

**March 2010 Braam Oversight Panel Meeting**  
*Presentation by Denise Revels Robinson, Assistant Secretary*  
*Children's Administration*

**Introductions**

- Becky Smith, Acting Field Operations Director
- Elizabeth Jones, Statewide Quality Assurance Manager and new CA Liaison for Braam Oversight Panel
- Jeanne McShane, new Acting Regional Administrator, Division of Licensed Resources

**Increased Focus on Child Safety**

- Regional oversight of Safety Plans, regional managers now review and approve all safety plans
- Requested assistance from Region X Federal Office to access on-site technical assistance from the National Resource Center for Child Protection (request approved)
- Technical assistance will include training all supervisors and managers on child safety assessments, and developing and monitoring safety plans to control for child safety
- Protocols were revised to strengthen practice for reporting, reviewing, and responding to Critical Incidents
- Implementing Statewide Sexually Aggressive Youth (SAY) and Physically Assaultive and Aggressive Youth (PAAY) Quality Assurance (QA) plan

**Enhancement of CA's QA Capacity to Improve Practice and Increase Compliance with Braam Outcomes**

- Assigning statewide team of internal/external folks to review high profile, critical incidents
- Continuing to develop and use FamLink Utilization Audit Reports
- Introducing and implementing monthly FamLink review as a QA activity for statewide program managers
- Requiring supervisors include FamLink review of key practice expectations during Monthly Supervisor Case Review
- Developing more topic-specific QA plans targeted at key practice areas
- Transitioned three staff to statewide QA positions
- Assessing and building on existing QA process, tools, and capacity as part of Performance Based Contracting
- Developing a Statewide Quality Assurance & Improvement Team
- Putting together an advisory committee of social worker and supervisor representatives



## ***Children's Administration Updates – Continued***

### **Federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)**

- On-site review is September 13-17, 2010
- Statewide CFSR Team comprised of a broad representation of individuals involved in Washington's child welfare system is currently preparing our Statewide Assessment due in May 2010
- Held a CFSR Round 2 Kick Off event on January 27, 2010 and approximately 120 people attended, including former foster youth, veteran parents and substitute caregivers, Tribal representatives, service providers, members of federal and state stakeholder groups, and DSHS personnel
- On February 17, 2010, a meeting was held with Washington State Supreme Court Chief Justice and the Presiding Judge in King County (our largest urban area), DSHS Secretary Susan Dreyfus, CA Assistant Secretary Denise Revels Robinson, a federal consultant, and retired Judge Jones. A lesson learned from the first round is the importance of ensuring our judiciary leadership is involved in the process
- The Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care, co-chaired by Denise Revels Robinson and retired Supreme Court Justice Bobbe Bridge are the CFSR executive sponsor and oversight board

### **Input from Foster Care Alumni & Foster Parents**

- Met with the foster care alumni, youth on the Passion to Action Advisory board and shared our value for their experiences, voice, commitment to making a difference, and leadership role. Assured them they have a voice and they will play a key role in four key areas:
  1. Input on policy development regarding adolescents and independent living
  2. Participation in selected training modules for foster parents regarding adolescents
  3. Participation in Academy for new CA staff
  4. Active involvement in the CFSR on site review
- Met with foster parents and renewed our commitment to ensuring we take a more active role engaging them as partners and involving them in discussions regarding key practice change. Scheduling meetings to receive input on performance based contracting

### **Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)**

- Gave approval to provide Tribes read-only access to FamLink. We are engaging Tribes in readiness activities to develop and implement training and support plan
- Created new Supervisor training modules for ICWA and will implement in March and April 2010
- Partnered with tribes in conducting an ICW case review. Some tribal members participated in the review process as case reviewers. We are in the process of finalizing the report and will develop and implement a statewide improvement plan to address key findings

**HB 2106 Update** - See Hand-Out: *Update on Implementation of 2SHB 2106 to the Child Welfare Transformation Design Committee 12/14/09*

**Legislative Session** - See Hand-Out: *2010 Legislative Bills of Interest*