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## **Public Children Services Association of Ohio Strategic Plan 2011-12**

**Mission:** PCSAO is a membership driven association serving Ohio's 88 County Public Children Services Agencies through the support of program excellence and sound public policy for safe children, stable families and supportive communities.

We do this through member dialogue, active sharing of information, building partnerships, research, training and technical assistance, and advocacy at the state and federal level.

### **Guiding Outcomes:**

- Safe reduction of children in care
- Increased focus on family strengths and engagement
- Obtain permanent families / permanency – birth, kin, adopt
- Focus on older youth
- Quality of services and outcomes
- Demonstrate efficiency in managing budgets

**Goal One: Child Welfare Practice Enhancements** - Pursue and promote a continuous focus that produces positive child outcomes and safely reduces placement costs for reinvestment in services for children and families.

Potential practice areas for priority effort:

1. Differential Response expansion beyond current 25 counties – next RFA Jan 2011
2. Court Partnership on kinship care legal procedures and related issues – new Subcommittee charge proposed – Kinship procedures, Adult Adoption
3. Permanency Round Tables – Casey Family Programs training in Spring
4. Family search and engagement – OCWTP in progress
5. System of Care – see on-site behavioral health below, drug courts, child MH, etc.

PCSAO's role in moving these practice issues forward varies from initiative to initiative.

**Goal Two: Agency/System Innovations** - Provide leadership and technical assistance as the child welfare system implements quality, cost-effective methods of providing shared service across county agencies, across service systems and across county jurisdictions. Potential cost-effective initiatives to support – PCSAO to survey 88 PCSAs, develop map of who is interested in what initiative by Jan 31, 2011, facilitate work to begin:

1. Revenue maximization (focus on IV-E) – SACWIS, ODJFS assistance, peer assistance
2. Shared Services – administrative, some practice areas, local/regional initiatives, peer assistance
3. On-Site Behavioral Health Assessment Services to improve timeliness and accessibility – local practice models, ProtectOhio evaluation

4. Screening Call Centers – for C/AN referrals, voluntary pilots, PCSAO facilitated and evaluated
5. Consistent Data Entry across county agencies – Diff Response expansion, ProtectOhio Kinship & Family Team Meetings example
6. Reduction/Elimination of state-required rules and paperwork – MCWIC rule and regulation review and reduction; review past work done with ODJFS

**Goal Three: State and Federal Advocacy** - aggressively seek necessary revenues, sound policies, regulatory and bureaucratic relief to support the child welfare mission.

1. Distribute / Invest Tobacco Settlement release for Line 533 – joint recommendations
2. 2011-12 Biennial Budget – maintain allocation levels
  - a. State Child Protection Allocation, IM line, TANF allocation, Title XX, Line 533 (at \$15 M level?)
  - b. Hold harmless funds distributed directly to families – OWF, AA/SAMS, KPI
  - c. Streamline funds – SPCA and Fiesel should be one allocation, not two
3. State Legislative Initiatives (insert various Legislative Committee fixes when opportunity)
  - a. CHIPS reintro and passage
  - a. Kinship POA and COA extended to all relatives/kin (HB 130 Grandparent expansion); Adult Adoption provisions
  - b. Prevention First – prevention of teen and unintended PGs
2. Federal Initiatives
  - a. ProtectOhio Title IV-E Waiver 5 Year Renewal – short term extension thru 3/31/11; other states too
  - b. Advocate for broader federal child welfare finance reform – Casey, NAPCWA, PCSAO recommendations
  - c. TANF Reauthorization