



Child Abuse Prevention and Permanency Advisory Council
Office of Adoption & Child Protection
Executive Office of the Governor

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND PERMANENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING**

Friday, 14 March 2008, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Supreme Court Building, Tallahassee, Florida

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- **Jim Kallinger**, Chief Child Advocate and Director, Office of Adoption and Child Protection, Executive Office of the Governor
- **Andrea Raasch, LCSW**, Licensed Clinical Director, Camelot Community Care, Inc.
- **Barbara Foster, Ph.D.**, Deputy Chief Child Advocate and Director, Office of Adoption and Child Protection, Executive Office of the Governor
- **Cassandra D. Jenkins**, Assistant Secretary for Prevention & Victim Services, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
- **Connie Shingledecker**, Investigative Bureau Chief, Manatee County Sheriff's Office
- **Daniel Dawson**, Circuit Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit
- **Dennis Moore**, Acting Executive Director, Guardian ad Litem Office
- **George Hinchliffe**, Executive Director, Healthy Start Coalition of Jefferson, Madison & Taylor Counties, Inc
- **Georgia "Joy" Bowen**, VP, Florida School Boards Association
- **Graciela "Graci" McGillicuddy**, Child Advocate and Community Philanthropist
- **Iris C. Wilson**, K-12 Deputy Chancellor, Florida Department of Education
- **Julie Hurst**, Executive Director, Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center
- **Leonel "Leo" Mesa, Jr., Psy.D., LMHC**, President/CEO, Reflections Wellness Center
- **Lilli Copp**, Director, Head Start State Collaboration Office
- **Marcie Biddleman**, Executive director, Heartland for Children, Inc.
- **Marilyn "Bunny" Finney**, Brevard County Community Alliance
- **Mark Perlman, M.A.**, Founder and President, Center for Growth and Development
- **Matthew Claps**, Senior Management Analyst II, Operations, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- **Michael "Mike" Haney, Ph.D., NCC, LMHC**, Division Director for Prevention and Intervention, Children's Medical Services, Florida Department of Health
- **Nancy Crawford**, Executive Director, Kids House of Seminole, Inc., Children's Advocacy Center
- **Peter A. Gorski, M.D., M.P.A.**, Director of Program Impact and Innovation, Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Professor of Public Health, Pediatrics and Psychiatry, USF
- **Sandy Neidert**, Senior Court Operations Consultant, Office of the State Court Administrator, Office of Court Improvement, Florida State Courts
- **Sheila Hopkins**, Associate Director for Social Concerns/ Respect Life, Florida Catholic Conference.
- **Terry Thomas**, Special Agent, Crimes Against Children Unit, Florida Department of Law Enforcement

OTHER CAPP-ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE

- **Josephine "JC" Gamboa**, Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida
- **Melanie Alexander**, Agency for Workforce Innovation
- **Peggy Sanford**, Department of Children and Families

INVITED PRESENTERS/DISCUSSANTS IN ATTENDANCE

- **Becky Vickers**, Staff Director, Health and Human Services, Office of Program Policy Analysis & Governmental Accountability (OPPAGA)
- **Bob Rooks**, Director, Adoption Information Center, Daniel Memorial
- **David Fairbanks**, Deputy Secretary for Programs, Department of Children and Families (DCF)
- **Gay Frizzell**, Chief, Permanency Outcomes Unit, Family Safety Program Office, DCF
- **Jim Clark**, Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Memorial
- **Kathy Waters**, Adoption Program Manager, Perm. Outcomes Unit, Family Safety Program Office, DCF
- **Michelle Ubben**, Chief Operating Officer, Ron Sachs Communications
- **Scott Ryan, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, College of Social Work and Director, Institute for Social Work Research, Florida State University
- **Trudie Poole**, CCM, Founder and COO, Heritage Family Preservation Center

OTHER GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

- **Amy Petril**, The Children's Board of Hillsborough County
- **Bill Zepernick**, OPPAGA
- **Debra Ervin**, DCF
- **Emily McAllister**, Executive Office of the Governor
- **Jennifer Diaz**, Executive Office of the Governor
- **Kelley Gandy**, Office of State Court Improvement
- **Nancy Dufoe**, OPPAGA

MINUTES – DRAFT #1

1. Jim Kallinger called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and called the roll. **Introductions**; a review of the adoption-related **statutory charges** in Chapter 39, Florida Statutes; and the assignments for the recording of **recommendations** were made.
2. The council members reviewed the **minutes** of the 6 February 2008 meeting of the council. The members unanimously approved the motion made by Joy Bowen and seconded by Connie Shingledecker to accept the minutes as written. A copy of the approved February minutes can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
3. **Presentation & Q/A – Targeted Populations: the Children, the Experts, the Numbers**. Dr. David Fairbanks, Deputy Secretary for Programs, Department of Children and Families (DCF), discussed the recent performance of the DCF circuits, the children available for adoption and issues surrounding targeted recruitment of adoptive parents for these children. A copy of the presentation handout can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
4. **Presentation & Q/A – Adoption Promotion – Targeted and Child Specific Recruitment**. Kathy Waters, Adoption Program Manager, Perm. Outcomes Unit, Family Safety Program Office, DCF, provided an overview of targeted and child specific recruitment for adoptive parents and a recommended planning tool for child specific recruitment. Copies of the two handouts can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.

5. Presentation & Q/A – State Adoption Promotion Campaign. Michelle Ubben, Chief Operating Officer, Ron Sachs Communications, provided a report of the research and development efforts that have been conducted and are planned for a targeted population recruitment campaign in Florida. A copy of the presentation handout can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
6. Presentation & Q/A – Review of the Foster Child Adoption Program – Becky Vickers, Staff Director, Health & Human Services, OPPAGA shared the findings from two recent studies: *Lead Agencies Structure their Adoption Programs in a Variety of Ways* and *Additional Strategies would help Address the Barriers to Successful Adoptions*. Copies of the presentation handout and the two OPPAGA reports can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
7. Presentation & Q/A – Orientation (the adoption process) and Responsiveness (individual assistance and follow-up) to Prospective Parents. Jim Clark, CEO, Daniel Memorial provided an overview of the work of Florida’s Adoption Information Center funded by the DCF through a contract with Daniel Memorial. Bob Rooks, Director, Adoption Information Center, Daniel Memorial discussed the types of calls received by the center and the processes in place to respond to these calls. Copies of the two presentation handouts and the Standard Operating Procedure used by the center can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
8. Presentation & Q/A – Promotion and Recruitment efforts in Circuit 10. Marcie Biddleman, Heartland for Children, Circuit 10, provided an overview of adoption outcomes, adoption recruitment and successful matches, and post adoption support strategies in place through Heartland for Children. A copy of the presentation handout can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
9. Presentation & Q/A – Trudie Poole, CCM, founder and CEO of Heritage Family Preservation Center was invited to present the center’s Community Champions Network Post Adoption Program Model. For more information about the center and its work, visit www.hfpcci.com.
10. Presentation & Q/A – Messages from Floridians to the Governor’s Office of Adoption and Child Protection. Jim Kallinger shared with the council the stories addressed in the media and the types of calls and requests related to adoption and post-adoption support that have been received by the Governor’s Office.
11. Presentation & Q/A – Preparing Adoptive Families for Permanency. Gay Frizzell, Chief, Permanency Outcomes Unit, Family Safety Program Office, DCF discussed (from the perspective of federal law, state law and administrative rule) the areas of background screening of prospective adoptive families, home study components, training of prospective families prior to adoption and disclosure of the child’s social and medical information to the prospective adoptive family. A copy of the presentation handout can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
12. Presentation & Q/A – An Overview of Evidence-Based Strategies for Support of Adoptive Families – what research suggests, what families request, and what is in place in Florida. Kathy Waters, Adoption Program Manager, DCF discussed best practice guidelines for adoption assistance and provided the council with research articles and listings of the active adoptive parent support groups in Florida, federal funding sources for post adoption services, and allocations and expenditures by circuit for adoption promotions and support services. Copies of the presentation handout and the discussion materials can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
13. Presentation & Q/A – Florida’s Adoptive Families: Challenges, Strengths and Supports. Dr. Scott Ryan, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, College of Social Work and Director, Institute for Social Work Research, Florida State University, presented the finding from two of his most recent studies of

adoptive families and their strengths and needs. A copy of the presentation handout and the excerpts from one of the studies can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.

14. **Presentation & Q/A – FSN and Other Avenues of Study and Understanding.** Kathy Waters, Adoption Program Manager, DCF discussed issues related to the Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) tracking of adopted children after finalization. A copy of the handout can be found at http://www.flgov.com/ca_mar_meeting.
15. **Council Discussions and Deliberations** – Three sessions were held throughout the day to generate recommendations and ideas related to adoption promotion, support of adoptive families, and accountability and information. Additionally council members submitted lists of 124 recommendations for review at the end of the meeting (57-promotion of adoption, 48-post adoption support, and 19-accountability & information). A compilation of this information will be made available on the council Web site after they have been synthesized and approved by the council members.
16. **Announcement** – Jim Kallinger announced that a field trip was being planned for representatives from the council to visit South Carolina for the purpose of exploring the implementation of the Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) as a statewide child abuse prevention and family strengthening initiative.
17. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm. *The next meeting will be held in Tallahassee on 6 May 2008 at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.*