

New York City CRP  
Minutes of the Meeting  
March 4, 2011

*Attendees:*

Jorge Saenz De Viteri                      Wayne Ho                      Elba Montalvo  
David Lansner                                  Mathea Rubin

OCFS:              Greg Owens              Renee Hallock  
SCAA:              Diane Mastin

*Handouts:*

Agenda

11-OCFS\_INF-03 Parent Notification of a Child's Foster Care Placement Change

10-OCFS\_ADM-16 Notice of Placement Change to Attorneys for Children

2010 Veto Message – No. 13

20100 Mandate Relief Redesign Team Report, March 1, 2011

2011 Child Welfare Legislation Chart of "Same as" Bills

2011-112 CRP Grant information

Flyer: Who Cares" I do. Campaign

PowerPoint Presentations:

The OCFS Initiative to Address Racial Disproportionality in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

ACS Task Force on Racial Equity and Cultural Competence

Articles:

*A Closer Look: Cultural Competency.* The National Technical Assistance and Evaluation Center

Policy Actions to Reduce Racial Disproportionality and Disparities in Child Welfare, A Scan of Eleven States. October, 2009. Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare.

*Differential Response in Child Protective Services in New York State: Implementation, Initial Outcomes and Impacts of Pilot Project.* Report to the Governor and Legislature. January, 2011. New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

*Final Report: A Randomized Trial of Healthy Families in New York (HFNY): Does Home visiting Prevent Child Maltreatment?* October, 2010. DuMont, K., Kirkland, K. Mitchell-Herzfeld, S., and Ehrhard-Dietzel, S. New York State Office of Children and Family Services and Rodriguez, M.L., Lee, E., Layne, C., and Greene, R. University at Albany, State University of New York.

Notes from the NYC CRP Conference Call on January 14, 2011.

Minutes of the Meeting, December 14, 2010.

The Office of Children and Family Services is working with Casey Family Programs in seven counties with a goal of reducing the number of minority children in child welfare. The seven counties are Erie, Monroe, Onondaga, Albany, Westchester, Suffolk and Nassau. In addition, the Center for the Study of Social Policy is doing a system analysis in Monroe County. The goal of this work is to identify and change those policies, procedures and practices that lead to overrepresentation in the system. At the same time, too little is done to address underrepresentation. ACS staff noted that their information also includes preventive services and stated that although there are 2,000 to 3,000 fewer children served in 2011 from those served in 2009, the proportion by race and ethnicity is still the same. Both indicated one could look at the data twenty years ago and see the same disproportionality and disparities. In fact, efforts to reduce the number of children in foster care overall can increase the percentage of minorities in the system.

ACS began a Task Force on Racial Equity and Cultural Competence in May, 2006. Their objectives were to promote racial equity in child welfare decision-making and outcomes, promote culturally competent practice, and ensure a strong and diverse staff particularly at the management level. The Task Force began as an internal group and was expanded recently to include community stakeholders.

ACS now has over 100 staff who have attended Undoing Racism training, leading to greater awareness and sensitive within the agency. The Leadership Academy devotes two of the four training days to racism and trained a total of 114 ACS staff, including all at the CPM level with this curriculum. This work also includes keeping data by racial breakdowns, using family team conferences, and developing community partnerships. More needs to be done with developing policies and legislation using a racial lens and identifying outcome measures for this work.

Panel members agreed to approach the New School, New York City Affairs Director Andrew White about co-hosting a National Reunification Day Forum in May or June in place of their scheduled April panel meeting. They discussed OCFS' Informational Letter on parental notification when a child's foster care placement is changed. Co-Chair Lansner will develop a stronger statement regarding such notification to bring to the panel's next meeting. Members received updates on advocacy visits, the proposed *Executive Budget*, 2011 child welfare legislation introduced, and the 2011 CRP Budget.