

## **King County Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice Systems Integration Charter**

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:**

The Systems Integration initiative is a collaboration of state and local community agencies and organizations in King County that have come together to examine and make improvements in integrated program development, policy development and service delivery for children, youth and families served by Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems.

Since December 2003, the initiative has been working with the Child Welfare League of America to explore and address issues around Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare to enhance the level of collaboration and improve the quality of services delivered to youth and families.

In consideration of the foregoing, the parties agree as follows:

#### **1. Goals.**

- 1.1. Promote increased cooperation, coordination, and integration at the administrative and service delivery levels for the benefit of children and families within the purview of children in the welfare and juvenile justice systems.
- 1.2. Through a comprehensive, strategic planning process that embraces and values inclusion of youth, families, and a broad based representation of youth serving agencies and organizations, achieve and institutionalize greater multi-system coordination and integration to improve outcomes for King County children, youth and families.

#### **2. Scope of Work.** Each member agency and organization agrees to work with CWLA to:

- 2.1. Produce an inventory of resources in local child serving systems, including: programs and services; a comparative analysis of missions, mandates and policies; identification of best practices nationally and locally; determination of the use of assessment instruments; review and analysis of the funding to support the services and programs; and creation of training for personnel in both systems.
- 2.2. Assess the current management information systems utilized by participant agencies/organizations and assist CWLA with the preparation of a report on the current capacity to share information across agencies/organizations. The report will identify barriers and obstacles and jointly provide recommendations to overcome the identified impediments to enhanced information sharing. The report will also identify critical information that must be shared across agencies/organizations to enhance case management and service delivery to youth and families
- 2.3. Inventory available data systems and identify data sets that must be shared across agencies/organizations and ensure that this information contributes to improved analysis of current trends. This effort will lead to enhanced decision-making, particularly regarding prioritizing the allocation of shared resources among and across agencies/organizations.
- 2.4. Conduct an examination of the legal, policy, and procedural mandates unique to each agency/organization in order to make recommendations for changes that will contribute to improved coordination of initial decision-making, case management, and service

delivery. The parties agree to provide a report of their findings and recommendations available to participant agency/organization leadership.

- 2.5. Have agency representatives that participate in an ongoing oversight committee (“Executive Committee”), as well as have members assigned to and participate in subcommittee meetings organized to address the multiple issues articulated in this agreement. Each representative shall serve until he or she resigns or a replacement is appointed. The Committee may add additional members at any time.
- 2.6. Utilize the best available information, research, and practices to guide the process.
- 2.7. Maintain confidentiality of their client information.
- 2.8. Assist in the development of a means to track and evaluate the Program’s success.
- 2.9. Jointly compile subcommittee reports to produce findings and recommendations for action strategies resulting in youth serving system coordination and integration.
- 2.10. Jointly produce an implementation strategy with benchmarks and timelines, no later than 120 days from the adoption of the final report.

### 3. General Terms

- 3.1. **Term.** This agreement will be effective through December 31, 2004.
- 3.2. **Termination.** Member Agencies and Organizations can withdraw from this agreement at any time by making said request in writing with the effective date and reason for withdrawal.
- 3.3. **Renewal.** This Agreement may be renewed by the parties’ mutual agreement for additional terms.
- 3.4. **Liability.** Each party is responsible for its own acts and omissions and those of its officers, employees, and agents. No party is responsible for the acts of third parties.

Contact names for the signatories from each of the participating agencies follows:

#### CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS

#### [INSERT NAME]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[insert authorized Casey signator]  
[insert title]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[insert name]  
[insert title]

Notice Address:  
[insert address]  
[insert address]

Notice Address:  
[insert address]  
[insert address]

Attn:  
Telephone:  
Fax:  
Email:

Attn: [insert name if different from above]  
Telephone:  
Fax:  
Email: