

HEALTHY FAMILIES NEW YORK COMMITTEES

A unique strength of the Healthy Families New York (HFNY) state system is its commitment to seeking and incorporating ideas, perspective and expertise from all three branches of Central Administration (CA) and from HFNY program staff. The HFNY committees described in this document are a vehicle for this type of collaboration to occur. The first page contains committees that include and welcome the participation of HFNY program staff.

Committees with Central Administration and HFNY Program Staff

Child Welfare Protocol Community of Practice

This group is comprised of Program Managers of programs that have the approval to implement the Child Welfare Protocol (CWP). The group is facilitated by representatives from each branch of CA and the purpose is to allow programs implementing CWP space to share among each other ideas, experiences, challenges and successes with implementation and practices. The group meets quarterly. *For further information and how to get involved, contact Karli Chiavelli, OCFS at Karli.Chiavelli@ocfs.ny.gov*

Curriculum Committee

The curriculum committee facilitates a quarterly series of calls where programs can share how they have used HFNY-approved curricula or other curricula-like material to serve their families. All program staff, supervisors, and program managers, as well as CA members, are invited to present at these calls and attend the calls. This committee also evaluates all curricula currently endorsed by HFNY and is charged with identifying new curricula with the intention of determining those that meet HFNY standards and should be considered "HFNY-Approved." The Committee researches and recommends primary curricula as well as those for specific groups such as fathers, prenatal families, and children with disabilities, and annually updates a curriculum manual and spreadsheet that detail costs, contact information, the evidence and research base, cultural sensitivity, and languages available for each curriculum. You can find the curriculum manual here: <https://www.healthyfamiliesnewyork.org/Staff/curriculum.htm>. *For further information and how to get involved, contact Maile Ray, CHSR, at mray2@albany.edu.*

Fatherhood Involvement Component

Recognizing the essential role of fathers in supporting the growth and development of children, the mission of the HFNY Father Involvement Component is to actively and consistently engage fathers into HFNY home visiting programs and support their parenting role to enhance positive child development outcomes and long-term family success. The purpose of the Fatherhood Committee is to guide our HFNY programs so they can actively engage the fathers/father figures. Committee members discuss current practice, provide suggestions and help facilitate/guide quarterly calls and activities. *For further information and how to get involved, contact Tom Dwyer, OCFS at Thomas.Dwyer@ocfs.ny.gov*

Men's conversation

Male home visitors are often the only male staff person at their respective programs and may experience successes and challenges that are unique to them. For this reason, Tom Dwyer and Matt Newman of OCFS host an annual conversation for male staff members in order to offer them support and encouragement. In addition, throughout the year Tom or Matt can connect new male staff with veteran male staff within HFNY who can share their own experiences and offer suggestions and support. *Tom and Matt can be reached at: Thomas.Dwyer@ocfs.ny.gov and Matthew.Newman@ocfs.ny.gov*

(HFNY's) Racial Equity and Cultural Humility (REaCH) Committee

The REaCH committee is comprised of HFNY Central Administration members, Program Managers, Supervisors, and Home Visitors. It works collaboratively to identify tools/resources that help promote equity in all aspects of HFNY service delivery with the ultimate goal of identifying barriers and improving access to services for all families. Any member of HFNY is free to participate in this committee. *If you are interested in joining, please contact Claudia Miranda-Julian, OCFS at claudia.miranda-julian@ocfs.ny.gov*

Committees with Central Administration Staff

Accreditation Workgroup:

This is a small workgroup consisting of representatives from each branch of CA. The primary purpose of this group is to look at the big picture of Accreditation preparation in our state and assure all the facets of this process are being handled either by existing committees or to create processes and assign tasks where they are not happening. The focus of this group includes both site and CA accreditation activities. Recent supports include Accreditation 101 Support calls, OCFS PCM Cohort calls, and the development of a system-wide SharePoint site to organize self-assessment materials. *For more information, contact Allison Contento, OCFS at Allison.contento@ocfs.ny.gov (site accreditation activities) or Claudia Miranda-Julian, OCFS at claudia.miranda-julian@ocfs.ny.gov (CA accreditation activities)*

Loose Ends Group (LEGs)

As the committee title indicates, this group of CA members is the “go-to” group for CA when it’s not clear we have a committee to work on a topic or project. The group has focused some of its efforts on developing breakout activities for State and Regional Leadership Meetings to enhance programs’ outreach and engagement efforts and developing materials and technology to support statewide promotion of HFNY programs. *For more information, contact Kristen Kirkland, OCFS at Kristen.Kirkland@ocfs.ny.gov*

Policy Committee

The HFNY Site-Specific Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM) is organized around the HFA Critical Elements and Best Practice Standards. It serves as a guide to orient HFNY sites toward HFA model fidelity and the practical application of the model, and compliance with HFNY expectations for practice and program management. Healthy Families NY policies are developed and revised/refined through a committee process that includes input from representatives of the three Central Administration branches as well as HFNY program staff. While CA and program staff can bring potential policy updates to the committee at any time, the committee engages in focused work to update the PPM whenever HFA releases updates to the Best Practice Standards.

For further information, contact Allison Contento, OCFS at Allison.Contento@ocfs.ny.gov

Quality Assurance/Technical Assistance

The Quality Assurance/Technical Assistance (QA/TA) Committee reviews the HFA Central Administration Best Practice Standards surrounding all required QA and TA activities. It develops and monitors tracking mechanisms to ensure that CA is meeting all requirements to achieve the HFA standards. In addition, the committee reviews site performance from accreditation, site visits, Annual Service Reports, Quarterly Reports, Performance Indicators, Performance Target reports and feedback from QA and TA activities to develop broad statewide TA as well as TA for individual sites. *For further information, contact Allison Contento, OCFS at Allison.Contento@ocfs.ny.gov*

Questions and Answers to Everyday Practice (FAQ)

This committee considers answers to questions that frequently come up but are not easily or fully answered by referring to policies, MIS reports or other resources. The committee created an evolving document that is continuously updated and revised as new areas of need become apparent. *For further information and to submit ideas for questions needing answers, contact Ellen Butowsky, PCANY at ebutowsky@preventchildabuseny.org*

Website Committee

The HFNY website is managed by CHSR. The Website Committee is composed of representatives from the technology and program sides of CHSR as well as other members of CA. This committee makes decisions about the design and content of the website and assures that information and resources on both the public and private sides of the website are kept current, relevant and useful. *For more information and to share ideas or possible items for the website, contact Jay Robohn, CHSR at jrobohn@albany.edu*