

NCCSD Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2010

PRESENT:

Alyson Campbell – Missouri  
John Bernhart – Colorado  
Rachel Dockel – Kentucky  
Robbie Endris - Louisiana  
Cindy Fisher – Nevada  
Jean Fogarty – Oregon  
Alisha Griffin – New Jersey  
Chuck Hayward – Delaware  
Alicia Key – Texas  
Pamela Lowry – Illinois  
Dorinda Morris – Oklahoma  
Benidia Rice – District of Columbia  
Mike Schwindt – North Dakota  
Marilyn Ray Smith – Massachusetts  
Marilyn Stephen – Michigan  
David Stillman – Washington  
Vicki Turetsky – Commissioner, OCSE  
Steve Veno – Kentucky  
Mike Williams - Wyoming

Vicki reported that the GAO Study on the ARRA and DRA (Deficit Reduction Act) was requested by Republicans on the House Ways & Means Committee from Texas, Louisiana, and some other states. They will be looking at a number of provisions of the DRA in this 16-month study, which is coupled with TANF Reauthorization.

There was quite a bit of discussion about individual states' efforts to enlist the support of their Senators for the Rockefeller Bill. There were 38 co-sponsors the last time this bill was introduced, and we are currently half way there this time.

Vicki wanted everyone to understand that since CSE is considered an entitlement program, it will not be affected by the Administration's proposed freeze on discretionary spending next year.

With respect to the OCSE's strategic plan, Vicki explained that it was just not possible to get it through the federal clearance process in a timely manner. Those in attendance discussed other ways to move forward and to use the document in less formal ways. Options suggested were treating it as a guidance document, consensus document, or even an NCCSD document.

Vicki reported that the final rule on tribal funding, including systems, is close. Directors shared concerns they have with the requirement that states maintain a IV-D case for Medicaid-only when there is a Tribal IV-D case.

Vicki is interested in hearing about other federal policies and rules that inhibit flexibility. She is planning to have the regional offices host discussions on this topic. She is sympathetic to the concerns states have raised about the annual notice of collections, but not at a point where she can announce the OCSE's position yet.

There was discussion about the blurring of the IV-D and non-IV-D lines. Vicki indicated her willingness to see IV-D funds opened up for other purposes. She also committed that any expansion of IV-D services has to be accompanied by the express ability to use IV-D funds for those new services and purposes.

Among her list of "gnawing problems," Vicki included case closure, access and visitation, confidentiality requirements, the private collection agencies, and data sharing. These are just some of the issues on the OCSE's radar screen.