

**DATA COMMITTEE
MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2009**

SUMMARY

Attending: Eric Borrin, Sandy Loomis, Betty Anson, Dan French, Katie Brandt, Judy Buswell, Alan Robichaud,
Consultant: John Tuell

Storm Cancellations

We apologize for the confusion in canceling the Data Committee. With the uncertainty of weather this time of year it makes it very difficult to assure meetings will take place when scheduled. Some people were not able to access their e-mail in order to receive the cancellation notice so for those who showed up at the meeting site, we were able to still have a very productive discussion.

As a rule of thumb, on any day of a scheduled meeting in Laconia, if Laconia School District is cancelled, our meeting will be cancelled. If there is a delayed opening, we will still convene the meeting but ask that individuals use their own discretion for safety purposes. We appreciate that people travel from various locations and conditions can vary drastically within a few short miles. On days that we have John Tuell scheduled, we also want to take advantage of him being in town so we will also try to convene some semblance of a meeting so as not to forfeit the opportunity to use his time wisely. Those who wish to brave the conditions are always welcome to join us.

Data Discussion

The group reviewed the request for data from DJJS and DCYF and confirmed that the following request holds true. We are interested in the characteristics of the youth who enter DCYF and DJJS and the correlations of the two populations. We are therefore interested in receiving prevalence data on Belknap County youth over the past 3 to 5 years. Such data will include:

- # of DCYF and DJJS involved youth
- # of DCYF only
- # of DJJS only
- # of jointly involved youth
- # of youth who were “screened-in” (i.e. made it through intake) for abuse and neglect (DCYF)
- Of those “screened-in”, # that were subsequently “founded” and the # that were “unfounded”.

*It is suggested that whatever queries are set up for this first cut, that we are able to continue to access this data set over the years for comparative purposes.

This would be considered the first phase of data collection after which we can begin to ask questions about whether the history of those abuse and neglect cases, both founded and unfounded, led to involvement in the juvenile justice system. A further future phase of inquiry could lead us to revealing whether those families in the “unfounded” category ever went on to receive assistance from Comprehensive Family Support Services (e.g. parent training, home visitation, triage) such as provided by Family Resource Centers throughout the state. Phases two and three above will require additional targeted research efforts to determine outcomes and correlations, however data related by Katie Brandt based on three years of research of 800 families over the past three years revealed 0% recidivism for those families (300) who were referred to family resource centers and went on to complete their family support plans. Of interest are those 500 families who did not complete their plans (e.g. what were the circumstances and barriers that stood in their way of successful completion and what is the recidivism rate of that population)? There is clear evidence that the Family Resource Center effort throughout the state has prevented families from falling through the cracks and needs to be expanded locally.

Additional Follow-Up

Sandy Loomis and Pam Kuczkowski will follow-up with Eric Borrin and Melissa Correia to determine future review of the Irwin Chart (DJJS) and the walk-through of the CPR process and report back, via e-mail, to the Data Committee.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was preliminarily scheduled for March 12, however John Tuell is not available to us on that date. We ask Data Committee members to reply regarding their availability to meet in Laconia on March 19 at 8:30 instead of the 12th. Please do so no later than 16th.