

To: Milwaukee County Child Welfare Partnership Council

From: Arlene Happach
Director, Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Date: February 26, 2014

Re: 2013 Citizen Review Panel Annual Report Recommendations/Response

Recommendations and response:

- **Implementation of all critical incident recommendations** BMCW is continuing to implement all critical incident recommendations. To date, there are three outstanding recommendations regarding training and re-training of entire workforces. BMCW has also worked closely with the Bureau of Performance Management to reduce the amount of time between the incident and the review process.
- **Expansion of services to sex-trafficked youth** BMCW will continue to update the Partnership Council as we seek to identify and expand services to those youth that have been or are being sex-trafficked.
- **Expansion of services for older youth** DCF has targeted this age group for additional services and a more structured approach to services. Legislation is pending to expand child welfare services to those youth with Individualized Education Plans to age 21. BMCW will keep the Partnership Council apprised on its progress in reducing those youth that age out of foster care, and on service development in this area.
- **Continued monitoring of foster care medical home outcomes** DCF will continue to work with Children's Hospital to provide the Health and Education Committee with outcomes and the opportunity to recommend program changes if warranted in the Care4Kids program.
- **Policy implementation around early childhood education in child welfare** BMCW will continue to monitor numbers of children in quality early childhood programs, and will make policy recommendations to the Health and Education Committee and the Partnership Council as warranted.

BMCW and DCF/DSP leadership values the input and recommendations provided by the Partnership Council. In addition to the formal recommendations and responses detailed above, there have been many informal Bureau-Council interactions that have informed systemic improvements. The Bureau and the Division would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to the members of the Milwaukee County Child Welfare Partnership Council for their work on behalf of children and families.

cc: Fredi-Ellen Bove, DSP Administrator
Eloise Anderson, DCF Secretary