



PA COUNCIL OF CHILDREN
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

A UNITED VOICE FOR PROVIDERS

February 7, 2025



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Join us for the PCCYFS Annual Conference, a premier two-day event offering valuable opportunities for professional development. Attendees can earn CEU credits while engaging in a variety of enriching activities, including a networking mixer, a captivating murder mystery dinner, and much more. Don't miss this chance to connect with industry professionals and advance your knowledge in the field.

New Federal and Budget Policy Webpages

Based on guidance from the Public Policy Committee, PCCYFS is closely monitoring updates from the Trump Administration, as many of their changes may impact PCCYFS members. To help keep members up to date, we've put together a page on our website with the latest updates. To access these resources, [visit our webpage here](#).

On February 4, 2025, Governor Josh Shapiro delivered his budget address to the

General Assembly and to the people of Pennsylvania. Governor Shapiro proposed a budget that totals \$51.474 billion, a 7.5% increase in spending. PCCYFS has established a state budget page to offer information and analyses on Governor Shapiro's budget in light of his budget address. Access those [resources here](#).

FY 2025-26 Virtual One on One Technical Assistance Work Session Sign Ups

OCYF is pleased to announce an upcoming series of virtual one on one technical assistance work session opportunities for private placement service providers regarding the completion of the agency's placement services budget documentation for FY 2025-26. These sessions will allow agencies an opportunity to receive one on one technical assistance with an OCYF Per Diem Analyst to address any questions, challenges or concerns the provider may be experiencing as they complete their FY 2025-26 placement budget documentation.

Work sessions began Tuesday, January 21st and will run through Friday, February 14th, 2025, with various dates and times offered. As we have a limited number of slots available, please note that agencies may only sign up for **one session**. Sessions will be limited to one provider per one-hour session.

Below you will find a link that will direct you to dates and times available to sign up.

<https://calendly.com/ra-ocyfcontracts/60min>

1. Select a date
2. Select a time and confirm
3. Enter your details - name, e-mail, agency name and position title
4. Select "Confirm Event"

You will see a confirmation page indicating that a confirmation e-mail will be sent. Once you sign up, an OCYF reviewer will contact you directly with the confirmation and meeting information for your session. Sessions will be conducted utilizing Microsoft Teams.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the resource account at: ra-ocyfcontracts@pa.gov.

OCYF

PCCYFS Federal Engagement Letters

With the change in administration and shifts in priorities, PCCYFS continues to monitor federal discussions around funding that impact the availability of resources to our members. To date, PCCYFS has signed onto an open letter from the [National Council of Nonprofits](#) to members of Congress outlining the value of nonprofit organizations and their impact to communities across the country. Similarly, PCCYFS has [supported a letter](#) coordinated by the Penn Policy Center and others to the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation asking that they oppose any reduction in federal funding to the Medicaid, CHIP and SNAP programs, which could significantly impact the amount of funding and resources available to PCCYFS service providers.



[Read the latest PCCYFS Legislative Updates.](#)

Behavioral Health Updates

Community Behavioral Health (CBH) – SAMHSA Releases Practical Guide for Advising People on Using 988 vs. 911

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has released the [Practical Guide for Healthcare Providers: Advising People on Using 988 Versus 911](#). This comprehensive resource provides essential tools and insights to help healthcare providers guide individuals in appropriately using these crisis response systems. It includes practical steps for integrating crisis care into daily practice, real-world scenarios, sample scripts, and effective de-escalation techniques.

Carelon – Provider Orientation – An Open Invitation to Providers

Carelon of PA is committed to helping providers succeed in serving our members. As part of this commitment, we are offering orientation sessions to help educate providers and staff on the resources and information available on our PA website. Knowing what resources are accessible to you is important, and we understand that this can be difficult to navigate without a guiding hand. These orientation sessions are open to all providers, whether newly credentialed or already established in our network. Participation is encouraged for anyone who

feels they would benefit from this knowledge. These sessions are often a good opportunity for new staff to orient themselves to Carelon and its processes. Provider orientations are held twice-monthly for individual providers, and once-monthly for facilities. See below for the upcoming dates and times.

For individual providers:

Wednesday, 02/12 @9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Friday, 02/28 @1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Wednesday, 03/12 @9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Friday, 03/28 @1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

For facilities:

Friday, 02/21 @9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Friday, 03/21 @9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

If you or any other staff are interested in attending one of these sessions, please email Daniel Green at daniel.green@carelon.com with the date of the session you would like to attend, and we will send you the meeting information and link. We look forward to meeting with you!

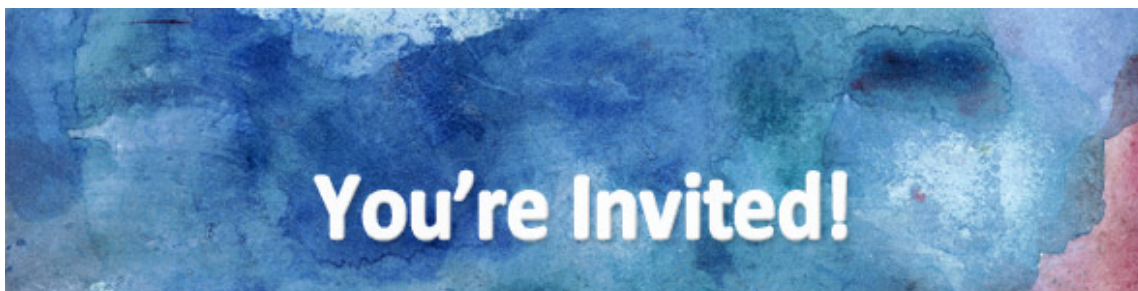
Quarterly Fiscal Meetings with OCYF

PCCYFS has continued in conversations with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Children, Youth & Family Services (OCYF) and the Pennsylvania Children and Youth Administrators (PCYA) associations regarding fiscal challenges and opportunities within the Pennsylvania child welfare system. To continue creating forums for communication and collaboration, PCCYFS is proud to announce OCYF will begin hosting quarterly virtual meetings for providers, counties and OCYF staff. These informational sessions will be driven by topics identified by counties and providers. PCCYFS members who have suggestions for agenda items should e-mail hbgoffice@pccyfs.org.

The remaining 2025 dates/times are:

- Friday April 4th 10:00
- Thursday June 26th 10:00
- Friday November 7th 11:00

Anyone who would like the OCYF meeting invitation forwarded to them with the link to access the meeting can e-mail hbgoffice@pccyfs.org!



The "Zoom in on Practice" series of virtual trainings offered by the SWAN Prime Contractor will focus on a wide variety of topics centered on permanency.

These sessions are being offered through March 2025. Please sign up!!
Click on the name of the session for more information and to register.

1. February 11, 2025 - [Post-permanency Case Advocacy/Case Management](#)
2. February 19, 2025 - [Post-permanency Respite](#)
3. February 20, 2025 - [Child Specific Recruitment: Role of the County](#)
4. February 26, 2025 - [Post-permanency Support Group](#)
5. March 7, 2025 - [Behavioral Interviewing and Strengths-Based Writing](#)
6. March 14, 2025 - [SWAN and Permanency: A Collaborative Journey](#)
7. March 18, 2025 - [Recruitment Strategy Review: Tips/Techniques for Finding Permanency](#)

PCCYFS Member Agency: Lifespan Family Services Receives 2024 Community Cup Award

Lifespan Family Services of PA, a distinguished social service agency specializing in foster care and adoption, has been honored with the 2024 Community Cup award at the Greater DuBois Chamber of Commerce Business Bash held on Saturday. This prestigious award recognizes businesses, civic groups, and nonprofit organizations that have demonstrated outstanding dedication and effectiveness in community service.

Established in 2009 by Patrick Shea, Lifespan Family Services, located at 2672 Helvetia Road in Luthersburg, has experienced consistent growth. Since its inception, the organization has served more than 2,000 children in foster care and facilitated over 500 adoptions, making a profound impact on the community.



Attorney General-Elect Dave Sunday Cross Systems Collaboration Workgroup

In December of 2024, Attorney General-Elect Dave Sunday began to identify members of his Transition Committee. As previously announced, the Transition is being co-chaired by Bob Asher, Former Governor Tom Corbett, Elizabeth Preate Havey, John Verbanac and Dave White. Kyle King, incoming chief of staff, is serving as the director of the transition with Ryan DeMara and Ben Wren serving as co-directors. As a part of this transition, Attorney General-Elect Sunday has created a number of workgroups based on priority topic areas. Specifically, he established a *Cross System Collaboration: Behavioral Health, Substance Use Disorder, and Child Abuse Work Group*. The workgroup is co-chaired by Bev Mackareth, Former Secretary of the Department of Human Services and Mackereth Consulting; and John Wetzel, Former Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Founding Board Chair of Keystone Restituere Justice Center. Read more about the [transition team and this workgroup here](#).

2025 Diversity Summit: Call for Proposals

Proposal-Request image

The Summit provides relevant diversity training that improves mental health service delivery and educational services. This free event is for providers and parents alike.

Workshop presenters will present 75-minute interactive workshops, using the Teams Webinar platform. Presenters will be supported with optional training in the platform prior to the webinar and will have the support of a Sarah Reed staff person acting as a proctor during the session.

Visit our [2024 Diversity Summit Recap](#) to orient yourself to the Summit.

Workshop Proposals are due by March 31, at 5 PM EST. The Diversity Summit is June 11, 2025.

Upcoming PCCYFS Events

PCCYFS Delinquency and Diversion Services Workgroup

February 18, 2025 @ 9:30 a.m. - noon

PCCYFS Education Services Workgroup

February 20, 2025, 10:00AM – 12:00PM

PCCYFS Public Policy Committee

February 20, 2025, 2:00PM – 3:30PM

See the full [PCCYFS calendar of meetings and events](#) and email hbgooffice@pccyfs.org with any questions.



PCCYFS Newsletter Archive

Looking for information from a previous PCCYFS newsletter? Visit the [PCCYFS Newsletter Archive](#) which is now live on pccyfs.org.

Support PCCYFS with a donation! [click here](#)



©2025 PCCYFS. The contents of this publication are viewed as a benefit of membership and should not be disseminated.

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 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!