

Florida Systems Integration Executive Committee 2006

WHO: The Executive Committee will be constituted with key leaders and stakeholders who control resources and direct policy in the public or private domain at the state and local level. The committee consists of a broad-based representation of youth serving agencies and organizations that provide oversight, direction, and maintain responsibility for decision making throughout the course of the *Building Bridges to Better Outcomes for Children: The Link between Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare* project. The Executive Committee provides input regarding the construction of the Systems Integration Stakeholder Committee and directs the schedule of meetings and activities during the ongoing project study and analysis. As such, the Executive Committee governs the structure and personnel of the working subcommittees during their efforts to complete the four phases of the Child Welfare League of America's framework being utilized to advance the goals of the Systems Integration project. These phases of activity include: Mobilization and Advocacy; Study and Analysis (including focus areas of data collection, information management and sharing, assessment instrument inventory, resource inventory, legal and policy examination); Recommendation and Action Strategy Development; and Implementation.

WHAT: The Executive Committee will identify statutory, policy, procedure, practice, and program issues that provide the opportunity for improved system reform through effective coordination and integration. The work will focus on evidenced-based practices, strategies, programs, and services that increase the efficacy of community-based prevention and intervention efforts. The committee will be responsible for prioritizing and institutionalizing a range of recommendations and action strategies developed through the study and analysis conducted by subcommittees that result in a more coordinated and integrated service delivery system for youth and families. The Executive Committee will ensure the targeted work toward improving outcomes for dependent youth that are entering the juvenile justice system.

WHY: Research has confirmed the undeniable link between child maltreatment and delinquency and a variety of associated negative outcomes. This research highlights the necessity for more effective coordination and collaboration of the multiple systems often serving the youth and families of Florida. The dependent and delinquent systems have frequently operated independent of each other despite the reality that these systems are often serving the same children and families – often simultaneously. This practice methodology often results in failed outcomes, duplication of resources, and deeper penetration toward more costly treatment alternatives that have a poor record of success when compared to effectively coordinated early intervention strategies.

WHERE: The FSIC Initiative supports a more coordinated and integrated service delivery system for youth and families on a local, regional and on a statewide basis.

HOW: Meetings/Conference calls, monthly or as needed.

WHEN: March 2006 – February 2007

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) has been a champion for children and a respected promoter of sound policies and practice in child welfare for over 85 years.

For more information on the Building Bridges to Better Outcomes Initiative, contact George Hattaway, Public Policy Consultant for CWLA, at ghattaway@cwla.org or 850-650-6882.

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