**Center for Children and Families**

**Texas State University-San Marcos**

**14th Annual Title IV-E Roundtable, Federal Region VI, June 2010**

**Evaluation Focus Group**

**Co-Chairs: Donald Baumann, Patrick Leung**

**Issues:**

* Where are the Title IV-E graduates? Can we use database to identify the status of the graduates?

**Evaluation/Research Questions:**

* Identify graduates who are still employed?
* Did the graduates complete the payback?
* What happened to the graduates who left?
* What is the expected graduation date of the student? The data will be used by DFPS to identify those who need to payback.
* What is in the system to enforce/regulate the payback system?
* What is the turnover rate for Title IV-E?
* For the graduates who left, are they still working in child welfare? If so, where?
* What percentage of Title IV-E are promoted?
* How many of the Title IV-E graduates received waiver from the PAN/ABLE tests?
* How many students were dismissed before getting to BSD? Or graduating from BSD? Before hiring?
* Of those who are Title IV-E, how many transfer to other parts of DFPS (leave CPS & go to Adult Protection for example)?

**Issues & Solutions With Database:**

* Agency has a database & each university also has a database. The goal is to combine information from both databases. What information is important to maintain? (Carol Allen will send fields on state database & Dr. Patrick Leung will ask for comments). Want 2 interns (UT)-Carol Allen & De’Quinna Moore will look at the database. Agency Database is from 2006, but university databases go back further. Intern could help clean up database & update agency database.

**What’s Needed:**

* Quantitative Piece is done & qualitative piece is in progress.
* How “payback” is captured? (time vs. monetary).
* Lack of communication between state & university. Student usually maintains communication with university, or do they?
* Identifiers needed (i.e. Employee ID).
* Barriers-name changes, etc.
* Needed: FT/PT Volunteer (Intern).
* Develop a proposal.

**What’s Next:**

* Submit proposal to state office to further our work.
* “Fatherhood Initiative”-addressing fathers in the lives of their children & their cases.
* Who are our workers? What are their attitudes toward present or absent fathers? We can’t determine this next step if we don’t have any data to support this.
* Research: 50/50 from fed & state.
* Brock Boudreau from DFPS will serve as co-chair with Patrick Leung for next year.

**Suggested Solutions:**

* Sample (current employees).
* Standard Identifier.
* Share cost (between states of hiring/contracting with designated university to develop/maintain database).
* How does university currently track “paybacks”? (Don’t re-invent wheel).
* Alumni database.
* Proposal needed.