

NYC CRP  
Notes from the meeting  
September 13, 2011

*Attendees:*

David Lansner	Carmen Ortiz Hendricks	Marion White
Mathea Rubin	Wayne Ho	Jocelyn Brown
Jorge Saenz De Viteri		

*OCFS Staff:* Renee Hallock

*SCAA Staff:* Diane Mastin

*Guests:* Senator Diane Savino Benita Miller

*Handouts:*

Agenda

NYS Office of Children and Family Services Response to the NYS Citizen Review Panels 2010 Annual Report and Recommendation

2011 Report Timeline

2011 Child Welfare Legislation Chart updated

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

Child Welfare Financing Law 153-K Summary of Provisions

153-K

OCFS statewide data on recurrence

NYS OCFS budget items for 2007-2011

May 13, 2011 Minutes

NYS CRP Joint Panel minutes for June 10, 2011 meeting

Reports/Articles:

- GAO Highlights and Summary: Child Maltreatment Strengthening National Data on Child Fatalities Could Aid in Prevention
- Fourth National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS-4) Report to Congress
- Supplemental Analyses of Race Differences in Child Maltreatment Rates in the NIS-4
- The Harvard-Chapin Hall Conference on Race and Child Welfare: A Dissenting View by Dorothy Roberts

Senator Diane Savino, Chair of the Senate Children and Families Committee, met with panel members to discuss child welfare and legislative priorities. She began her career in child welfare as a caseworker and understands the issues facing today's system, both workforce and practice. She addressed the need for additional family court judges and the media overreaction when a child death occurs, stating the system cannot prevent all abuse. She noted that the family courts are clogged with cases. She referenced federal legislation, in particular ASFA requirement for 18 month termination of parental rights as a requirement with which she disagrees. She is interested in reviewing all the legislation before her committee, meeting with OCFS staff, and make decisions about which legislation can move forward in next year's session. She discussed

her sponsorship of educational neglect legislative changes and the need for additional screening of anonymous reports.

Benita Miller, Founder and Executive Director of The Brooklyn Young Mother's Collective, met with panel members to discuss programming and services needs of the young people served by her organization. She specifically emphasized their need to finish school and how certain requirements made by the child welfare workers are in conflict with their attendance at school. An example of this is when a young mother is ordered to substance abuse day treatment. She sees many of the problems young mothers face are poverty-related and works to prevent their entry into the system. More schools are offering child care on premises, incentives to stay in school and multiple pathways to graduation. She sees the need for more resources in communities. She would like to see more sensitivity to the poverty related issues families experience and to the importance of education in their lives.

Renee Hallock, OCFS Director, Child and Family Services Review provided an overview of the agency's Response to the CRP 2010 Annual Report and Recommendations. She discussed the importance of preventive funding and that each county will be asked to choose a preventive strategy such as family engagement as part of their next performance and county improvement plans. Child Welfare Financing Law Reauthorization is a priority for OCFS going into 2012. The staff at OCFS continues to address safe sleeping. She stated that OCFS is focused on the implementation and expansion of FAR as its major child welfare system reform initiative. OCFS plans to continue conversations about educational neglect allegations and offer support for implementation of Kinship Guardianship Assistance.

Panel members discussed which issues to bring to the October Joint Panel meeting for discussion as possible recommendations for inclusion in the panels' 2011 annual report. Panel members agreed to invite Commissioner Richter to their next meeting.