

Partners in Child Protection Reform February 2010 Resource Digest

Good afternoon Partners!

February promises to be a busy and exciting month-- copied and pasted below are several upcoming events that you may want to take part in. Some are approaching quickly, so mark your calendars! There also many interesting resources and reports to check out. As always, feel free to forward anything you would like to share with the rest of the group in an upcoming digest.

Best,

Next Partners in Child Protection Reform Meeting:

Wednesday, March 3, 1-3pm
Texas Capitol, Room 3E.4, Austin, TX

Events:

[Recognizing Abuse & Neglect: Workshops for Child Care & School Personnel](#)

Various dates & locations statewide **beginning February 10, 2010**

Follow the link above to find the location nearest you.

Trainings cover topics of Recognizing Child Abuse, Documenting Child Abuse/Neglect, and Documenting Child Abuse/Neglect. Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Texas.

February 11 Public Hearing on State Budget Cuts

Health and Human Services Commission
Brown-Heatly Building
Public Hearing Room
4900 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin
11:00 am

HHSC is holding a [public hearing](#) in Austin on Thursday, February 11, 2010 on budget reduction options that have been requested from all health and human services agencies by state leadership. According to HHSC Government Relations, additional details about the options that have been proposed by each agency will be posted to the [HHSC website](#) on February 10th. At that time, an email address to submit comments regarding these options will also be made available.

February 16 Every Child Counts - Census 2010 Statewide Webinar

10:00-11:30 CST

[Click here to register.](#)

Families with young children are the most at risk of being undercounted in the Census because these families either don't understand the importance of the Census or fear what can happen if they do complete it. This webinar will discuss why it is vital for organizations to support the 2010 Census, what you can do to help, and how we can help you inform and educate your community. Hosted by: Center for Public Policy Priorities, Texans Care for Children, Texas Early Childhood Education Coalition.

February 17 Texas State Revenue Meeting

Wednesday, February 17th, 2010

9:30am-11:30am

United Way Capital Area, 2000 East MLK Jr. Blvd., Austin

Please RSVP by FEBRUARY 15!!! (<http://cphp.org/rsvp.php>)

A breakfast briefing and discussion session will be held on Wednesday Feb. 17th on the state's budget deficit, which will leave vital programs under-funded in 2011 and beyond. Learn about what you can do to make a difference, get information on what you can expect in 2011, and discuss what is at the root of our impending state deficit? Hosted by: [The Center for Public Policy Priorities](#), [Texas AFT](#), [Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission](#), [Texas Impact](#), [Texas State Teacher's Association](#), [Texans Care for Children](#), [Texans Together Education Fund](#)

For more information contact Kymberlie at quongcharles@cphp.org or 512-320-0222 x 115

February 22-23 [24th Annual Conference on Prevention of Child Abuse](#)

Dallas

Featuring Bruce D. Perry, MD, PhD. Senior Fellow of the Child Trauma Academy, a not-for-profit organization which promotes innovations in service, research and education in child maltreatment and childhood trauma. Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Texas.

February 23 Brown Bag Lunchtime Child Welfare Continuing Legal Education (CLE) session on The Parent Representation Pilot Project

Judge Byrne's Courtroom (the 126th District Court)

Main Travis County Courthouse, 4th Floor

1000 Guadalupe in Austin.

12-1pm

The Parent Representation Pilot Project was designed to speed up and improve the process of appointment of counsel for indigent parents who legally qualify for an appointed attorney. Judge Byrne will discuss the pilot project's initial results and anticipated expansion. CLE credit has been requested and is anticipated. A CLE reporting number is expected to be provided at the session.

Contact: Katy Gallagher Parker, Staff Attorney for the Honorable Darlene Byrne.

Katy.Gallagher-Parker@co.travis.tx.us (512) 854-4915

February 24-26 [The Texas Safe Schools and Healthy Students Summit](#)

San Antonio

The presentation tracks for the Summit will be Preparedness, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Violence Prevention, and Mental/Physical Health. This Summit is a partnership among the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Statewide Initiative at Education Service Center, Region VI; the Texas Education Agency; and the Texas School Safety Center.

March 5 [27th Annual Children's Mental Health Seminar: "Uptight and Down in the Dumps: Treating Co-Morbid Anxiety and Depression in Youth"](#).

Austin

The seminar will focus on such treatments for co-morbid anxiety and depression; developmentally-appropriate, practical strategies to use in clinical practice; and strategies for engaging parents.

Presented by the Austin Child Guidance Center and Co-Sponsored with The University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work.

April 19 DFPS Council work session at 2 p.m. & April 20 DFPS Council meeting at 9 a.m.

Health and Human Services Commission
Brown-Heatly Building
4900 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin

You can register to appear or learn more at the [DFPS Council home page](#).

May 10-12 [SWPC Prevention Training Institute](#)

San Antonio

Prevention Training Institute provides opportunities for prevention specialists of all levels to enhance their knowledge and skills while staying abreast of new and emerging trends in the field. The Institute offers a track for beginning Prevention Specialists that provides information about the five domains of the prevention scope of practice. Presented by the Southwest Prevention Training Center (SWPC).

Research:

Interim charges For Child Protection

Check out the interim charges for child protection on Texans Care's [website](#).

[Summary of Parent Representation Models](#) by the Center on Children and the Law

This information sheet looks at what different jurisdictions across the country are doing to improve representation for parents in hopes of producing the best outcomes for children and families and reducing the number of children needlessly removed from their homes.

[Mental Health Practices in Child Welfare Guidelines Toolkit](#)

The guidelines presented in this toolkit describe why mental health screening and assessment, psychosocial interventions, psychopharmacological interventions, parent engagement and support, and youth empowerment and support are important for child welfare professionals. The toolkit provides practical implementation tips, tools and resources for integrating and sustaining the guidelines within child welfare agencies and other related settings.

[Child Welfare and Migration Toolkits](#)

A Social Worker's Tool Kit for Working With Immigrant Families -- A Child Welfare Flowchart (August 2009) and *A Social Worker's Tool Kit for Working with Immigrant Families -- Immigration Status and Relief Options* (June 2009) provide public child welfare workers with a basic understanding and overview of the U.S. immigration system and how and when immigration issues may arise during the chronology of a child welfare case.

[National Quality Improvement Center on Differential Response in Child Protective Services \(QIC-DR\)](#)

This website discusses the QIC-DR project. The purposes of this project, through research design and implementation, are to improve child welfare outcomes by implementing differential response, and build cutting-edge, innovative and replicable knowledge about differential response; enhance capacity at the local level to improve outcomes for children and families identified for suspected abuse or neglect; and provide guidance on best practices in differential response.

[Travis County, Texas, Child Protective Services Reintegration Pilot Project: Final Evaluation Report](#)

This report discusses the findings of a recent pilot project by Casey Family Programs, the Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service, and Texas Child Protective Services designed to facilitate the reunification and reintegration of six youth in residential treatment, using a wraparound service model.

[**Policy Actions to Reduce Racial Disproportionality and Disparities in Child Welfare: A Scan of Eleven States**](#)

This report by the Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare provides snapshots of eleven states—California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Texas, and Washington—that have implemented policy changes to address disproportionality.

[**Employment Needs of Foster Youth in Illinois: Findings from the Midwest Study**](#) by Amy Dworsky and Judy Havlicek

The limited research that has been done on young adults who "aged out" of foster care has found that their labor market outcomes are generally quite poor. This study describes what Illinois young people told us about their current and prior participation in the labor force, including work-related training or services they received.

[**What Are the Important Differences Among Kinship Foster Families?**](#) by Andrew Zinn

Much of the law and policy encouraging the use of kinship foster families as a placement resource rests on the implicit assumption that kinship foster families constitute a homogeneous population--that is, that they are very much alike. However, findings of studies of different child welfare jurisdictions suggest that the kinship family population is not, in fact, homogeneous.

[**Researchers Identify Significant Problems with the Standards and Composites in the Child and Family Services Review Process**](#) by John Schuerman and Barbara Needell

This report and issue brief examine shortcomings in the Child and Family Services Review process (CFSR), the federal government's effort to hold state child welfare systems accountable for outcomes of children under their care.