

RECOMMENDATION FROM CBHAC

AUGUST 6, 2010

During the August 2010 CBHAC meeting the following recommendations were made;

1. CBHAC recommends an annual joint meeting between the SAC and CBHAC, with the DCF Commissioner invited. This meeting will take place on the first Friday of November and will be held at a venue large enough to seat all participants.
The purpose of the meeting will be for CBHAC to formally present to the SAC all annual reports that are required by statute, along with other agenda items from both the SAC and CBHAC. Additionally, the agenda will include a status review of the recommendations that had been forwarded to the SAC during the past year.
2. CBHAC recommends improved communication between CBHAC, the SAC and the DCF Commissioner. Recommendations forwarded to the SAC are formally acknowledged by the SAC Leadership. Missing from the process is feedback from the DCF Commissioners level as to the outcome of the recommendations made by CBHAC through the SAC.
3. CBHAC recommends that the Department of Children and Families reviews its decision not to pursue national accreditation for best practices. Accreditation through The Council On Accreditation (COA) had previously been discussed by the department. We believe that achieving this level of accreditation will improve many internal and external processes for DCF, including accountability to its stakeholders.
4. CBHAC recommends that the DCF reviews its decision to eliminate some of the main tenants of KidCare. While the programs implemented through this legislation remain, the culture change of moving towards a child centered, family driven, and community based system of care has not been fully implemented throughout DCF. The current twenty five Community Collaboratives receive no funding for infrastructure or operations and have had a varying degree of success in having DCF staff involved in their activities and initiatives. Until the DCF reduction in staff several years ago DCF staff were involved in all Collaboratives and provided support for the meetings. Since the reduction in force, there has been minimal attendance in many Collaboratives and no support for meetings.