



“Advocating Today for a Healthy Tomorrow”

FAMILY & CHILD STABILITY AND GROWTH COMMITTEE
The Ohio Council Conference Room – Columbus, Ohio
September 16, 2011 – Judy Joyce, Chair

Family & Child Stability and Growth Committee

The Committee focuses its efforts on the broad range of policies and programs that strengthen families and impact the well-being of families and children. It addresses issues affecting all ages across all systems and places a particular emphasis on poverty and the areas of prevention and early intervention. The Committee monitors state/federal legislation and policies that impact families, children, and service providers and recommends positions to the Board; analyzes areas in need of legislative or systemic reform; and, provides a forum for the exchange of information and ideas and the sharing of expertise and concerns. Committee membership is open to all Ohio Council members. It invites statewide organizations, state agencies and policy makers, as appropriate, to discuss legislation and policies related to families, children, services, finances, standards, rules, and other relevant issues.

PRESENT:

Judy Joyce, Chair - Greenleaf Family Center, Akron; **Karen Anderson** – Wingspan, Cleveland; **Rebecca Chessman** – Community Services, Canton; **Lisa Crites** – Personal & Family Counseling Services, New Philadelphia; **Tracy Deep** – Family & Community Services –Ravenna; **Francis Deutsche** – Directions for Youth & Families, Columbus; **Deb Gault** – Berea Children’s Home & Family Services, Berea; **Marilyn Henry** – Personal & Family Counseling Services, New Philadelphia; **Anita Koerner**, South Community, Inc., Dayton; **Monica Miller** – Crisis Intervention & Recovery Center, Canton; **Anita Morano** – Nord Center, Lorain; **Nancy Pepler** – Beech Brook, Pepper Pike; **Richele Shepard** – Well Spring, Springfield; **Kathy Trubisky**, Trillium Family Services; **Angee Tuggle**, The Counseling Center, Portsmouth; and, **Council Staff** – Hugh Wirtz, Peg Burns and Teresa Lampl.

GUEST:

Angie Bergefurd, Director
Office of Health Integration (formerly Office of Medicaid)
Ohio Department of Mental Health

RECOMMENDATIONS: No formal recommendations to the Board were made.

CONSENSUS ITEMS:

- It was the consensus of the Committee that the overall concerns remain regarding the ever changing service environment(s) and the related issues and that they need to be monitored closely.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

- It was suggested that there be a forum to “drill down” on child welfare issues.
- Committee Members are encouraged to continue to submit regulatory reduction ideas

NEXT MEETING: **Friday, November 18, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Judy Joyce called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

EARLY CHILDHOOD - Up-Date & Discussion

The Committee reviewed and briefly discussed a variety of initiatives and venues related to early childhood. These included: Race to the Top (*RttT*); Home Visiting – Competitive Grant; HMG – Home Visiting & Part C; Differential Response (*Alternative & Traditional*); School-Based & School-Linked Services; ACOs & Managed Care; BEACON; Project LAUNCH; Family & Children First; and, OHT & HHS Services Transformational Framework. It identified trends and noted concerns relative to the lack of acknowledgment of existing community resources, the frequent omission of substance abuse issues, the lack of evidence of support for family-centered practices/programs, the lack of true commitment to prevention and early intervention and the increasing data demands with little attention to privacy, confidentiality, cost or utility. It was noted that multiple venues had raised legitimate concerns about the use of anti-psychotic medications, the impact of trauma and toxic stress (*including poverty*), and the lack of attention to social/emotional development and that they provide opportunities for advocacy and change. The Committee reviewed the Health & Human Services Transformational Framework that had been released by the Office of Health Transformation (OHT) and discussed its potential implications.

HELP ME GROW – IDEA Part C Workgroup

It was reported that the Council had participated on the statutorily created Workgroup would be finalizing its recommendations to the Director of the department of Health by the end of the month. As advocated by the Council, it appears that the recommendation relative to eligibility on the basis of a developmental delay will remain at 1.5 standard deviations and that the list of “diagnoses” for automatic eligibility will be very limited. A discussion followed.

ODJFS RULE REVIEW – MCWIC (*Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center*)

The Committee reviewed the list of rules that will be reviewed by the Resource Home Certification and Approval Team under the MCWIC rule review process and the statutes related to ODJFS’s licensure authority. The Committee briefly discussed the significant need to simplify the rules and related policy priorities. The formatting of the rules, the accountability of PCSA’s, and National Accreditation were identified as areas that need to be addressed.

FOCUS OF THE COMMITTEE

Judy Joyce asked the Committee to briefly discuss the focus of the Committee. She noted that as a policy committee focused on families and children both the committee membership and the topics to be addressed are diverse and ask those present to identify issues of current concern. A variety of issues surrounding “respite care” and its relationship to Direct Placements and Shelter Care within the framework of ODJFS licensure were raised and it was suggested that there be a forum to “drill down” on child welfare issues. It was the consensus of the Committee that the overall concerns remain related to the ever changing service environment and that the related issues need to be monitored.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UP-DATES

The Committee was up-dated on the status of ODMH/ODADAS Regulatory Reduction Efforts, the Pharmacy Benefit, and ODADAS’s Cost Savings Initiatives. All areas continue to be “works in progress” with few definitive details to report and Committee Members are encouraged to continue to submit regulatory reduction ideas. A copy of “*Modern Addictions and Mental Health Service System*” as modified by the Council was distributed for informational purposes.

DIALOGUE WITH ANGIE BERGEFURD – Office of Health Integration, ODMH

Angie provided up-dates on the Medicaid Health Homes, the new Office of Health integration and MH Services for SFY 12. She indicated that the injunction had been removed and that the Department and ODJFS could move forward with revising the Medicaid Services Rule with a target implementation date of November 1st for the benefit limits and pre-authorization. Committee Members raised implementation questions and a discussion followed.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.