

**Idaho Child Welfare Agency University Partnership,
Evaluation Advisory Committee
12/20/04**

Attendance: Frank, Mardell, Berta, Patty, Wes Cynthia, and Will

Absent: Rick and Oscar

Agenda:

- Charter Review
- Relationship of Evaluation Advisory Group to IDHW Cross-Divisional Infomatics Unit (CDIU)
- Status on FACS Outcome Development
- FGDM Evaluation Proposal
- PRIDE Evaluation
- Academy Evaluation
- Discussion on Publication and Dissemination

Charter Review

The group reviewed the proposed governance structure for the partnership.

Decision: The group agreed that the Evaluation Advisory Committee needed to operate at the Division level and would be linked to promote discourse with the Administrative Advisory level and be intermediary between the program level committees and the Administrative Group (which has not yet been formed).

Further chartering work for all of the groups will need to include a communication/reporting structure. PRIDE, Scholars Program, Academy, and Evaluation would all become standing agenda items at the Program Committee

Cynthia asked for clarification of her and Will's role on the committee. Mardell clarified that the EWU contract has a Research and Evaluation Director, who is currently financed through a federal grant. DHW has not established such a position in the BSU Center contract. Thus, their role is really a matter to be negotiated between Berta and them. Of course, either or both are welcome.

The group reviewed the proposed Charter and made further modifications, which Patty will incorporate and distribute prior to next meeting. Given the decision above, the membership on the Evaluation Advisory Group became clear.

Decision: In addition to the current members there is a need to add Sherry Brown, who is the FACS liaison to the CDIU and is the FOCUS Data System Manager. Wes and Mardell are the Program Manager Representatives. With the addition of The Field Operations Deputy, all of the programs at the field level are represented. We may still need to add someone from the Substance Abuse Program on an ongoing or ad hoc basis.

Decision: The group agreed to meet in person at least quarterly with phone meetings approximately monthly. While in formation phase, the group will need to meet more frequently.

Relationship of Evaluation Advisory Group to DHW Informatics Team

Frank shared a comparison table of the Evaluation Group and the developing CDIU. The groups appear in alignment, with CDIU focused on creating an organizational structure for research, while this group is trying to create a partnership structure for the purpose of supporting program evaluation.

Status on FACS Outcome Development

Frank reported that he has asked the Division Program Managers for outcome measures and indicators. These will be finalized before our next meeting.

The above outcomes, mostly relate to programs. As the Academy is developed, this committee will be helpful in developing system outcomes related to the partnership. For example the stipend programs should have recruitment and retention as outcomes. The Academy will need to address such things as work readiness and engagement of supervisors in the staff development and performance management activities that support the transfer of learning from the Academy.

FGDM Evaluation Proposal

The group reviewed Patty's proposal for evaluation of the family group decision making initiative. The proposal was generated as a result of the need identified in the planning document and the need to leverage all available funding sources to finance the effort. Patty's proposal included both trainer and evaluator functions. The proposal was simply a concept. Frank requested that she submit a budget for his consideration.

PRIDE Evaluation

Mardell reviewed the status of the PRIDE evaluation. Brian Christianson completed a Delphi study of curricula being used nationally and a study of the initial implementation of PRIDE. His results were distributed in Region 2. EWU is combining his findings with the results from training evaluation using the CWLA curriculum evaluation tool. Patty will distribute the results to the committee. The group will need to decide distribution and also provide some direction regarding continued evaluation. Brian is a resource for continuing the evaluation.

Academy Evaluation

Berta, who will have some responsibility for evaluating the new Academy, requested some direction. Time is of the essence, since the first sessions of Academy start in March (although curriculum is still being developed and assembled from various resource centers). The transfer of learning tool is being finalized this week and will be introduced on Jan. 6-7. **Decision:** The Transfer of

learning tool will be distributed to committee members for review before our January meeting. This will be the primary agenda item for this meeting.

Discussion on Publication and Dissemination

Actions:

- Invite Brent Porgus and Sherry Brown to the next meeting (mid-January)
- Mardell will continue to seek clarification from Frank and Ken regarding the intention of FACS to establish the Administrative and Advisory Governance structure proposed by the Program Committee and discussed in consultation with the National Resource Center.
- Charter-Membership: seek a decision on adding someone from the Substance Abuse Program on an ongoing or ad hoc basis.
- Patty will revise charter and redistribute for committee review prior to next meeting
- Distribute the FACS Program Outcomes for future meeting review
- Frank will review the proposal and budget for the Family Group Decision Making Evaluation Initiative.
- Mardell will distribute the Academy, transfer of learning tool review before our January meeting.

NEXT MEETING

January

February