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October 13, 2023



Governor Shapiro Signs Executive Order Streamlining Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Efforts to Improve Accessibility Across the Commonwealth



On October 11, a press release was issued stating Governor Shapiro signed an executive order on 10.10.2023 which, “creates a Behavioral Health Council bringing together state leaders, local governments, and community providers to develop a statewide action plan to address how to break down silos and deliver timely and quality mental health and addiction care services.

In keeping with Governor Shapiro’s work to ensure government is delivering for Pennsylvanians, Council members will develop specific recommendations to decrease the wait time for care or services for individuals with mental health illness or substance use disorder.”

Please see PCCYFS website to learn more and read the Executive Order [here](#).

All Sessions Eligible for CEU's!

PCCYFS 2023 Education Summit

October 17 • Child Welfare Resource Center, Mechanicsburg • 10am to 2pm



SPECIAL GUESTS



Laval Miller-Wilson
Deputy Secretary
for the Office of
Children, Youth &
Families in the PA
Dept. of Human
Services



Dr. Carrie Rowe
Deputy Secretary
for the Office
of Elementary
& Secondary
Education in
the PA Dept. of
Education



Maura McInerney
Legal Director,
for the Education
Law Center

FEATURING SESSIONS ON:

advocacy efforts
child welfare legislation
educating children in care

RELEVANT FOR:

county child welfare agencies, private provider agencies,
schools, colleges/universities, court personnel or anyone who
works with youth/students involved in the child welfare system



Buy in-person and virtual tickets

Sponsor the Education Summit

Free Webinar for PCCYFS Members. [Register now!](#)

Resource Family Approvals Made Easier: Binti and CONCERN's Partnership

Running a foster care program can be a very challenging endeavor. From recruiting foster parents, training foster parents, doing home studies, making good placement matches, etc., there is a never-ending list of work that needs completed.

In a presentation with CONCERN and Binti, join fellow PCCYFS members to learn how technology can empower your agency to streamline the application process for resource parents, enabling staff to approve more families and bolster recruitment. Binti's first-of-its-kind portal allows prospective foster parents to fill out their paperwork online. Workers can

monitor families' progress, log background checks and training, and see high-level reporting on the health of your licensing and recruiting processes.

Binti is a mission driven technology company focused exclusively on building software to empower better outcomes in child welfare. Since its launch in 2017, Binti has grown quickly through measurable results to work with over 400 child welfare agencies in 34 states, including 10 states state-wide. Binti's software is in use with agencies serving over 38% of children in child welfare in the US.

October 24 at 10 am

Speakers:

Paulena Kulp -Supervisor of Foster Care Intake and Recruitment, CONCERN
Meredith Congelio- Foster Parent Recruiter Greater Berks Region, CONCERN
Gavin Laughlin- Partnerships Manager for Pennsylvania, Binti

[Register here](#)



November 15, 2023
10:00 am - 12:30 pm

The annual presentation and discussion will be held by Zoom Meeting, available to any interested partner and/or any others that may be interested. Together counties and providers, with support from OCYF, will present the history of the Rate Methodology Task Force 2019 Recommendation and information on opportunities to enhance the contracting process and create a collaborative environment. A discussion will be focused on the timing, negotiation, and financial forecasting for the Needs Based Plan and Budget, as well as include an overview of the Provider Needs Based Plan and Budget Tool. This event is mainly developed for county fiscal staff and decision makers, as well as placement and community-based service providers contracting for ACT 148 services, however, any other interested member may attend.

To attend the session via Zoom Meeting, please register at the link below. Please submit any questions or feedback to be addressed at the training session by November 9, 2023, to: hbqoffice@pccyfs.org

To register: [Register Here](#)

Sponsored by PA Council of Children, Youth & Family Services (PCCYFS) and Pennsylvania Children and Youth Administrators (PCYA)



Annual PCCYFS / PCYA Enhancing County/Provider Contract Discussions Training

The annual Enhancing County/Provider Contract Discussions training has been scheduled for Wednesday November 15 from 10 am to 12:30 pm. Historically, this annual training has been held in the spring, but due to requests, this FREE training opportunity has been moved to near the end of the calendar year.

PCCYFS is collaborating with PCYA and other partners to continue providing this opportunity to increase the understanding of, and collaboration on, the contracting process for child welfare and juvenile justice services. This training focuses on building a collaborative environment for the financial planning and contracting process by reviewing important timelines, discussing challenges from all perspectives, evaluating how data can play an important role, and outlining opportunities for technical support.

For more information, please navigate to the Resources area of the PCCYFS website for more details and helpful resources. Use link <https://pccyfs.org/enhancing-county-and-provider-contract-discussions/>

Please register by [clicking here.](#)

PCCYFS Member: Brown & Brown



Lisa A. Bellis, ARM, CPG, CSM, AIS, CIC, CRIS
Senior Vice President, Risk Management & Loss Control

Take a moment and focus on your organization's abuse prevention program. Do you consider your organization complacent, compliant, or...committed? Complacent organizations are typically tight-knit environments where everyone knows everyone. The culture in this setting usually does not support a belief that the risk of abuse is real, and so they become complacent with their policies, screening, and employee training. Compliant organizations are 'box-checkers.' They check off boxes for only those items required by licensing or law. Then there are committed organizations. I'm not talking about buy-in at *some* of the levels. Committed means your organization is focused on abuse prevention starting with your board of directors and trickling down to every employee or volunteer at every level in your organization.

Who loses when an organization becomes complacent or compliant? The victim of abuse, their family members, entire communities, and the organization. Abuse has a crippling long-term effect. When abuse occurs within an organization, that organization's mission – its sole purpose for existence – becomes threatened. Organizations experience loss of reputation, which leads to loss of donations. They incur large financial expenses defending or settling abuse claims. Obtaining or renewing abuse & molestation insurance becomes extremely difficult and sometimes impossible. Meanwhile, employee morale, the life-force and spirit of your organization, crumbles and employees begin to leave. But here's the deal... It doesn't have to be this way! Abuse is preventable and it starts by becoming *committed* to abuse prevention.

As a Certified Praesidium Guardian, one of the concepts I learned was the Praesidium Safety Equation®, which focuses on 8 key areas necessary to provide a safe environment for your consumers.

[Read more](#)

Register Now for the Forum on Pennsylvania's Children

Registration is open for the second annual Forum on Pennsylvania's Children, a gathering of multi-disciplinary thought leaders seeking to advance trauma-informed care throughout the Commonwealth. Presented by Voce, the event will take place November 14th at the Penn Stater Conference Center, State College. Jesse Kohler, Executive Director of the Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice, will present the keynote, "*Building the Movement to Prevent Trauma and Foster Resilience.*"

The Forum is specifically designed to facilitate learning and fuel collaboration among attendees who serve children and families who have experienced trauma. The agenda will facilitate action-oriented dialogue with thought leaders and change agents from human services, faith communities, law enforcement, and education. The cost to attend this one-day event is \$185, including meals. Registration opens at 8 a.m. The program will begin at 8:45 a.m. and conclude at 4:30 pm.

For more information and to register, visit <https://vocetogether.org/programs/fpac.html>. Building skills, exchanging ideas, and developing partnerships builds capacity to support healing for children and families.



PCCYFS Legislative Updates



[Read the latest updates here.](#)

PCCYFS Member: AccountingTek's Specialized CPA Firm

AccountingTek's is a specialized CPA firm focused on supporting the provider community who work with government agencies. They provide specialized support in Act 148/Title IV-E reporting, Needs Based Plan and Budgeting (NBP&B) work, contract administration and negotiations with counties, compliance monitoring, fiscal reporting, rate setting

Founded in 1997 and led by Rose Schoy, CPA, AccountingTeks is an award-winning CPA firm dedicated to serving the children and youth industry. For more than 25 years, providers have engaged the firm to enhance corporate earnings and improve operational performance.

Most notably, AccountingTeks aids non-profit and for-profit entities by maximizing county, state, and local funding through fiscal planning and strategic positioning. The work they perform directly strengthens the fiscal health of the provider community. Given their expertise in the field, AccountingTeks has served as technical advisors to the Rate Methodology and other task forces for residential and community-based services. Their specialization is unsurpassed in the State of Pennsylvania.

AccountingTeks serves residential facilities, foster care providers, community-based programs, drug and alcohol treatment centers, supervised independent living programs, adoption networks, mental health programs, workforce development/vocational training programs, behavioral health companies, religious organizations, and educational institutions.

Dedicated Focus:

- Act 148/Title IV-E Reporting
- Time Study Oversight and Review
- Need-Based Plan and Budgeting
- Executive Advisory
- Strategic Fiscal Positioning
- Contract Administration and Negotiations
- Compliance Monitoring
- Audit Coordination
- Fiscal Reporting
- Grant Administration and Accounting
- Rate Setting and Analysis
- Cost Allocation Planning
- New Program Development

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200 Navajo Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

RSchoy@AccountingTeks.com
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and analysis, new program development and so much more. Rose Schoy and her team have worked with many providers in the child welfare, juvenile justice, and mental/behavioral health industries, helping them navigate the complex landscape of working with government funding partners. They have been active members in state initiatives and workgroups to improve the funding process, and they bring tremendous knowledge and experience to this complex work.

AccountingTeks is now accepting new clients. Please contact Rose at RSchoy@AccountingTeks.com for more information.



OCYF Bulletin

The Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) released Bulletin 3130-23-01/3140-23-01, *Title IV-E Manual: Chapter 4 – Subsidized Permanent Legal Custodianship (SPLC) Policy*.

This bulletin updates the Permanent Legal Custodianship Policy of the Office of Children, Youth and Families ...

Read more [here](#).



New Rules Released by the Children and Families Administration

On September 27, 2023, the Biden-Harris administration, through the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), released three new rules that will have an impact on child welfare across America....

[Read more](#)

Registration is Open for the 2023 Pennsylvania Autism Training Conference

November 7 – November 9, 2023

Registration is open for the Pennsylvania Autism Training Conference sponsored by the Pennsylvania Office of Developmental Programs (ODP). The conference will be conducted virtually on a three-day schedule that will include presentations and panels from subject matter experts, providers, self-advocates, and families. Personal narratives will be interspersed throughout the conference in an effort to highlight the perspective of the individual.

This conference will provide professionals working directly with children and/or adults with autism with tools, strategies, and resources to help provide the most effective support. Registration includes access to all conference sessions on all three days.

Cancellations made by October 1 will receive a full refund. No refunds will be made after October 1. Contact registrations@bridgeconsultingcorp.com if you need to cancel.

For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.myodp.org/course/view.php?id=2213>



Behavioral Health Updates

Carelon - Provider Orientation - An Invitation to Providers

Carelon of PA is committed to helping providers succeed in serving our members. As part of this commitment, Carelon is offering orientation sessions to help educate providers and staff on the resources and information available on their PA website. Knowing what resources are accessible to you is important, and Carelon understands...

[Read more](#)

PCCYFS 2024 Annual Conference

Save the Date!

April 10 & 11, 2024

Best Western Premier

Upcoming PCCYFS Board of Directors Meetings

January 24, 2024 – 10 am

April 10, 2024 – 5 pm

June 26, 2024 – 10 am

Any members with questions about these meetings may e-mail hbgoffice@pccyfs.org.

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OUR MISSION: PCCYFS is a leading, statewide membership organization serving as a united voice for our valued partners through education, data, resources and advocacy towards achieving a brighter future for children, youth and families.

PCCYFS | 3425 Simpson Ferry Road, Suite 201, Camp Hill, PA 17011

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