



STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE OHIO CITIZEN REVIEW PANELS

Vision: Children in Ohio flourish in safe and stable families.

Mission: Citizen Review Panels provide perspectives from the stakeholder community on child welfare practices and policies to improve safety, permanency and the immediate and long-term wellbeing of children.

GOAL ONE: THE FIVE STATEWIDE PANELS WILL WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO MAKE MEANINGFUL RECOMMENDATIONS TO ODJFS ON THE STATE OF CHILD WELFARE IN OHIO.

Action Items



Annual meeting of all CRP members will be held in May each year to select topic areas for each panel to ensure the panels are jointly meeting the duties of the CRPs to review child welfare across the State of Ohio

To reflect on successes and challenges from the previous year

To share lessons learned by the panels to cross-pollinate ideas and improve panel work

To review each other's annual reports and responses from ODJFS

Each panel will submit an annual report to ODJFS summarizing its activities, analyses and recommendations.

ODJFS will provide a response to the report and recommendations of each panel

When membership drops below 10 on the panel, panel members will make suggestions for additional citizens to recruit for the panel.

Panel membership will ideally include representation from foster care, mental health, substance use, physical health, education, law enforcement, officers of the court, and the faith community.

Goal Two: *The Northwest Ohio CRP will create actionable and measurable recommendations to improve Ohio's ability to monitor the educational progress of children in substitute care.*

Topic Selection

- Panel members will engage in a guided conversation to identify the most pressing issues facing child welfare in Ohio
- Panel members will prioritize these ideas and discuss their feasibility
- Panel members will discuss these ideas and make a final decision on a topic

Literature Review

- Panel members will review background literature provided by the Project Director
- Panel members will engage with stakeholders from ODJFS, PCSAs, and other community partners to gather information about this topic

Data Gathering

- The panel will distribute a survey to foster parents to meet their goals
- Panel members will review SACWIS data and Med/Ed forms to better understand this topic
- The OSU team and panel members will engage in discussion with a local ESC for a potential data match between EMIS and SACWIS

Annual Report

- At the March 2020 meeting, panel members will brainstorm and draft recommendations based on the findings from that year
- By the April 2020 meeting, the Project Director will compile a draft of the annual report for panels to review at their April meeting
- Panel members will review and approve the annual report via email and/or teleconference prior to the due date of the report
- The annual report will be submitted to ODJFS by May 15, 2020

Goal Three: *The Northeast Ohio CRP will create actionable and measurable recommendations to improve Ohio's ability to recognize and screen for mental health issues in children who come to the attention of the child welfare system.*

Topic Selection

- Panel members will engage in a guided conversation to identify the most pressing issues facing child welfare in Ohio
- Panel members will prioritize these ideas and discuss their feasibility
- Panel members will discuss these ideas and make a final decision on a topic

Literature Review

- Panel members will review background literature provided by the Project Director
- Panel members will engage with stakeholders from ODJFS, PCSAs, and other community partners to gather information about this topic
- Panel members will engage with experts in the field and other state child welfare agencies for further insight

Data Gathering

- The panel will engage in primary data collection via survey or focus groups as needed to meet their goals
- The panel, OSU, and ODJFS will engage with stakeholders as needed to aid in data collection

Annual Report

- At the March 2020 meeting, panel members will brainstorm and draft recommendations based on the findings from that year
- By the April 2020 meeting, the Project Director will compile a draft of the annual report for panels to review at their April meeting
- Panel members will review and approve the annual report via email and/or teleconference prior to the due date of the report
- The annual report will be submitted to ODJFS by May 15, 2020

Goal Four: *The Central Ohio CRP will create actionable and measurable recommendations to improve Ohio's child welfare response to children and families exposed to domestic violence.*

Topic
Selection

- Panel members will engage in a guided conversation to identify the most pressing issues facing child welfare in Ohio
- Panel members will prioritize these ideas and discuss their feasibility
- Panel members will discuss these ideas and make a final decision on a topic

Literature
Review

- Panel members will review background literature including academic literature and state statutes provided by the Project Director
- Panel members will engage with stakeholders from ODJFS, PCSAs, and other community partners to gather information about this topic

Data
Gathering

- Panel members will review SACWIS data to understand the number of children and families exposed to DV
- The panel will engage in primary data collection via survey or focus group as needed to meet their goals

Annual Report

- At the March 2020 meeting, panel members will brainstorm and draft recommendations based on the findings from that year
- By the April 2020 meeting, the Project Director will compile a draft of the annual report for panels to review at their April meeting
- Panel members will review and approve the annual report via email and/or teleconference prior to the due date of the report
- The annual report will be submitted to ODJFS by May 15, 2020

Goal Five: *The Southwest Ohio CRP will create actionable and measurable recommendations to improve Ohio's ability to ensure children in out of home care are provided with early care and education supports securing the best opportunity for academic success.*

Topic Selection

- The panel engaged in topic selection in the 2019-2020 work year and arrived at the current strategic plan goal
- The 2020-2021 work year will be the second year of work on this topic

Literature Review

- Panel members will review background literature including academic literature and and other background information provided by the Project Director
- Panel members will engage with stakeholders from ODJFS, PCSAs, and other community partners to gather information about this topic

Data Gathering

- The panel will distribute a survey to foster parents to meet their goals
- The panel may conduct additional data collection like focus groups with foster parents as needed
- The panel, OSU, and ODJFS will engage with stakeholders as needed to aid in data collection

Annual Report

- At the March 2020 meeting, panel members will brainstorm and draft recommendations based on the findings from that year
- By the April 2020 meeting, the Project Director will compile a draft of the annual report for panels to review at their April meeting
- Panel members will review and approve the annual report via email and/or teleconference prior to the due date of the report
- The annual report will be submitted to ODJFS by May 15, 2020

Goal Six: *The Southeast Ohio CRP will create actionable and measurable recommendations to improve Ohio's ability to monitor and respond to the experiences of children placed in residential facilities.*

Topic
Selection

- The panel engaged in topic selection in the 2019-2020 work year and arrived at the current strategic plan goal
- The 2020-2021 work year will be the second year of work on this topic

Literature
Review

- Panel members will review background literature including academic literature and and other background information provided by the Project Director
- Panel members will engage with stakeholders from ODJFS, PCSAs, and other community partners to gather information about this topic

Data
Gathering

- Panel members will distribute a survey to youth and young adults who have experienced a placement in a residential or group home facility
- Panel members will review data from focus groups with young adults who experienced a placement in a residential or group home facility
- Panel members will engage with PCSAs about the barriers to doing effective work when children are placed in residential or group home facilities. This might include a review of SACWIS activity logs to assess the quality of face to face visits with youth in these facilities, review of exit interviews to understand children's experiences in residential and group home facilities, and survey and/or focus groups with PCSA caseworkers

Annual Report

- At the March 2020 meeting, panel members will brainstorm and draft recommendations based on the findings from that year
- By the April 2020 meeting, the Project Director will compile a draft of the annual report for panels to review at their April meeting
- Panel members will review and approve the annual report via email and/or teleconference prior to the due date of the report
- The annual report will be submitted to ODJFS by May 15, 2020