

**Child Support Advisory Committee Minutes
April 11, 2014
Botanical Center – Walsh Room
909 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA**

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

I. Welcome

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

II. Discuss / Approve December 2013 Minutes

Ms. Van Allen moved to approve the minutes for the December 13, 2013 meeting. Mr. Scaletta seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

III. Bureau Chief's Report

A. National Child Support Parental Employment Demonstration Grant Update

Kate Taylor, Des Moines Regional Administrator, along with Karmon Long and Joni Hupke, gave an update on the five-year federal grant awarded to CSRU to provide employment services to noncustodial parents. Iowa's program is called REACH: Reliable Employment and Child Support Help. The goal of the program is consistent and reliable support.

Recruitment and enrollment began October 16, 2013. The program is six months into the second year. Ms. Taylor and staff gave an overview of the number of participants enrolled and success stories from the participation to date.

Mr. Robinson asked about the length of time the program was available. Ms. Eaton explained it is a five-year grant and there will be extensive evaluation to determine whether this type of program is found to have a positive effect on payment of child support. If so, it is possible it will be built into ongoing child support funding and allowable activities.

B. Web Update

Joe Finnegan, Policy Manager, provided an update on the new child support website, which has been in place for one year. Customers have been gradually redirected to the new website and the old site will be removed May 1, 2014. The old link will redirect customers to the new website. Mr. Finnegan provided statistics on customer visits to the home page, requests for payment records, and logons. In addition, now customers can provide address and employment information online.

Ms. Van Allen asked whether the additional security on the new website has caused issues for CSRU. Mr. Finnegan explained CSRU has been helping customers through the registration process.

In addition, CSRU is preparing to implement balances on the website, and is working toward taking credit and debit card payments online and optimizing the website for mobile users. Staff are also updating the Frequently Asked Questions.

Mr. Finnegan discussed the suggestion from a prior CSAC meeting that CSRU consider third party access to the web, when granted by the customer, particularly for confidential information of clients, such as payment records. CSRU has done extensive research on the topic, but will not be proceeding at this time as there are concerns about granting third parties access to confidential information as it would be difficult to limit to only certain pieces of information.

CSRU will do a press release on the new website after a few more enhancements are ready, and has already used business cards and posters to outreach to customers.

C. Legislation

Ms. Eaton provided an update on legislation. There was very little state legislation related to child support this year, and the suspension legislation CSRU hoped for has not come out in a bill, and session will be ending soon.

Ms. Eaton provided handouts on federal legislation on child support, including UIFSA, a very specific provision giving the federal Secretary of State direct authority to lift passport sanctions under certain conditions, and the requirement to add parenting time provisions in any child support order. The parenting time requirements are concerning for states, especially those like Iowa who are administrative and do not go to court on every order. Several members provided feedback about potential ways to address parenting time provisions, if needed. CSRU is monitoring the legislation and has provided input through the National Council of Child Support Directors.

D. SFY '15 Budget

Ms. Eaton provided a short update on CSRU's budget as a final budget bill has not been passed. So far, the House has passed the HHS Appropriations bill (HSB 688) and fully funded CSRU.

(Update: CSRU was fully funded for SFY 15.)

E. Performance Statistics

Ms. Eaton provided CSRU's current performance statistics. As of now, it appears CSRU will meet the 90% performance standard on paternity establishment that we have been watching closely.

F. National Strategic Plan

Ms. Eaton provided handouts on the new National Strategic Plan that the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) is starting to develop that shows the various areas being looked at for further discussion.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

A. Guidelines Schedule

Ms. Eaton provided a timeline of the last guidelines review for members' review and comment on a plan for the upcoming review of the child support guidelines. Members discussed whether it was necessary to start as early as CSAC did the prior round, as there was quite a lapse between CSAC's work and the Supreme Court Committee's review. (In 2011, CSAC's guidelines work was done between January and September 2011, which would put the next review on pace to begin as early as January 2015.)

Members provided input on having two days, rather than one, to discuss guidelines; on public hearings; and on the appropriate timeframe. Ms. Eaton encouraged members to send any thoughts or feedback on the time to start guidelines work and on the public hearings, and the committee will have additional discussion at the October 2014 meeting and determine a schedule then.

B. By-laws Update

Members reviewed draft updates to the by-laws and discussed further recommendations. Ms. Eaton encouraged members to send any additional changes and we will draft those for a future meeting.

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjourn

Mr. Robinson adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.

The next meeting will be held on October 10, 2014 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the Des Moines Botanical Center Walsh Room.