

Wisconsin Citizen Review Panel Annual Report
January 1-December 31, 2017

Name of Panel:	Jefferson County Human Services
Contact Person & Title:	Brent Ruehlow-Deputy Director Laura Wagner-IA Supervisor

Briefly describe the panel’s meeting schedule – including number/types of meetings, and schedule of any subcommittee and workgroup meetings held in 2017.

Our panel meets quarterly and in 2017 our meetings were from 10a-1p at the Human Services building. Laura Wagner and Brent Ruehlow co-chaired the committee meetings and notes are taken and provided for the group. In 2017 we did not have any workgroups, rather we voted on items via email or intersession updates were provided by the chairs or others.

Please provide a summary of the panel’s activities related to:

1. Evaluating the extent to which the state and the local child protection agencies are fulfilling their child protection responsibilities.
 - Our panel brought forward a number of examples in the community where local CPS was praised for work with schools, law enforcement, and with the opioid trend in particular. One member pointed out a statement by a local police chief at the Law Enforcement banquet that “we are truly fortunate to be working with JCHSD as they are second to none.”
2. Evaluating local and state progress under the State CAPTA Plan.
 - There were not any suggestions for the CAPTA plan.
3. Activities related to public outreach and comment to assess the impact of current child protection procedures and practices on children and families in the community.
 - Our GAL group is advocating for changes in Chapter 54 for families to access guardianships easier due to the amount of relatives and grandparent’s raising children.
 - Another issue that was raised by the public at various venues was the matter of the deportation of parents, while the child remained in the U.S. due to citizenship. The aftermath is becoming an issue for a number of family systems.

Did the panel conduct any reviews of CPS cases, child fatalities and near fatalities? If yes, please describe.

- As a CRP panel we did not review any cases in this manner in 2017; however a separate committee completes these functions in the form of the Death Review Team.

Please describe any other panel activities or issues addressed in 2017.

- We continue to work with the local GALs and local BAR association to raise awareness around Trauma and have numerous plans for 2018.

Please describe activities planned or held in 2017.

- Provided ACE training for local law enforcement, schools, public health, clinics.
- Utilized the “Raising of America” video to showcase the need for early intervention with our Human Services board, Optimist group, various municipalities, UW-Extension to name a few.
- Sent two members to the national conference.
- Sent panel members to Child Welfare training to educate them on issues in the system.
- Provided monies for Youth Services pro-social activities in the community.
- Our CRP staffed a booth at the “Stairway to Heaven” heroin summit at Jefferson High school providing resources and literature.
- The committee provided funding for the Trauma Informed Care committee which upgraded the lobby with new chairs, art, paint and a welcoming child area. Furthermore, our psychiatrist’s room was upgraded with new furniture, art and décor for a more inviting atmosphere.

Panel recommendations to improve child protection services at the local level:

- More funding and resources for housing.
- Additional preventions strategies across the board.
- Additional supports from the Health department for home visitors.

Panel recommendations to improve child protection services at the State level:

- More funding and training for preventions strategies.
- Additional funding or allocation for resources for TIC training for law enforcement, schools, conferences etc....
- Increased communication and information sharing across departments and bureaus for counties.
- A requirement for all certified daycares to receive TIC training as part of the YoungStar rating.
- More flexibility and ease in Ch. 54 for guardianships for relatives.
- Add educational Neglect into Ch. 48.

Optional/additional information or comments:

Please submit the **completed CRP Annual Report** and the **panel's current membership list** to the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families by e-mailing to Jamie Gennrich at jamie.gennrich@wisconsin.gov. The annual report and the DCF response to each report will be posted on the DCF Citizen Review Panel web page at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/prevention/crp>. Thank you.