



## PCSAO Weekly Update

---

### January 12, 2010

#### IN THIS EDITION:

- **In Memory Of Don Medd**
- **Final Reminder: PCSAO Safety Incident Report, 4th Quarter, 2009**
- **Budgeting, The Next Generation**
- **PCSAO Trustees**
- **Gayle Channing Tenenbaum Recovering Nicely**
- **House Of Representatives Children's' Caucus First 2010 Briefing On Childhood Trauma**
- **Child Welfare Data Performance Products**
- **Three States Approved For Kinship-Guardianship Option, 11 More Pending**
- **Jazzy Supervisory Conference**
- **Teen And Unintended Pregnancy Prevention Activities Update**
- **Policy Actions To Reduce Racial Disproportionality And Disparities In Child Welfare: A Scan Of Eleven States**
- **The Challenges Of Identity Development In Transracial And International Adoption Today! Wednesday, January 6, 2010 At 2:00 PM EST**
- **State Statutes: Access To Adoption Records**
- **Creating Effective Parent-Practitioner Partnerships (Free Online Course)**
- **Experts Address Human Trafficking Epidemic In Ohio**
- **Save The Date: 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Social Services Job Fair**
- **Child Welfare In The News**
- **Job Openings**
- **Upcoming Meetings**
- **Green Living Tip**
- **Thought of The Week**
- **Ohio Fact**

#### PCSAO Staff

**Crystal Ward Allen**  
Executive Director

**Gayle Channing Tenenbaum**  
Legislative Director

**Greg Kapcar**  
Assistant Legislative Director

**Jeed Jitprasert**  
Operations Manager

**Kelly Knight**  
Youth Advisory Board Facilitator

**Arlene Jones**  
Foster Youth Advisor

**Alex Bishara**  
OSU MSW Student Intern

**Sarah Ziems**  
OSU MSW Student Intern

**Editor: Sarah Ziems**  
E-mail: [ziems.3@osu.edu](mailto:ziems.3@osu.edu)

**IN MEMORY OF DON MEDD**— Don Medd, longtime CEO of the Youngstown Area Agency on Aging (serving Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull Counties), died Jan. 6, 2010 at the age of 63. In addition to being a long time star among advocates for community based services for the aging population and service providers for the elderly, Don served as the first Chair of the Statewide Kinship Caregivers Advisory Council, and was a true advocate for kinship caregivers. A memorial was held in Youngstown on Jan. 10 and friends and colleagues gathered to reminisce in Columbus Jan. 11. We will miss Don, his humor and his passion.

**FINAL REMINDER: PCSAO SAFETY INCIDENT REPORT, 4TH QUARTER, 2009**— there are 37 counties who have submitted the 4th quarter for Safety Report, details as listed:

Adams, Ashtabula, Athens, Butler, Columbiana, Coshocton, Crawford, Defiance, Erie, Franklin, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Lake, Lorain, Lucas, Madison, Mahoning, Marion, Meigs, Mercer, Miami, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Paulding, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Richland, Ross, Shelby, Stark, Warren, Wayne, and Williams

If an incident occurred in your county, please submit your safety report to us by January 15. Please get the form online at [http://www.pcsao.org/SafetyReportIncident/Safety%20Incident%20Report%20Form\\_updated.pdf](http://www.pcsao.org/SafetyReportIncident/Safety%20Incident%20Report%20Form_updated.pdf). If your county had no incident, please simply e-mail [jeed@pcsao.org](mailto:jeed@pcsao.org) to let us know. Thank you very much.

**BUDGETING, THE NEXT GENERATION**— to listen to this free, live audio webcast on Jan 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am register at <http://www.visualwebcaster.com/event.asp?id=64922>. Federal and state budgets are under unprecedented pressure: deficits are ballooning, programs are being cut back, and tax rolls are anemic, or worse. As part of the federal government's response to the severe recession, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) cushioned state budget cuts, particularly in education, and included investments in children and families -- yet next steps after ARRA are unknown. New research by Urban Institute and Brookings Institution analysts reveals how children -- collectively and at different ages -- fare in the federal budget and how federal and state spending mesh. Drawing on these forthcoming reports, a panel of distinguished experts will begin a vital and timely exchange on how the nation can, amid severe fiscal and budgetary challenges, make the wisest public investments in its children. *To join the webcast, you need a computer with a high-speed Internet connection. The audio for the webcast is available over the Internet only (no telephone connections).* You will need to register on the same computer you will use to listen. You can register anytime up to and during the event. To access the webcast, you can go to the same link where you registered.

**PCSAO TRUSTEES**— bad weather and the pile up of work following the holidays prevented a quorum for Trustees on Jan. 6, 2010. Nevertheless, a good group of execs appeared and discussion was valuable, including the following items:

- **We reviewed the 2009 PCSAO Membership Survey**, both the charts and open ended questions which were provided to membership before the holidays. Great for staff and Trustees to review membership feedback. Overall, a high level of kudos, but also some good constructive input. We also previewed the Joint Assoc. Exec Director Salary Survey which received 103 responses, results are being organized to distribute soon.
- **Bob Kubiak, University Partnership Program Liaison** was a guest and gave great overview of program, evaluations, and tips for making the most of UPP opportunities.
- **Updates** on Budget, Tobacco Settlement Funds/Line 533 (funds tied up in Supreme Court appeal), TPPT stakeholders meetings, child welfare data performance products.
- **CHIPS legislation**— suggestions to use PCSAO and OJFSDA District meetings for further education/discussion, later a membership conference call.
- **Exec Membership meeting in March**— highlight Level of Care and managed care tools; brief discussion of private agencies feeling arbitrary per diem decisions being made; also highlight permanency strategies for lingering foster youth.
- **Two candidates announced for SW Trustee vacancy** – Moira Weir of Hamilton CDJFS and Sue Bailey of Champaign CDJFS – how lucky is PCSAO to have TWO fabulous candidates willing to serve? This will be voted on in February.

**GAYLE CHANNING TENENBAUM RECOVERING NICELY**— as many of you know, Gayle had long anticipated hip replacement surgery right before Christmas, then spent two weeks in rehab. She is now back at home, participating in regular Physical Therapy, and happily keeping her blackberry and phone busy with the work she is known for – advocating for the poor, downtrodden and maltreated. If you would like to send her a note, her address is 164 N. Harding Rd, Columbus, OH 43209. She'd love to hear from you!

## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHILDREN'S' CAUCUS FIRST 2010 BRIEFING ON CHILDHOOD**

**TRAUMA**— The House of Representatives Children's Caucus, Co-Chaired by Representative Steve Driehaus of Cincinnati, Ohio and Representative Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, had their first briefing on Tuesday January 12, 2010 on the impact of Childhood Trauma on our nations children and families. Frank Putman, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and Child Psychiatry at Cincinnati Children's Medical Center; Director of the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children ( child abuse evaluation, treatment and research center); Director of the NCTSN Trauma Treatment Training Center ( SAMHSA funded); Member of the Ohio Children's Trust Fund Board and the Governor's Early Care Advisory Board, gave a presentation to the caucus on the implications of childhood trauma as well as some of the promising practices occurring in Ohio. The following are some of the points highlighted in his presentation:

1. Childhood trauma is a huge and costly problem
2. Childhood trauma makes large (but preventable) contributions to major public health and social problems
3. Childhood trauma is preventable and treatable
4. Identify bottlenecks to implementing evidence-based interventions on a sufficient scale to address size of the problem
5. What Ohio is doing to address these bottlenecks

Please click [here](#) to see his full presentation.

**CHILD WELFARE DATA PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS**— as state and local child welfare leadership in Ohio works to ensure every bit of time, talent and resources available to our agencies is well invested and targeted, we continue promote use of essential data to run an agency, supervise a unit, even understand how an individual worker's activities are documented in our SACWIS system. (Does work that gets done get documented properly to ensure your work, staff, and agency has an accurate record? Will such make a difference for Ohio's CFSR performance, possibly avoiding a significant fiscal penalty in the future? Can data help us to determine what interventions and investments are effective for child safety and a safe reduction of costly out of home care?) Thus, PCSAO is promoting active use of the Supreme Court of Ohio aggregate data <http://www.summitonchildren.ohio.gov/AttySvcs/cfsr/dataAnalysis/default.html> And check out the link here for video explaining it <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtzNd5Q-6DM>).

But we are also seeking a user friendly process for child welfare data performance that allows regular real time look at performance for an agency, unit, and even allow drill down to worker or case to isolate where additional resources need to be invested. SafeMeasures©, [http://www.nccd-crc.org/crc/c\\_sfm\\_about.html](http://www.nccd-crc.org/crc/c_sfm_about.html), a product used by California counties, Virginia, and several other states, was previewed by Execs at the December PCSAO Exec Membership meeting. A number of counties also recently participated in a web demonstration of ROM (Results Oriented Management) <http://www.rom.ku.edu/>, which is used by a number of other states. PCSAO continues to seek user friendly, cost effective solutions for state and membership consideration.

**THREE STATES APPROVED FOR KINSHIP-GUARDIANSHIP OPTION, 11 MORE PENDING**— The Children's Bureau has now approved amended state plans from Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee that will allow the states to utilize Title IV-E funds for the new kinship-guardianship option as provided for through last year's Fostering Connections Act (P.L. 110-351). Ten other states along with the District of Columbia have also submitted state plan amendments. These states are Connecticut, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington.

The kinship-guardianship option became effective shortly after Fostering Connections was signed into law in October 2008, but there is no timeframe or deadline for states to take the option. While some were expecting states to act more quickly, enactment coincided with the recession, which has had a delaying impact. Factors that may inhibit states include some states requiring legislative changes, other states contemplating dramatic cuts in human service funding (such as in Ohio), and other states awaiting greater instruction and clarification from HHS, including on an important issue as to whether or not children already in kinship placements and otherwise eligible being covered once a state has taken the option or whether coverage extends only to new kinship arrangements established after a state plan has been amended. HHS has stuck by the December 2008 guidance, requiring the narrower eligibility, but some states such as California are seeking a broader interpretation.

**JAZZY SUPERVISORY CONFERENCE**— the East Central ORTC has announced their 16<sup>th</sup> annual supervisory conference for March 4 & 5, 2010 at the Carlisle Inn in Sugarcreek, entitled *Jazzing Up Your Skills with Pizzazz!* This free conference offers 14 hours of OCWTP supervisory training, and has a great line-up. For more info and to register, go to <http://www.ocwtp.net/PDFs/ECORTC/Supervisory%20Conf%202010%20Brochure.pdf> .

**TEEN AND UNINTENDED PREGNANCY PREVENTION ACTIVITIES UPDATE**— Ensuring that every child born in Ohio is wanted and born to physically, emotionally and financially prepared parent(s) is a goal everyone – regardless of party or philosophy – agrees upon.

Thus, PCSAO continues to support various activities to prevent teen and unintended pregnancies. We are supporting Prevention First, HB 293, and the associated bills that promote comprehensive sex education, would establish a teen pregnancy prevention task force, contraception insurance equity and hospital emergency room access to Plan B for all victims of sexual assault. As we now know, these are poverty prevention and child maltreatment prevention strategies. The federal government recently established funding for teen pregnancy prevention strategies; and federal health care reform bills under consideration include language to improve access to reproductive healthcare and contraception access. ODJFS has been actively preparing to take advantage of these opportunities.

**POLICY ACTIONS TO REDUCE RACIAL DISPROPORTIONALITY AND DISPARITIES IN CHILD WELFARE: A SCAN OF ELEVEN STATES**— Eleven states, California, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Texas, and Washington, have been identified as directly addressing disproportionality and disparities through public policy measures. To obtain a more in-depth understanding of these activities, state officials in six states (California, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Texas) were contacted and interviewed about their efforts in the child welfare system. The focus of this analysis is on state-initiated legislative policy; reform efforts by local governments and court systems to reduce the disparities and disproportionate representation of children of color in foster care are not captured here. This paper was prepared by the Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare. (2009). [http://www.policyforresults.org/en/Topics/2008/Building-Strong-and-Stable-Families/Increase-Exits-from-Foster-Care-to-ADOPTION/Exits-to-ADOPTION/~/\\_media/Alliance%20Policy%20Scan.ashx](http://www.policyforresults.org/en/Topics/2008/Building-Strong-and-Stable-Families/Increase-Exits-from-Foster-Care-to-ADOPTION/Exits-to-ADOPTION/~/_media/Alliance%20Policy%20Scan.ashx)

**THE CHALLENGES OF IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSRACIAL AND INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION TODAY! WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2010 AT 2:00 PM EST**— call in and join the engaging live conversation on today's edition of the Child Welfare League of America's Internet Radio Program "On-the-Line with CWLA". The broadcast today will feature Adam Pertman, Executive Director of the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute, for an in-depth conversation about the key findings and recommendations drawn from the Institute's recent study on the challenges of identity development in transracial and international adoption. <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/cwla-radio>

**STATE STATUTES: ACCESS TO ADOPTION RECORDS**— in nearly all States, adoption records are sealed and withheld from public inspection after an adoption is finalized. This State Statutes publication from the Child Welfare Information Gateway outlines procedures that most States have that allow parties to an adoption to obtain, from an adoption record, non-identifying and identifying information about an adopted person and the adopted person's birth relatives. It provides definitions of non-identifying and identifying information, an overview of who may access such information, and information about access to original birth certificates: [www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\\_policies/statutes/infoaccessap.cfm](http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/infoaccessap.cfm)

**CREATING EFFECTIVE PARENT-PRACTITIONER PARTNERSHIPS (FREE ONLINE COURSE)**— The FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention recently announced that a new online course, *Creating Effective Parent-Practitioner Partnerships*, has been added to the FRIENDS Online Learning Center. Parent Leadership is a strength-based approach to family support that is founded on the belief that parents are knowledgeable about their families and communities and can provide valuable insight into programmatic and community decision-making to benefit children and families. Upon completion of this course, you will be able to: Define the roles and list the benefits of parent leadership; Describe common fears about, and barriers to, parent leadership; and, Explain basic principles and guidelines of parent leadership. This course is being offered free of charge through the FRIENDS Online Learning Center. When you enroll in the course a discount code will automatically be applied and the registration fee will be waived. If you have any difficulties enrolling in the course please use the "Contact our support team" link on the left column. To go directly to the Online Learning Center, click: [www.cequick.com/myeln/FRIENDS/default.asp](http://www.cequick.com/myeln/FRIENDS/default.asp)

**EXPERTS ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING EPIDEMIC IN OHIO**— Senator Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) hosted a forum to kick-off National Human Trafficking Day at the Statehouse on Monday. A coalition of organizations, law enforcement, social work and legal experts addressed the issue, highlighting their efforts and making very clear the need for resources and funding for long-term care of Ohio's victims. Fedor, who serves as a vice chair of the state's Trafficking in Persons Study Commission, was joined by Ambassador and CEO of the Polaris Project, Mark P. Lagon, who oversees all national programs on Human Trafficking.

Lagon said Ohio is a destination for traffickers because of its proximity to Canada, the logistics of its highway system and the number of migrant workers, who are easily exploited because of their poverty level conditions. According to the U.S. Department of State, approximately 600,000 to 800,000 victims are trafficked annually across international borders worldwide. Of those victims, between 14,500 and 17,500 are trafficked across the United States. Fedor has a draft bill awaiting a Republican co-sponsor to define human trafficking and to put some teeth into penalties for sex crimes and trafficking. Currently, human trafficking is not mentioned specifically in the Ohio Revised Code.

Other speakers at the forum included Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray; Rep. Kathleen Chandler (D-Kent) and local human trafficking expert Celia Williamson. To see the full Hannah Report article on the Forum, click [here](#).

**SAVE THE DATE: 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SOCIAL SERVICES JOB FAIR**— The Social Services Job Fair, sponsored by Mwanafunzi, will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2010 from 10 am to 3:30 pm at the newly built Ohio Union on the Ohio State University campus. The first 50 agencies to register will be accepted. Reserve your space now by contacting Shenieka Jones at [jones.2807@buckeyemail.osu.edu](mailto:jones.2807@buckeyemail.osu.edu)

**CHILD WELFARE IN THE NEWS**— Child Welfare in the News highlights important child welfare news and articles that focus on a positive program or effect of an Ohio public children services agency, and other agencies across the country.

- Price, Rita. Bill refocuses child-welfare laws. *The Columbus Dispatch*. January 11, 2010. A bill introduced in the General Assembly would replace the existing model with a "Child in Need of Protective Services" statute. The CHIPS proposal lists seven categories of circumstance – including harm by exposure to substance misuse of a lack of health care – in which the child could be ruled in need of protective services. FCCS Director
- Racz, Gene. Middlesex County aims to put juvenile offenders on right track, not behind bars. *Mycentraljersey.com*. December 29, 2009. Juveniles who break the law in Middlesex County but pose no real public safety or flight risk may soon be spending more time in a new support program than at a youth detention center. Middlesex County has applied to participate in the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. The primary goal of the program is making sure that secure detention is only used for serious and chronic youth offenders.
- Marshall, Aaron. Group challenges ruling letting Ohio use tobacco settlement funds in state budget. *The Plain Dealer*. January 6, 2010. More than \$250 million in tobacco settlement money will remain frozen as an anti-tobacco group appeals a week-old decision that said Ohio could seize the funds and put them to work in the state budget. The Legacy Foundation announced Wednesday that it will appeal a Dec. 31 decision by the 10<sup>th</sup> District Ohio Court of Appeals that had cleared the way for Gov. Ted Strickland to use the money in the budget. The legal tussle now moves before the Ohio Supreme Court, which will decide whether to accept the case.

**JOB OPENINGS**— for more information, please visit <http://www.pcsao.org/Employment.htm>

Posted Date	Organization	Available Position
1/12/2010	Clinton County Children Services	<a href="#">Director and Caseworker</a>
1/7/2010	Athens County Family and Children First Council (FCFC)	<a href="#">FCFC Coordinator</a>
12/29/2009	Clermont County DJFS	<a href="#">DJFS Director</a>
12/22/2009	Ashtabula County Children Services	<a href="#">Family Caseworker</a>
12/22/2009	Lorain County Children Services	<a href="#">Child Welfare Workers 3</a>
12/21/2009	Stark County Children Services	<a href="#">Social Services Worker 2</a>
12/18/2009	Marion County Children Services	<a href="#">Family Support Services Caseworker</a>
12/16/2009	Ashtabula County Children Services	<a href="#">IT./M.I.S.</a>

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
Jan 15	PCSAO Conference Committee	PCSAO Office
Jan 16	OHIO YAB Officer's Retreat	PCSAO Office
Jan 18	Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Office Closed
Jan 20	SW PCSAO District Meeting	Golden Lamb, Lebanon
Jan 21	OHIO YAB Statewide Meeting	ODJFS Air Center, Columbus
Jan 22	PCSAO Canton District Meeting	Olde Warehouse Restaurant, Roscoe Village
Jan 22	Rules Review Committee	ODJFS, Lazarus Bldg, C606
Jan 25	PCSAO Legislative Committee	FCCS, 855 E. Mound Street, Cols.
Jan 25	SEORTC Director's Meeting	SE Regional Training Center, Athens

**GREEN LIVING TIP**— Disposable water bottles are out, reusable water bottles are in. It's great news for the environment; but what sort of refillable water bottle should you choose and why? Click [here](#) for the full article.

**THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**— “Look at everything as though you were seeing it either for the first or the last time. Then your time on earth will be filled with glory.” Betty Smith, from her novel, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*.

**OHIO FACT**— Malabar Farm, a state park near Mansfield devoted to conservation and education, is the former home of author, farmer, and conservationist Louis Bromfield.