

From the prior call – Michael

- Performance management project is on track. If there are further questions, we can schedule a call specifically on that
- Recruiting for the public policy position – Ashley Lantz hired - on the line and working from DC
- Grants policy approved by the board, as outlined in the message sent earlier

DC Delegation – Michael and Ashley Lantz

Primary focus was to encourage members to include a \$12 M appropriation request, the authorized level. This request was met positively by many and not negatively by any. Ashley reported that CASA/GAL representatives had about 50 meetings on the hill, and 16 state directors and representatives and local program directors participated. Some congressional offices have already followed up with states and local programs to visit with them in their districts.

Ashley noted that the timing of the visit was excellent, with members' programmatic requests due soon and President Obama's budget coming out tomorrow, which will kick off the season for more intensive discussion of appropriations.

Libby noted that her participation was an excellent experience which she believes will be helpful at the state level as well. Sally added that we found some new potential CASA champions in congress.

Overview of federal grant process – Tom Dunn

Tom provided a PowerPoint presentation covering the following points. He will send the presentation to those who were not able to view it or those that would like a copy.

- OJJDP Requirements
 - Technical Assistance
 - Training sessions
 - Process to certify standards compliance and assistance to those not meeting standards
 - Publications
 - Engage partner organizations
 - Training materials and pubs
 - Increase number of:
 - Children receiving services
 - Children of color
 - Vol adv recruited
 - Vol adv trained and screened
 - Vol adv from diverse backgrounds
 - Grants program process and admin
 - Competitive process for grant selection
 - Administer sub-grantees and hold the accountable
- Application timeline and components
 - Membership T&TA
 - Posted Early June
 - Due Mid July
 - Award Early to mid September
 - NCASA acceptance of award and special conditions is done within 3 to 4 working days - approx 30-40 special conditions per application
 - Application components:
 - SF-424 – application form

- Abstract – purpose, population, demo served, etc...
- Program Narrative – project design, etc...
- Reporting
 - Six month progress reports – narratives and numbers
 - Final report
 - Monthly FFATA reporting (sub-grantee reporting – track by DUNS #)
 - Six month DCTAT reporting
 - Quarterly financial reporting – financial status report
- Funding
 - TTA 15% (cooperative agreement 10 years)
 - Membership 19% (2 year award)
 - Mentoring 2013 31% (3-year award)
 - Mentoring 2012 35% (3-year award)

Sonia asked about the OJJDP funding for new programs. Florida covers the whole state but not 100% of the kids. Can the state still qualify? Tom explained that the language is aimed at increasing numbers either through new program development or expansion in existing locations. So Florida would qualify.

Other question budget and pass-through amounts; what are the administrative amounts?

Diane Sawyer Request – Michael

When I emailed the states last week, the producers were interested in knowing whether we thought a follow up on the overmedication issue would be a good idea. They have now expanded the question to ask about any foster care issues we think would be good for them to report on. Call with Diane is scheduled for tomorrow.

Michael is interested in hearing more from states on developments related to the psychotropic medication issue and what has changed over the last two years. Have there been changes in CASA/GAL work related to this?

Other issues that may be of interest: Trafficking and the criminalization of victims, the difficulty some older youth and former foster youth have in accessing banking services, housing discrimination, and issues around legal representation (including in juvenile justice proceedings).

Ed noted that the issue of states accessing foster children’s social security benefits is a current topic of proposed legislation in Maryland. Libby noted that Maine has been doing this for years (as have many other states).

Maine is seeing a significant increase in homeless youth due in part to a major defunding of residential care. As residential care facilities have closed, shelters have come to be considered as a permanent plan.

Michael encouraged anyone to email him about what you see as significant issues affecting our kids. Timing and preferred direction for an ABC piece are unknown at this point.

Update from the nomenclature committee – Andrew Kreis

March 3, 2014, State Director Call – Meeting Notes

Our role has been to facilitate conversations. There will be 23 recommendations to finalize at mid-march meeting. Once finalized, we will forward to all states for comment and get as much state consensus as possible so aggregated data compares apples with apples. We realize not all will be able to implement all recommendations

Question about use of “National CASA” and “CASA for Children” – Ed and Michael

Ed posed this question prior to the conference call. Michael explained that National uses “National CASA” when referring specifically to the national organization and CASA for Children in referring to the network or movement as a whole. There are no current plans to change the national organization name, but it would be very helpful to have a conversation about how we can all make this a stronger, more consistent, recognizable brand. CASA for Children is a phrase we can protect under trademark law.

June State Directors meeting – Tara and Sally

The meeting will be from 8:30am to 4 pm on June 7. National is requesting agenda items from the states so that the meeting can meet as many of your needs as possible. Sally noted that a survey has just gone out re: planning committee and Interest in an all-day meeting

Next call –

April 28 at 9:00 a.m. (PST). This will be just before the NCASA board meeting, and we will plan to discuss items on that agenda.