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Catone, TonyTony.Catone@dss.sc.gov  
Date: 11/12/2015 1:39:47 PM  
Subject: RE: FW: Investigations Counter Proposal-VERY ROUGH DRAFT

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We have emailed Matthew requesting a word version of their current draft.

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From: Andy Barclay [mailto:andy@fosteringcourtimprovement.org]  
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2015 1:39 PM  
To: Davis, Taron <Taron.Davis@dss.sc.gov>; Butch Bowers <Butch@ButchBowers.com>  
Cc: Becky Laffitte <blaffitte@sowellgray.com>; Monty Todd <mtodd@sowellgray.com>; Pisarik, Holly <HollyPisarik@gov.sc.gov>; Shackelford, John <John.Shackelford@dss.sc.gov>; Maura Corrigan <Maura.Corrigan@AEI.org>; Page Walley <PWalley@casey.org>; Catone, Tony <Tony.Catone@dss.sc.gov>  
Subject: Re: FW: Investigations Counter Proposal-VERY ROUGH DRAFT

Hi Taron,  
I went through DC, GA, NJ, and TN. Notes with your draft in attached.  
Andy

Andy Barclay wrote:

Hi Taron,

My notes below from reviewing DC's monitoring report for investigation targets. They have one target that combines timeliness and quality ("comprehensive") of OHAN investigations. They have another 3 targets that cover all investigations. The monitor (I think it's Judy) attributes most/all of the problems to caseloads. I'll review NJ & TN's provisions tomorrow AM.

DC:  
DC 2014, <http://www.cssp.org/publications/child-welfare/class-action-reform/2014/LaShawn-A-v.-Gray-Progress-Report-Jan-June-2014.pdf>

item	target	CY2014
p 52, ohan inv completed 30/60 days	90%	77%
p 15, initiate all inv 48 hrs	95%	85%
p 16, complete all inv 30 days	90%	36%
p 17, all inv acceptable	80%	67%

p 15: Monthly performance data for timely initiation of investigations are as follows: January, 91%; February, 89%; March, 88%; April, 84%; May, 85%; June, 85%  
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p 16: Monthly performance data for timely completion of investigations are as follows: January, 62%; February, 61%; March, 48%; April, 54%; May, 40%; June, 36%

p 17:

29 Evidence of acceptable investigations includes: (a) Use of CFSA's screening tool in prioritizing response times for initiating investigations; (b) Interviews with and information obtained from the five core contacts - the victim child(ren), the maltreater, the reporting source (when known), medical resources, and educational resources (for school-aged children); (c) Interviews with collateral contacts that are likely to provide information about the child's safety and well-being; (d) Interviews with all children in the household outside the presence of the caretaker, parents or caregivers, or documentation, by the worker, of good-faith efforts to see the child and that the worker has been unable to locate the child; (e) Medical and mental health evaluations of the children or parents when the worker determines that such evaluations are needed to complete the investigation, except where a parent refuses to consent to such evaluations. When a parent refuses to consent to such an evaluation, the investigative social worker and supervisor shall consult with the Assistant Attorney General to determine whether court intervention is necessary to ensure the health and safety of the child(ren); (f) Use of risk assessment protocol in making decisions resulting from an investigation; and (g) Initiation of services during the investigation to prevent unnecessary removal of children from their homes.

30 Results of a review of 20 investigations closed between July and December 2013. Investigations were reviewed by CFSA and findings were validated by the Monitor.

31 Results of a review of 131 investigations closed between January and June 2014. Investigations were reviewed by CFSA and the Monitor conducted a secondary review of 29% of these investigations for validation purposes.

p 52:

65. Investigations of Abuse and Neglect in Foster Homes and Institutions: Reports of abuse and neglect in foster homes and institutions shall be comprehensively investigated; investigations in foster homes shall be completed within 35 days and investigations involving group homes, day care settings or other congregate care settings shall be completed within 60 days. (IEP citation II.A.5.)

87 Reported performance includes combined compliance for both foster homes and congregate care settings. Monthly performance on timely completion of investigations of reported abuse and neglect in foster homes and in institutions are as follows: January, 80%; February, 67%; March, 73%; April, 100%; May, 60%; June, 77%.

88 Required performance was maintained for only one month during the monitoring period; however, the number of abuse/neglect investigations in foster homes is small and performance is based upon a very small number of completed investigations (5 to 21 a month). The Monitor considers this Exit Standard to be partially maintained and will monitor trends over the next period.

Andy

Davis, Taron wrote:

Here's some language I worked on over the weekend. Really want to study our policy on initiating investigations to make a part of the "core elements."

Taron Brown Davis, J.D.  
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**\*\*NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT REPORT CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS. IF YOU SUSPECT A CHILD IS BEING ABUSED OR NEGLECTED, PLEASE REPORT TO YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.\*\***

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From: Taron Davis [<mailto:tarond69@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Sunday, November 8, 2015 9:52 PM  
To: Davis, Taron <[Taron.Davis@dss.sc.gov](mailto:Taron.Davis@dss.sc.gov)>  
Subject: Investigations Counter Proposal

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