

**Child Support Advisory Committee Minutes
December 13, 2013
Botanical Center – Walsh Room
909 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA**

Members / Alternates Present	Others Present	Members / Alternates Absent
David Jungmann	Carol Eaton	Greg Hughes
Maja Rater	Kylie Claycomb	Dick Woods
Evelyn Ocheltree	Joe Finnegan	Dodie Bauman
Honorable Nancy Boettger	Kate Taylor	Suzanne Overton
Debra Moore	Denise Pfaff	Honorable Janet Petersen
Kathy Mika	Joni Hupke	Honorable Julian Garrett
Barbara Van Allen	Carmen Morton	Cherie Lawson
Fred Scaletta		Matthew Weichers
Christopher Robinson		
Honorable Eliza Ovrom		

I. Welcome

Mr. Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:00 and welcomed everyone. Each individual introduced themselves to the group.

II. Discuss / Approve June 2013 Minutes

Mr. Jungmann moved to approve the minutes for the June 14, 2013 meeting. Judge Ovrom seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

III. Bureau Chief's Report

A. National Child Support Parental Employment Demonstration Grant Overview

Kate Taylor, Des Moines Regional Administrator, gave an overview of the federal grant awarded to CSRU to provide employment services to noncustodial parents. Iowa was one of only eight states selected for the national demonstration grant and was awarded \$2.2 million over five years for the program. It requires random assignment and there will be extensive evaluation of the project to determine the effects of providing these services on the child support program and payment of child support.

Iowa's program is called REACH: Reliable Employment and Child support Help. The goal of the program is consistent and reliable support. CSRU has partnered with Des Moines Area Community College, the Evelyn K. Davis Center for Working Families, Iowa Visiting Nurse Services, United Way, Wells Fargo, and the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence for various services provided to the participants and/or CSRU.

Enrollment began October 16, 2013. Ms. Taylor and staff gave an overview of the process for participants and provided a few statistics and success stories from the participation to date.

Members discussed the presentation and handouts and expressed interest in a tour of the Evelyn K. Davis Center for Working Families which provides many services for the program. There was a question about whether participation by a noncustodial parent was communicated to the custodial parent. Yes; CSRU contacts the custodial parent, which also provides opportunity to inquire about any domestic violence or other concerns. *Update: a tour was held on Friday, February 7, 2014.*

B. Affordable Care Act & Medical Support

Joe Finnegan, Policy Manager, provided an update on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and its impacts on CSRU. Mr. Finnegan explained that no child support requirements have been modified by the ACA, however, CSRU has seen some impacts, such as employers no longer providing health benefits to employees and instead sending them to the exchanges, some difficulty in getting information needed for determining medical costs when calculating guidelines, and lack of information for appropriate referrals from Medicaid recipients.

CSRU is sharing information with the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) in order to get guidance on questions we have or issues we are anticipating. CSRU has started outreach to Medicaid customers who may wish to receive CSRU services. Members discussed and asked questions, and some expressed they are experiencing similar issues.

C. Working with Meskwaki on Start-up Program

Mr. Finnegan also presented information on the work CSRU is doing with the Meskwaki, who are working to start a IV-D tribal child support program. The Meskwaki program plans to achieve IV-D status approximately July 2014. CSRU works with tribal child support programs similar to working with another state.

D. SFY '15 Budget

Ms. Eaton provided CSRU's budget submission by the Council on Human Services for State Fiscal Year 2015. Ms. Eaton gave an overview of the program information, performance, staffing, and budget request outlined in the document. Members requested an electronic copy or link to the budget document. *Update: link was sent by email on January 9, 2014.*

Ms. Eaton also took a moment to talk about the program awareness awards received from the National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA) and Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council (WICSEC) for the numerous outreach efforts, including the Parenting: It's a Life outreach project, done by CSRU, the Attorney General's Office, and Iowa State University.

Also, CSRU passed an extensive IRS audit last week. Ms. Eaton indicated we will have work to do to meet new system requirements on tracking federal tax information. The requirements continue to get more stringent with each audit.

E. Performance Statistics

Ms. Eaton provided CSRU's current performance statistics. CSRU is watching the performance on paternity establishment closely due to the high federal standard of performance that must be met as well as working hard to turn around the recent trend in declining collections that we have seen.

IV. Old Business

A. 2014 Chairperson Nomination/Election

Judge Ovrom nominated Mr. Robinson as Chairperson for Calendar Year 2014. Ms. Van Allen seconded the motion. All approved.

B. 2014 Vice Chairperson Nomination/Election

Judge Ovrom nominated Mr. Jungmann as Vice Chairperson for Calendar Year 2014. Ms. Van Allen seconded the motion. All approved.

C. Other

Ms. Van Allen asked whether there will be a study bill on suspension of support during the 2014 legislative session. Ms. Eaton explained that the DHS Council has yet to approve the concept, but do not anticipate any issues with that happening. Once the DHS Council approves, we will watch closely to see what happens with the concept during legislative session.

V. Adjourn

Ms. Van Allen made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Jungmann. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

The next meeting will be held on April 11, 2014 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the Des Moines Botanical Center Walsh Room.