

From: Andrew McDirmid
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 9:56 PM
To: Smylie, George (DSHS/DCS)
Cc: Kristie Dimak
Subject: Residential Credit Sub Committee Summary

- Residential Credit Sub Committee Summary for May 20, 2011 meeting: The group members include Andrew McDirmid, Kristi Dimak, Timothy Eastman, Gary Bashor, Kevin Callaghan, Angela Gebracht, and DCS Staff support provide by George Smylie. The Sub Committee has had several meetings, the details of which are posted on the WA Child Work Group web site. The previous meetings have included, but not been limited to, conversations in which each member has verbalized their opinions regarding when and if the Residential Credit should be applied. The Sub Committee has also reviewed various child support calculations including a residential credit using a Per Day method, Cross Credit method, and the Original Residential Credit.
 - The Sub Committee agrees a Residential Credit should apply to the Child Support Calculation.
 - The Sub Committee agrees a threshold should apply. However the members are not in complete agreement about what the threshold should equal.
 - Kristie = 25% is low, but may be able to settle on 30%.
 - Kevin = indicated 25% is too low. If we needed to fix on a percentage at least 30% would be a reasonable threshold.
 - Tim = is comfortable with a 25% threshold. However he thinks a methodology like the Indiana method would be a method we should look at before we provide a recommendation. During the Sub Committees next meeting we will analyze a series of examples using the Original Residential Credit. The Sub Committee will then run through the same examples using the Indiana Calculations.
 - Gary = a threshold of 25% would a minimum, but his experience is a majority of parents, irrespective of the time they have with their children, try to provide an extra room and other amenities which allow the child/children a good experience while at the lower time parents home. Our job is very tough when we do not understand how the table originated (was a credit built in or is the table the actual cost of raising a child...no one seems to be able to answer this question).
 - Andrew = would be willing to accept a 25% threshold, but also willing to accept a higher threshold percentage in order to obtain a consensus.
 - Angela = not present
 - The Sub Committee agrees we are uncertain how best to calculate the Residential Credit. The group is leaning toward a recommendation of using the Original RC calculation. Due to the limited amount of time we have to provide a recommendation the Group thinks the Original Calculation is something which is familiar and is already being used in the Courts. Hence, even though the Original Credit may not be perfect the group thinks the Original credit provides the best chance to be accepted by the Sub Committee and the Work Group. The goal is to provide a formula that provides the mechanics for calculating a RC. The formula can always be adjusted for a change in a threshold, whether it is 25%, 30%, 35%, etc.