

Florida's Children and Youth Cabinet Information Sharing System

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Financial Status

- Total cost of the system to date is \$1,100,000
- Cancellation of contracted services with NWRDC for the system will result in:
 - \$100,000 will roll back to the agencies from unspent maintenance fees
 - Approximately \$150,000 will roll back to the agencies from NWRDC support and services



Findings and Issues

NWRDC Contract

- The current contract covers yearly maintenance for the data sharing solution and includes software upgrades provide by the vendor. The contract is currently in force with the fiscal year maintenance fees pending payment
- The state owns a license for the current version of the product which would allow the current data sharing environment to remain operational; however, if the contract is cancelled, no additional software maintenance or updates will be received
- If the state decides to suspend payment until a decision is made, the fiscal year maintenance payment will be due



Findings and Issues

User Requirements and Accessibility

- System has capability of meeting intent of users to share information
- Data sharing agreements have not been established; currently 4 of 8 agencies are providing access to data
- The access is limited to view only and cannot be used as official data
- Staff approved for usage are not actively utilizing the system



Findings and Issues

Barriers to Implementation

- Local and federal restrictions on data that may prevent sharing information (*For example, educational records are confidential under federal law and current data is housed at the local district level, not at the state level*)
- Participating agencies may have outdated internal systems not capable of connecting with other agencies' systems. Each agency establishes, modifies, and updates their own systems (*For example, Florida's Office of Early Learning has a system that they are currently updating*)



CYCISS Workgroup Recommends.....

1. Children and Youth Cabinet recognize the team that implemented and supported the data sharing initiative as a success
2. Consider creation of General Agency Data Sharing Agreements so participants can focus on the data element requirements when creating data sharing agreements
3. Request validation of the actual amount of available funds for Fiscal Year 2011/12 and close –out the data sharing project



Recommendations - Continued

4. If available, repurpose funds on initiatives that advance the definition of Cabinet data sharing goals, scope, and requirements
5. Consider assigning the Children and Youth Cabinet (CYC) Technology Subcommittee the task to prepare alternative recommendations for the data sharing goal, scope, and requirements


