

Transformation Design Committee
Advisory Committee on Outcomes and Evaluation Issues

December 10, 2009

9:00am - 12:00pm

Members Present: Mary Meinig; Jeanine Livingston; Ken Nichols (via phone); Maureen McGrath (via phone); Roy Hogan; Steve Hassett; Annalese Stewart; Darcy Hancock; Peg Mason

Staff Present: Julie Dunnington; Ben Berres; Jennifer Strus

Others Present: Deborah Osworth; Marna Miller; Stephanie Lee; Dana Phelps; Alexia Everett; Carrie Whitaker

Members discussed changes to the draft Outcome Domains and Potential measures for Implementing 2SHB 2106 material.

Definitions of Domains -Outcomes form

- Used a federal definition for Safety
 - Is there a way that we can change this statement to a "strengths-based" statement?
 - "Children receiving child welfare services in the state of Washington will be safe." This statement would also include voluntary services.
- Permanency/Stability Outcomes
 - Try and put a positive frame on things.
 - We are looking for permanent "families," not permanent "homes"
 - But "homes" are the achievable goal
 - If that is the overarching definition, then how do we parse apart those youth that are entering care for treatment, i.e. to older youth?
 - How will permanency be established or maintained in a timely manner?
- Well-Being
 - Change "educations" to "educational"
 - What about children who are not in out-of-home care? It seems that children who did not move into out-of-home care may also be experiencing

some instability?

- o Should we change children in "out-of-home" care to "all children receiving child welfare services"? Yes
- o CA is responsible to a lesser degree of educational
- o Should we draw a distinction between in-home dependency to out-of-home dependency?
- Question? Are we going to differentiate between types of maltreatment? This is in regard to the first bullet point under Safety Outcomes.
- Permanency and Stability
 - o The term "family-based care" may not be descriptive enough.
 - o Please add something to the last bullet; "for all children of federally recognized tribes"

Jennifer Strus provided an overview of the Governor's proposed supplemental budget for 2010.

- o Cuts to CA
 - o Gov has to submit a balanced budget
 - Eliminating the counsel on children and families
 - Eliminates 20 FTE administrative staff
 - BRS rates are cut by 10%
 - Foster home maintenance payments are reduced 8%
 - Intensive foster care assessment program is eliminate
 - Responsible living skills for adolescents is reduced (\$770,000)
 - Funding is reduced 5% to achieve some savings
 - Comprehensive safety assessments cut
 - Continuum of care program cut
 - Crisis family intervention (FRS) eliminated

- Secure Crisis residential centers eliminated
- HOPE beds eliminated
- Family Preservation Services cut by 50%
- Home based services cut 10%
- Independent youth housing program is transferred from the Department of Commerce to CA.
- \$26.7M Total Cut to CA
- Working connections child care is cut \$88.5M (low income working cut)
- Medicaid Treatment childcare cut by 50%
- GAU is eliminated
- Basic Health was Eliminated (\$165M)
- Family Policy Counsel eliminated
- Some cuts to JRA (Those youth will move to Community Based Care)

Carrie Whitaker discussed the Braam outcome and activity measures and their overlap with those being developed under 2SHB 2106.

- 33 Measures, there are some related to the Outcomes Document
- Lots of overlap
- Maybe start measuring some of the baselines
- No conflicts between the Braam outcomes and those developed by the Outcomes Advisory Committee thus far.
- Many measures in Braam that measure caseload, caseworker visits, etc
- What data are groups already gathering

A discussion of the Well-being Outcomes ensued.

- Very few of the outcomes address the physical, educational, etc well-being issues
- The issue of sibling visits is difficult because the relationship may not always be good

- Physical Health/Mental Health
 - Are doctors' recommendations being followed?
 - Are assessments being followed up on?
 - Do assessments have a holistic approach?
 - Braam - Was a health and education plan created and followed up on?

- Education:
 - What type of collaboration between state agencies can be created so there is greater transfer of data?

 - What are current baselines? CA doesn't have a global summary of baseline issues.

Tasks for next meeting:

- Get copies of some other state contracts so that people have an understanding about how other contracts/outcomes look and are measured?

- Bring in measures that CA is currently using