.

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2.12 DFS Hotline Reports Screened In (Investigation) During Quarter Sorted by Primary Maltreatment Type

- We should be clear that this chart does not include the FAIR cases or the linked in cases. There was a decrease in the 9/15 quarter for physical abuse cases.

2.2 Investigation Coordinator (“IC”)

2.21 Cases Opened During Quarter

- There was a spike in number of cases opened in the 9/15 quarter.

2.22 Cases Opened By Maltreatment Type During Quarter

- We can see that the spike mentioned in 2.21 was primarily in sexual abuse cases

2.23 Intra-Familial and Extra-Familial Cases Opened During Quarter

- It was mentioned by the committee that there was a spike in intra-familial and extra-familial sex abuse cases in the 9/15 quarter.

2.25 IC Cases Closed, Civil Outcomes – Status of DFS Involvement

- The 12/15 quarter shows a spike in cases closed with no DFS involvement.
- It was discussed that Tier 1 has to meet certain policy requirements. Tier 1 is listed under the abridged category. It should be separated from other abridged category since it requires additional steps. Brittany will split this out for the meeting.
- Brittany will also review the 44 cases that were “screened out with no DFS involvement” to determine what types of cases these were. The committee guesses that these are extra-familial sex abuse.

2.26 IC Cases Closed, Civil Outcomes – Outcomes for Child

- There appears to be an increase in children not remaining in the home in the 12/15 quarter. Brittany will check the 37 entries and all data points for the last quarter. The committee does not think this is an accurate number.
- Errors could be in data entry or in how the data was pulled for the dashboard.

2.27 IC Cases Closed, Criminal Case Outcomes

- 9/15 and 12/15 showed an increase in prosecution declined. The committee questioned what the maltreatment type for these cases is.
- Brittany will check the 13 pending cases. IC cases are typically closed upon completion of civil and criminal investigations.

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2.3 Child Death, Near Death & Stillbirth Commission Cases Received

- Because of the change in CDNDSC and CAN, this chart will be named “CAN Panel Cases Opened”
- Data will come from CPAC and we will no longer track unsafe sleeping deaths because many of those cases overlap with CAN.

2.4 DOJ Child Victim’s Unit: Cases Received During Quarter

- There was a dramatic decrease in both deaths and near deaths in the 12/15 quarter.

2.5 Children’s Advocacy Center

- These charts have been skipped and will be discussed in the draft change charts.

Dashboard 3.0 Children in DSCYF Custody

3.11 Ages of Children Entering DSCYF

- There was a spike in children entering in the age groups of 0-4 and 13-17 in the 9/15 quarter.
 - The committee questioned why these children are coming into custody to better understand why there is a spike. DFS doesn’t report reason a custody start occurred. There can be different reasons for it. The Judge will issue an ex parte order, which includes that the child is dependent and emergency custody is given to DFS.
 - We may be able to collect findings from the Adjudicatory hearings. Rachael is going to think about this more.
- There was also an outlier drop in the 5-8 age group in 6/15 and 0-4 age group increase in 9/15.

3.12 Ages of Children in DSCYF Custody at the End of Quarter

- There has been a steady increase in number of kids entering care.
 - Increase in total case counts – upward trend relative to placement.

3.2 Legal Representation

3.21 Representation of Youth in DSCYF Custody at End of Quarter

- These numbers remain consistent but Mike said at the end of December, there were 5 cases in which CASA was recruiting and 4 pending a signed order, so that should be reflected in the chart.

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3.22 Number of Days from Filing of Petition until Child is Represented

- The first two quarters need to be changed to the appropriate quarters. We need to check on the relationship of this chart with 3.21.

3.3 Guidelines and Actual Median Timeline for Family Court Cases Closed During Period

- This chart will not be included in the presentation to CPAC.

Dashboard 4.0 Permanency Outcomes

4.1 Outcomes for All Children

4.11 Permanency Outcomes and Median Length of Stay of Children Exiting Custody During Quarter (DFS Placement Only)

- There was an increase in adoptions in 12/15. There is typically a spike in adoptions in the last quarter of the calendar year (national adoption day).
- The 9/15 quarter showed an increase in reunifications. We may want to do an 18-24 month look at this data to see trend lines. Trial Reunification start would not be represented in this data.
- There has been a steady increase in guardianships.

4.2 Adolescents (13 – 17)

4.21 Adolescents Entering DSCYF Custody during Quarter

- The APPLA provisions went into effect on 9/30/15 for children under 16.
 - Decrease in aged out in 12/15.
 - However, there is no clear trend here and the committee may need to view a long time frame for this data.

4.3 APPLA (11 – 17)

4.31 Age Profiles of Youth with Goal of APPLA as of August 2014

- There are 0 children between 11 and 13 with a permanency plan on APPLA and 3 between 14 and 15.
- This chart will not be included in the presentation to CPAC.

4.33 Youth with Goal of APPLA at End of Quarter

- There has been a steady decrease overall of youth with a permanency plan of APPLA.
- Brittany will check whether plan or goal should be used.

Dashboard 5.0 Extended Jurisdiction

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5.11 Youth on Extended Jurisdiction during Quarter Sorted by County

- Kent has increased youth on EJ where Sussex has decreased its youth on EJ.
- New Castle has remained consistent. Kent is making up a higher proportion, not sure why this is.

5.13 Youth Entering Extended Jurisdiction during Quarter

- There is no trend here.

5.14 Median Length of Stay of Youth Exiting Extended Jurisdiction during Quarter

- 2 youth remained open with EJ until age 21. This is not a common occurrence with EJ.

Dashboard 6.0 Dual Status Youth

6.1 Dual Status Youth

6.11 DSCYF Involvement by Division for All Children at End of Quarter (DSCYF Venn Reports) and 6.12 DSCYF Involvement by Division for All Children in Out-of-Home Placement at End of Quarter (DSCYF Venn Reports)

- These charts remain consistent from one quarter to another.
- The Venn diagrams are pulled from a DMSS report.
 - It was questioned if these charts show that once youth are in out-of-home care, if they have more involvement with multiple agencies.
 - The charts represent the total number of children involved with the department. It needs to be explored whether DMSS can provide data for only children in DSCYF custody.

Dashboard 7.0 Education Outcomes For Children in Foster Care

No Education data has changed. The committee is waiting on updated data from DOE.

Dashboard 8.0 Re-Entry/Re-Occurrence of Maltreatment

8.1 % of Children Who Did Experience Repeat Maltreatment in 6 Months (DFS data)

- Re-entry continues to increase.

III. DASHBOARD PROPOSED CHANGES

- Changes to the dashboards 1.11 through 1.26 were made. These were not approved.

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- Mike was able to get some feedback on these charts, though. The committee liked the proposed 1.12 and 1.22 charts. However, the total number of dashboards should not be increased.
- The committee will continue to look at this and come back to it at the next meeting.
- 2.24 IC Open Cases
 - A trend line was added to this chart to demonstrate the overall caseload trend for IC. This chart was approved by the committee, but is pending approval from Jen Donahue.
- 2.31 CAN Cases
 - This presents the data appropriately since the CDNDSC/CAN changes. This was approved by the committee.
- 2.32 was unnecessary as it was determined that unsafe sleeping deaths do not need to be tracked on the dashboard.
- 2.51 is a combination of the current CAC charts.
 - Intra- and extra- familial sexual abuse are the 2 highest incidents received for CAC. These are followed by extra-familial physical abuse. The classifications are different for CAC and DFS.
 - We should add in a line to separate intra- and extra-familial in the table. We should explore if the adults can be removed from the total number of children.
 - This chart was approved by the committee.
- 2.52 This chart examined the CAC referrals from the various agencies in the state, by county.
 - We are seeing less referrals in New Castle and LE makes the vast majority of the referrals.
 - This chart was approved by the committee.
- 2.53 This chart examines the incidences of abuse within the 3 counties, as reported to the CAC.
 - We are not seeing as many incidents in New Castle as we would expect.
 - This chart was approved by the committee.
- 2.54 This chart shows the ages of those youth referred to the CAC. There seemed to be a decrease in youth being referred to CAC after about age 12. Generally, there may be a drop off in victims in this age category.
 - This cart was approved by the committee.
- 4.1 This was a proposed change to the permanency charts. The committee decided to keep the originals.

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- 5.12 The visual presentation of the chart was changed. It shows a flip in OCA and CASA representation.
 - The committee approved this change.
- 8.1 The standard line was added, along with the N for the # of children exiting 12 months ago and the # that re-entered within that year. Additional quarters were added to demonstrate the trend.
 - The committee approved this chart.

IV. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date will be April 25, 2016.

- Mike asked for a data submission calendar. Brittany will make one and send it out to the committee.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no public comment the meeting was ended at 3:00 pm.