

Education and Training Subcommittee Report
September Large Group Stakeholder Meeting
September 12, 2008

- discussion of financial resources
 - CSSA (Childrens' Social Security Act)
 - formerly called the Community SSA in the 80s and 90s
 - counties having to delegate funds
- add "finding a funding source" to the duties of the task force in Subd. 9e(f)
- licensing fees = providers licensure process (diverted to county APS)
- changes in the ordering structure (moving around for fluidity)
 - a) CEP
 - b) Lead Agency
 - c) Mandated Reporters
 - d) Law Enforcement
 - (e) Others
 - (f) Task Force

Subdivision 9e. Education requirements. – Proposed Language

(a) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall provide training for the common entry point staff as required in this subdivision and the training shall include the program courses described in paragraph (b)(1), at a minimum of two hours annually. The trainings required by this paragraph shall be made available statewide.

~~(b) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall offer at least annual education to others on the requirements of this section, on how this section is implemented, and investigation techniques.~~

For lead agency investigators:

(1) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall cooperate in the development of a joint program for education of lead agency investigators in the appropriate techniques for investigation of complaints of maltreatment. This program must be developed by July 1, 1996. The program focus for assessments and investigations shall include, but need not be limited to, the following areas:

- (A) information collection and preservation;
- (B) analysis of facts;
- (C) levels of evidence;
- (D) conclusions based on evidence;
- (E) interviewing skills, including specialized training to interview people with unique needs;
- (F) report writing;

- (G) coordination and referral to other necessary agencies such as law enforcement and judicial agencies;
- (H) human relations and cultural diversity;
- (I) the dynamics of adult abuse and neglect within family systems and the appropriate methods for interviewing relatives in the course of the assessment or investigation;
- (J) the protective social services that are available to protect alleged victims from further abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation;
- (K) the methods by which lead agency investigators and law enforcement workers cooperate in conducting assessments and investigations in order to avoid duplication of efforts; and
- (L) data practices laws and procedures, including provisions for sharing data.

(2) Each lead agency investigator shall complete the education program specified by this subdivision within the first twelve months of work as a lead agency investigator. A lead agency investigator employed when these requirements take effect shall complete the program within the first year after training is available or as soon as training is available. All lead agency investigators having responsibility for investigation duties under this section shall receive a minimum of eight hours of continuing education or in-service training each year specific to their duties under this section.

~~(c) The commissioner of human services, in coordination with the commissioner of public safety shall provide training for the common entry point staff as required in this subdivision and the program courses described in this subdivision, at least four times per year. At a minimum, the training shall be held twice annually in the seven-county metropolitan area and twice annually outside the seven-county metropolitan area. The commissioners shall give priority in the program areas cited in paragraph (a) to persons currently performing assessments and investigations pursuant to this section.~~ The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall each offer at least annual education to mandated reporters required to make a report to the common entry point under the subdivisions of this statute. The trainings shall include information on what types of incidents to report, the timeline requirements for making a report, and the information to be transmitted in their report. Mandated reporters shall receive at a minimum two hours of training annually.

(d) The commissioner of public safety shall notify in writing law enforcement personnel of any new requirements under this section. ~~The commissioner of public safety~~ shall conduct regional training for law enforcement personnel regarding their responsibility under this section.

~~(e) Each lead agency investigator must complete the education program specified by this subdivision within the first 12 months of work as a lead agency investigator. A lead agency investigator employed when these requirements take~~

~~effect must complete the program within the first year after training is available or as soon as training is available. All lead agency investigators having responsibility for investigation duties under this section must receive a minimum of eight hours of continuing education or in-service training each year specific to their duties under this section. The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall each offer at least annual education to others, including, but not limited to, county adult protection teams, personal care attendants (PCAs), and community members who interact with or provide some level of care for vulnerable adults, on the requirements of this section, on how this section is implemented, and investigation techniques used.~~

(f) The commissioners of health, human services, and public safety shall each designate members to lead a task force to develop a core curriculum for the training requirements of this section, annually evaluate the content of the core curriculum, ascertain funding sources and mechanisms for the implementation of training programs, and design a statewide method of delivery for the training requirements of this section utilizing the core curriculum. The task force shall be comprised of a variety of participants, including, but not limited to, representatives from the Department of Human Services, the Department of Health, Ombudsman's Offices, county adult protection staff, consumer advocacy groups, and direct care providers. The task force will be responsible for designating members to serve on a training unit who will train from the four quadrants of the state pursuant to the requirements of this section.

Final Legislative Proposals

- Appointment of a task force to design a curriculum and a funding mechanism.
- Training subjects and hours spelled out for mandated reporters.
- Clarification of who "others" includes within the statutory language.
- Re-ordering of the subdivisions to create a more appropriate flow.