

Western Citizen Review Panel for Child Protective Services

Meeting Summary
March 15, 2023 ○ 10:00 a.m.

Attendees:

Western Panel Members

Todd Sage
John Treahy
Ellen Kennedy
Sarlyn Tate

Welfare Research, Inc.

Darlene Ward
Kerri Barglof
Felicia LaClair

Guests

David Haas (OCFS)

Welcome – Todd Sage, *Panel Chair*

The meeting commenced at 10:01 a.m.

OCFS Presentation

As the panel awaited OCFS representation, they discussed the recent OSC Audit on fatality reports and agreed they would like to return to reviewing regional fatality reports. They raised concerns about reviewing fatality reports that may not be publicized via media outlets.

David Haase from OCFS joined the meeting and began his presentation, noting that the SCR data requested was currently awaiting sign-offs but should be available in 4-6 weeks, or by the May meeting. Regarding Family First, Mr. Haase displayed the FFPSA dashboard (<https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/sppd/family-first-dashboard/>) which gives access to all regional and county data on non-foster care and institutional level placements. The Panel raised concerns on Family First fidelity checks, and the support of contract agencies that counties contract with and inquired for further information on how those practices are being addressed. Mr. Haase noted he would look to have someone present further information on those processes at the panel's May meeting.

The panel shifted to a request for notifications of regional child fatality reports for their review, as what was audited in the OSC report. OCFS will take that back for review.

As the panel debriefed, they agreed their request should be put in writing to OCFS.

2023 Goals

The Panel transitioned to their goals for this year, highlighting they would like to continue the conversation with Western counties to hear how the Panels can further support them. Additionally, they would like to have a conversation with the new OCFS leadership regarding the reimplementation of IV-E within the schools of social work.

WRI Updates

WRI provided updates that Brad Hanson from Families Together in New York State will be joining the Eastern Panel's upcoming meeting. They extended the invitation to the Western Panel.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:45 a.m.

Next CRP Meetings:

- Western: Wednesday, May 3rd | 10.00 a.m.
- Joint: Thursday, June 15th | 2:00 p.m.