Child Support Guidelines Advisory Panel Meetings Recap

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First Meeting
August 17, 2021

- Welcome – Sec. Amundson
- History – Connie Chesnik
- Act 35 Overview – Mueller and Marek
- Racial Equity Discussion – Jacquelyn L. Boggess
• The standard is based on the principle that a child’s standard of living should, to the degree possible, not be adversely affected because his or her parents are not living together. It determines the percentage of a parent’s income and potential income from assets that parents should contribute toward the support of children if the family does not remain together.

• Same – not higher or lower
• Circumstance – Predetermined
• Finite Resources
• Allocating Between Parties
Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs

- New Ways of Thinking
- Evidence of Ability to Pay
- Specific Circumstances
- Extent Known
- Emphasis on Low Income

- Document Basis for Support Amount
- Collect Data
- Negative of Effect of Uncollectable Orders
- Transparency
Jacquelyn Boggess
Nina Collective

• Racial Inequities Exist
• Difference Between Support and Care
• Many Can’t Pay Presumed Income Orders
• Are Current Practices Hurting Low Income Families?
• Less Adversarial
Racial Disproportionality in Child Support
Maggie Renno - DCF BAR

The Use of Child Support Guidelines in Wisconsin: 2010 and 2013
Steven Cook - IRP

Child Support Payments, Income Imputation and the Low-Income Guidelines
Dan Meyer - IRP

Alternative Approaches to Income Imputation in Setting Child Support Orders
Leslie Hodges - IRP
EMERGING THEMES

- Racial Disparities Exist
- Economic Disparities Exist
- Right Sized Orders
- Based on Actual Income
  - Impute only when information unknown
- Each Person has Unique Circumstances
- Negative Consequences to High Unpaid Orders
- Family Centered Approach
Questions?