

PCSAO Weekly Update

January 3, 2012

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PCSAO Staff

Crystal Ward Allen
Executive Director

Gayle Channing Tenenbaum
Director of Policy and Governmental Affairs

Gregory R. Kapcar
Legislative Director

Scott Britton
Assistant Director

Jeed Jitprasert
Operations Manager

Editor: Jeed Jitprasert
E-mail: Jeed@pcsao.org

Happy New Year
Welcome to 2012!



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OHIOREACH FANS – here is a great opportunity to learn more about higher Ed financial aid for your transitioning foster students.

Statewide Regional OASFAA Meetings - Friday, January 13, 2012, 9:30 - 2:30 pm

Audience - OASFAA members, high school counselors and others, such as *child welfare IL professionals!*

Northwest: Tiffin University, contact/RSVP is Lawrence Matthews, matthewsL@bluffton.edu

Northeast: Cuyahoga Community College (west campus), contact/RSVP is Carrie Short, cshort@bw.edu

Southwest: University of Dayton, contact/RSVP is Todd Everett, everett@xavier.edu

Southeast: Otterbein University, contact/RSVP is Chad Foust, foust.95@osu.edu

Topics will include, but not be limited to:

- 2012-2013 FAFSA updates
- Final preparations for high school financial aid nights
- Update on College Goal Sunday activities (scheduled for February 12, 2012)
- Important state financial aid program updates
- Updates on federal financial aid program changes for 2012-2013
- Other Hot Topics including initial feedback on and a demonstration of Net Price Calculators
- Advising potential students on managing student loan debt – by Sallie Mae representative

The meeting is free, and lunch is provided, thus you must rsvp to the individual listed above.

PCSAO is also pleased to announce that the OhioReach Advisory Board (Miami U Hamilton Campus, FCCA-OH, ODJFS, OACCA, PCSAO) has been **funded once again, to host the 4th Annual OhioReach Summit, with free registration** for both child welfare and higher education professionals that work with transitioning foster students reaching for higher education success. The anonymous donor is dedicated to foster youth success, PCSAO is the fiscal agent. Plans for the late spring event are in progress now.

CHILD FATALITY REVIEW ANNUAL REPORT – the Ohio Dept. of Health published their statewide report covering all child deaths that occurred during CY 2009, and aggregate review of 2005-2009. The *mission of CFR is to reduce the incidence of preventable child deaths in Ohio*. Selected highlights of the 1,665 child deaths in 2009 are summarized below:

- Natural deaths accounted for 71% of all child deaths
- Accidents accounted for 14%
- Homicides were 5%
- Suicides were 3%
- Undetermined or pending (CFR Bds delay review of cases while prosecution is pending) were 7% of all child deaths

Of the **deaths due to medical causes** (72% of all), 78% of them were of infants under age one, half attributed to prematurity. Of the **deaths due to “external causes”** (23% of all), nearly one-third of those (107) were due to asphyxia - half of those were to infants under the age of one, 37% (44 deaths) were to youth aged 10-17 and were ruled suicides. 5% of all deaths were due to vehicular incidents.

Deaths to infants accounted for 67% of all child deaths. 68% of these were less than one-month old. *14% of all child deaths were sleep related deaths – usually a preventable issue.*

Deaths related to child abuse and neglect - 34 such deaths were reviewed by local CFR Boards, all but two were to children under age 10.

Preventable Deaths – local CFR Boards determined 22% of the deaths were likely preventable – 84% of the accidental deaths (often sleep related – 66% occurred in bedsharing such as adult beds, couches or chairs!) and 59% (100) of the deaths to children age 15-17.

2005-2009 Trends – the trends have been remarkably similar from year to year, but there has been a small decrease in both the number and rate of child deaths each year. While vehicular deaths have decreased, asphyxia deaths have increased. Deaths to infants under one month, and under a year far outpace deaths for any other age group, and deaths to both Hispanic and African American children are disproportional. While boys outpace girls in all child deaths, it is particularly disproportional for “external” causes of death such as homicide, suicide, vehicular and abuse/neglect.

Ohio Children’s Trust Fund Role – as the sole public funding source for child abuse and neglect prevention, OCTF funds the publication of the OCFR Statewide report, and embraces three critical areas – child maltreatment as a public health problem, promoting protective factors with families and children, and investing in evidence informed practices to prevent abuse and neglect.

A local Child Fatality Review Board convenes in each of the 88 counties to review local deaths and make recommendations for preventing child deaths. Thanks to all for your work on behalf of Ohio’s children. The full report is available on-line at <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhprograms/cfhs/cfr/cfrrept.aspx>.

PCSAO 2012 MEETINGS – the full 2012 calendar of events is available on our homepage at www.pcsao.org, including various PCSAO committee meetings and dates, times and locations for PCSAO District meetings near you! 2012 Statewide Executive Membership meetings are listed below:

- Spring Execs Membership Meeting - March 13-14: The Riffe Center, Downtown Columbus
- PCSAO 2012 Legislative Breakfast - March 14: The Riffe Center, Studio Lobby, 4th Fl.
- Summer Execs Membership Meeting - June 21-22: Mohican State Park
- Winter Execs Meeting - December 6-7: The Quest Conference Center, Columbus

ODJFS RULE UPDATE – thanks to ODJFS TAS Susan Halter for the fine rules update summary she does. To view it, click [here](#).

THE NCWWI'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR SUPERVISORS announces....



Beginning in January 2012, supervisors who enroll in the LAS can join a national cohort to move through the core curriculum together.

If you....

- Prefer the extra support of working in a group rather than on your own
- Enjoy hearing what your peers are doing across the country
- Value the opportunity to share your experiences while learning from the experiences of others
- Want certificates of completion or Continuing Education Credits (CEUs)

...then consider enrolling in a LAS Cohort!

How does it work?

Once enrolled, you will be assigned to a small group of your peers so that you can move through the six core modules at the same time. Your group will be given 6 weeks to complete one online core module. At the end of the six weeks, you will meet with your cohort via a live, facilitated webinar (called "Leadership Academy for Supervisors Learning Network " or LASLN) to talk about your learning and share your stories. Your group will then move on as a cohort to the next module and the next webinar.

The use of cohorts allows you to build relationships with your peers and brings continuity to the follow-up webinars. You will also be given online tools to interact with your cohort partners between webinars if you choose to do so. At the end of the 9 month period, your cohort will graduate together! You will also receive a certificate of completion and be eligible to apply for CEU's.

How can I enroll?

If you are interested in joining the first cohort, beginning January 20th, click [here](#) to enroll. If you're interested in joining a cohort at a later date, click [here](#) to place your name on our mailing list.

STRETCH TARGETS – Bob Behn's December 2011 Performance Leadership Report provides a thought provoking look at stretch targets (targets that organizations cannot achieve simply by working a little harder or a little smarter; to achieve a stretch target, people have to invent new strategies, new incentives—entirely new ways of achieving their purpose). Check out the full article [Here](#).

EXECUTIVE COACHING – Thanks to a partnership between PCSAO and the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program, executive coaching is available for county JFS directors, CSB directors, and child welfare administrators. The coaches are themselves retired executives and offer both new and experienced professionals a confidential, one-on-one, long-term relationship tailored to the busy executive's needs and schedule. Executive coaching is a proven method for enhancing skills and knowledge, whether in response to a crisis or for day-to-day management and planning needs. To explore executive coaching options, contact Scott Britton at scott@pcsao.org or 614-224-5802. An informational brochure will be available soon.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR NEW EXECS ORIENTATION – Our annual orientation and training for new executives will be April 25-26 at PCSAO in Columbus. Last year's training -- one of the best attended in recent memory -- received rave reviews. If you are a new director or administrator, then this orientation will give you useful leadership tools, an opportunity to network with your peers, and an in-depth look at the benefits of PCSAO membership. If registration isn't maxed out again by new execs, there will be openings for members of your leadership team to join you. Information about registration, overnight accommodations, and cost will be available by the end of February.

REMINDER: PCSAO SAFETY INCIDENT REPORT, 4th QUARTER, 2011 – If your county has any incidents during October, November and December of 2011, please submit your safety report to PCSAO by January 16. The Safety Incident Report form is available online, click [here](#) to download. If your county has no incident, please simply e-mail (jeed@pcsao.org) to let us know. We really appreciate your participation. Thank you very much.

FOUR DISTANCE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXECs AND SENIOR STAFF IN 2012! – The 2011 launch of PCSAO's Distance Learning Program was such a success. We are offering you four opportunities for 2012! The dates follow as well as the summary of the January offering:

- January 27, 2012 - Strategic Planning for Child Welfare Organizations - Rich Bowlen, Fairfield County JFS
- April 13, 2012 - Levy Strategies - Julie Malkin, Lucas Co. CS and Sherri Oliver, Athens Co., CS
- August 24, 2012 - TBA
- November 9, 2012 - TBA

Sessions are held from 9-11 a.m. in a GoToMeeting webinar format done in collaboration with The Ohio Child Welfare Training Program.

January 27, 2012 Offering: Strategic Planning for Child Welfare Organizations

The purpose of this session will be to introduce participants to a strategic planning process that assists in bringing clarity and agreement to the mission and vision of the public child welfare organization among administrators, staff, consumers, stakeholders and the community. To achieve the desired future for a child welfare organization, agencies must construct strategic plans that allow for flexibility while maintaining focus on short-term and long-term goals. During this session, examples of how planning workgroups can design strategies to address the challenges and risks identified in this process will be shared.

This session has been established to achieve the following learning objectives:

1. Participants will enhance overall understanding of the value the strategic planning process has in achieving goals for child welfare organizations within their community.
2. Participants will gain an understanding of the “Plan-Do-Study-Act” method and purpose of data driven decision making.
3. Participants will be able to draft an agency/organization specific outline for developing a strategic plan.

Presenter - Rich Bowlen, Child Welfare Administrator, Fairfield County CS. Rich brings a wealth of experience and a history of innovation in his county. He is passionate about his work and an outstanding presenter. Don't miss this chance!

To sign up for the January 27, 2012 Distance Learning, please email Rhonda Reagh at rhonda@pcsao.org. **You will need to include your email address, phone number and cell phone number. If you are planning to sign up a team of people, we will need all of the same information for the whole team.** The deadline for sign-up is January 20, 2012.

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.

- [Child welfare agencies across country revamping foster parent role](#) – For decades, it was common for officials around the country to approve foster parents by room and board criteria: Did they pass a background check? Is their home clean? Are their dogs safe and vaccinated?

The Washington Post, 12/31/2011. By Associated Press.

JOB OPENINGS – for more information, please visit www.pcsao.org/Employment.htm. For PCSA agencies – if you're looking at hiring graduates from the University Partnership Program (UPP), please visit the list of [UPP graduates](#) who look for employment in an Ohio public children services agency.

Posted Date	Organization	Available Position
1/3/2012	Portage County DJFS	Clerical Specialist 3
1/3/2012	Guernsey County Children Services	Clerical Specialist
12/19/2011	Wayne County Children Services	Assistant Prosecuting Attorney - Juvenile Division
12/19/2011	Delaware County DJFS	Social Services Worker III
12/14/2011	Richland County Children Services	Social Work Trainee I, II, or III
12/13/2011	Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption	Grants Manager
12/1/2011	Erie County DJFS	Employment Opportunities

UPCOMING MEETINGS

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
January 4	PCSAO Board of Trustees	PCSAO
January 6	PIO Committee Meeting	Conference Call
January 13	PCSAO Conference Committee	PCSAO
January 16	Martin Luther King Day	PCSAO will be closed.
January 18	SW/Cincinnati District Meeting	Golden Lamb, Lebanon
January 20	Canton/Coshocton District Meeting	Olde Warehouse Restaurant, Roscoe Village
January 23	SEORTC Directors/District Meeting	SEORTC
January 23	PCSAO Legislative Committee	Franklin CCS/CORTC
January 26	Distance Learning	Contact: Rhonda Reagh (rhonda@pcsao.org)

[PCSAO 2012 Calendar](#) is available on our website for download.



GREEN LIVING TIP – Green Resolutions for your new year! Eliminate the use of paper towels in your house Paper towels are a big source of paper waste in many households. Instead of using paper towels consider some alternatives, such as paperless towels, old clothes or rags you have around the house, or even towels which you can wash and reuse time and time again. Not only will this cut down on your paper use it will also save money!

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY – On January 5, 1933, construction begins on the Golden Gate Bridge, as workers began excavating 3.25 million cubic feet of dirt for the structure’s huge anchorages. ([Learn more.](#))

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK – “A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.” ~ Lao Tzu