

What's Happening

JANUARY 11, 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

State Budget	1
On the Federal Level	1
Be Part of 2010 Session	1
Children's Alliance Legislative Reception	1
Children's Advocacy Day & Reception	1
Congratulations HOTI & Necco	2
Project Match	2
The Recovery Model	3
WH at RWCP	3
Diversity Conference	3
KPFC Leadership Academy	3
Upcoming Meetings & Events	4
CWLA National Conference	4
Board & Membership Meetings	4
Children's Alliance Staff	4

Governors Budget Reduction Plan: DCBS Budget Spared

Fantastic News to start the new year! Governor Beshear announced his budget reduction plan for the current fiscal year ending June 30th, 2010. There are no cuts to child welfare in the Governor's plan!



The Children's Alliance would like to extend a special Thank You to all of you who made personal contacts to the Governor's Office when asked.

For the first time in the now 6 budget reductions of this administration, DCBS was not cut at all.

Below is a link to the Press Release announcing the Budget Reduction order. At the bottom you will find a link to the actual document for your review.

<http://governor.ky.gov/pressrelease.htm?PostingGUID={51F3F564-874E-48B3-A194-C90AEE864A3F}>

Unfortunately DJJ did not fare as well. The Governor's plan includes a \$ 2.4 million budget cut for DJJ. At this point, we can not predict where within DJJ those reductions will be made.

On the Federal Level

Senate Establishes Foster Care Caucus:

The Senate has established a caucus on foster youth. Sen. Grassley (R-IA) will chair the new caucus along with Sen. Mary Landrieu (D-IA). The caucus is to focus attention on needs of older youth in foster care and those youth who have aged out of foster care.

Caucuses stay in place from one Congress to the next with members from both parties joining on. This caucus will help to organize and facilitate briefings for senators around the issue of the needs of youth in foster care.

Be an Active Part of the Kentucky's 2010 Legislative Session

The 2010 Kentucky General Assembly began its legislative session on **Tuesday, January 5, 2010**. Below are highlights of the Children's Alliance legislative agenda.



Save the Date!

The Children's Alliance will host a Legislative Reception

Thursday, February 11, 2010

From 5:30 pm. To 7:30 p.m.
Children's Alliance Office
in Frankfort

- **AVOID REDUCTIONS IN RATES TO PCC & PCPs**
- **EXPAND INTENSIVE IN-HOME SERVICES**
- **SERVING CHILDREN PLACED OUT OF STATE**

There are many events such as receptions, fundraisers, dinners, etc... in which we really need your participation to effectively reach the Governor directly about our issues. Please watch your email for possible action alerts on this issue.

Again, thank you for your tireless advocacy for our children. **We need everyone of you** to speak out for our most vulnerable.



Children's Advocacy Day & Reception
February 18, 2010

IN KENTUCKY

777 Children were Adopted in
Federal Fiscal Year 2010

Provided by DCBS,
Division of Protection & Permanency.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Alliance Members Awarded Grants for Civic Engagement

The Children's Advocacy Day Planning Committee awarded ten (10) mini-grants of up to \$500 each for agencies who proposed to increase participation at the Children's Advocacy Day event, increase local advocates and create connections with local legislators. Of the ten (10) mini-grants awarded we are excited to announce that three (3) of the ten (10) winners were Children's Alliance members.

Congratulations to Home of the Innocents, Necco – Grayson Office and Necco – Lexington Office.

Summary of the Winning Proposals from our members:

Home of the Innocents plans to educate the children residing in their residential programs about Children's Advocacy Day 2010 and encourage the children to make posters and write letters to legislators. The children who attend the on-campus school will receive a civics presentation and will participate on a field trip to the Capitol to deliver the letters and posters from their peers. The staff, volunteers and children will wear matching T-shirts while visiting the Capitol on Children's Advocacy Day 2010.

Necco – Grayson Office plans to provide advocacy toolkits and training on the importance of advocacy for their foster parents.

To encourage attendance at the Children's Advocacy Day 2010, they are offering small stipends to the foster parent to offset travel expenses. Following Children's Advocacy Day 2010, the Necco Grayson Office will hold a debriefing for those foster parents who attended the Children's Advocacy Day to provide the opportunity for them to share with other foster parents who could not attend.

Necco – Lexington Office plans to offer a series of "advocacy academy" workshops to the youth living in their independent living program. Youth will have an opportunity to meet with legislators, learn about the legislative process and gain an understanding of current issues facing Kentucky's youth today. The youth will receive a small stipend for completing the academy, will attend Children's Advocacy Day 2010 at the Capitol and will have an opportunity to register to vote. Once the youth return from the Capitol they plan to host a community forum to discuss their call to action.



**WAY TO GO
HOME OF THE
INNOCENTS & NECCO!!**

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AT
ITS BEST!!!!**

Project MATCH January & February 2010 Mix & MATCH Meetings

Making Appropriate & Timely Connections for Children

These meetings will be held in 2 locations

throughout the region and will include an **equal mixture** of public and private staff and resource parents and court personnel focus on creating a **productive environment** led by a neutral facilitator with a **structured agenda** focus on the development of a **shared vision** of permanency goals for children in out of home care.

Meeting agenda may include

- Identification of regional trends
- Barriers and strategies to achieving positive outcomes
- Best practice tips, and
- The opportunity to celebrate permanency successes

Mix & Match Meetings

Southern Bluegrass Region

January 19, 2010

Chrysalis House Community Center
Lexington

January 26, 2010

EKU Room 333 Stratton Building
Richmond

RSVP to jessicamorris@uky.edu by Jan. 15, 2010.

Contact Mike Grimes, Project
MATCH Director, (502) 564-2147
or @ Mike.Grimes@ky.gov



The Recovery Model: An Innovative Approach to Mental Illness

A majority of youth in PCC settings have diagnoses of one or more mental health problems that suggest serious (and often presumed life-long) impairment. Evidence-based treatments typically focus on interventions specific to the identified disorder or problem. A promising new approach looks at the individual's life more holistically and helps in devising treatment that is individualized not only to the symptoms of mental illness, but also the patient's social context and personal aspirations.

The Recovery Model builds on research showing that many individuals with serious mental illness develop the capacity to manage their conditions and lead pro-

ductive lives fully integrated into their communities. The elements of recovery programs are instillation of hope, building a secure base (including appropriate housing, sufficient income, freedom from violence, and adequate access to health care), the achieving an durable sense of self, building supportive relationships, empowerment and inclusion (including independent and assertive decision-making and help seeking), the development of personal coping strategies, and developing a sense of meaning and overall purpose in life.

Most of us would agree that these elements are necessary for a satisfying and successful life, but we don't always look

at the extent to which the milieu of settings help youth achieve them. As all parents know, independent and assertive decision-making is a two-edged sword. The Recovery Model has been recommended by President Bush's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health. A good place to start in learning about Recovery is the website of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. A list of resources can be found at <http://www.namisc.org/Recovery/index.htm>.

Please note that the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the Children's Review Program do not require the use of EBT's and do not endorse any specific EBT. Contributed by David E. Hanna, Ph.D., Children's Review Program.

What's Happening at RWCP

Medically Fragile: Join Hands Together

January 22-23, 2010 at UK, Lexington, KY
April 23-24, 2010 at EKU, Richmond, KY

Cultural Diversity

February 16, 2010 at Hope Hill, Mt. Sterling, KY

Medically Fragile: The Price They Pay

February 19-21, 2010 at Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell, KY

Foundations of Youth Work

March 9-10, and 16-17, 2010 at Sunrise, Owensboro, KY

Medically Fragile: Finding Hopeful Spirit

March 12-14, 2010 at Jenny Wiley State Park, Prestonsburg, KY

Life Space Crisis Intervention: FS

March 24-26, 2010 at Hope Hill, Hope, KY
June 8-10, 2010 at Foothills Academy in Albany, KY

Medically Fragile: Handle with Care

April 9-11, 2010 at Holiday Inn Hurstbourne, Louisville, KY

Life Space Crisis Intervention: RS

April 28-30, 2010 at Hope Hill in Hope, KY

For more information: 859-622-6212 or visit www.rwcp.org

9th Annual Diversity Conference

Addressing Diversity: *Focusing on Equity in Culture, Poverty, Disability*

February 10 & 11, 2010 in Richmond

See attached brochure.



KY Partnership for Families and Children's Leadership Academy

March 5-7, 2010

Ramada Inn and Conference Center in Lexington

Parents/primary caregivers of children with emotional, behavioral, mental health, and/or substance use disabilities

Young adults (16-24 years old) that have an emotional, behavioral, mental health and/or substance use disabilities. These transitional-age youth must be at least 16 years old and be able to participate in the group process, AND

Teenagers that are 14 or 15 years old that are identified by a Regional Youth Council Coordinator as leaders in their councils (*All young adults under 18, or who are over 18 and have a guardian, must have a parent or guardian that will attend the conference with them.*)

Providers or agency partners that understand and support the "family-driven and youth-guided System of Care" and want to assist KPFC in moving forward in this effort.

The goals of the Leadership Academy are to: Strengthen the parent's and youth's current leadership skills, help the parents and youth to become more comfortable sharing their story in an appropriate manner, increase the parent's and youth's ability to become leaders in their communities, and build understanding with the parents and youth of what a "family-driven" and "youth-guided" System of Care looks like and what their role is in creating it in their communities.

Contact the KPFC office at 1-800-369-0533 or kpfc@kypartnership.net. Brochure attached.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Children's Alliance Nurse's Council

January 12, 2010 from Noon to 2:00pm
Children's Alliance Office in Frankfort

DCBS PCC Steering Committee

January 14, 2010 from Noon to 3:00pm
Children's Alliance Office in Frankfort

Children's Alliance Finance Committee Conference Call

January 20, 2010 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Children's Alliance Quality Improvement Provider Roundtable

January 21, 2010 from 11:30am to 1:00pm
Administrative Office of the Courts in Frankfort



Please contact the Children's
Alliance Office for
Additional Information
502-875-3399

Quality Outcomes for Children Council

January 21, 2010 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm
Administrative Office of the Courts in Frankfort

Children's Alliance Executive Committee

January 27, 2010 from 9:00am to 11:00am
Children's Alliance Office in Frankfort

Children's Alliance Board Meeting

January 27, 2010 from 11:30am to 4:00pm
KY Domestic Violence Association in Frankfort

Legislative Reception

February 11, 2010 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm
Children's Alliance Office in Frankfort



2010 CWLA National Conference *Leading a New Era*

January 25-27, 2010
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Washington, DC

For additional information, visit www.cwla.org or email
celebrate2010@cwla.org with questions.

Children's Alliance Board & Executive Committee

January 27, 2010 from 11:30am to 3:30pm
May 26, 2010 from 11:30am to 3:30pm
August 25, 2010 from 11:30am to 3:30pm
October 27, 2010 from 11:30am to 3:30pm

All **Board meetings** will be held at the KY Domestic Violence
Association in Frankfort, unless otherwise notified. The
Executive Committee will meet prior to each Board Meeting
from 9:00am to 11:00am at the Children's Alliance Office in
Frankfort, unless otherwise notified.

Membership Meetings

July 28, 2010
September 22, 2010

Time and locations of membership meetings will be announced.

Children's Alliance Staff

Bart Baldwin, President
bart@childrensallianceky.org

Melissa Muse, Director of Member Services
Melissa@childrensallianceky.org

Michelle Sanborn, Director of Public Policy
michelle@childrensallianceky.org

Mary Smither, Office Assistant
mary@childrensallianceky.org

Children's Alliance
420 Capital Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601
P: 502-875-3399
F: 502-223-4200
www.childrensallianceky.org