

Colorado Statewide Information Sharing Initiative

What you need to know about information sharing



"to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of State government, citizen service delivery and policy-making by providing guidance and recommendations on how the State should govern and manage data and data management systems."

State of Colorado Data Management Strategy Report, January 2010

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National News

New Children, Youth, and Family Services (CYFS) Domain in National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) ANNOUNCED!

A new NIEM domain release is planned for Summer 2011 that will integrate the **Juvenile Justice XML data model (JJXDM)** developed by the **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP)** National Juvenile Information Sharing (NJIS) Initiative. The JJXDM was developed and vetted through the efforts of the JIS Pilot Sites in the State of Colorado. The Jefferson County Juvenile Assessment Center (**JCJAC**) and the Colorado Children Youth Information Sharing (**CCYIS**) Collaborative have been the driving forces behind the at risk youth and juvenile data sharing efforts of the NJIS.

The purpose of the new **Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS)** domain is to support timely, complete, accurate, and efficient information sharing among the child support, child welfare, at risk youth, youth and family services, juvenile and family courts, and community partners that can help improve outcomes for children and families.

These efforts will be showcased at the **National NIEM 2011 Training Event in August** and at the **OJJDP National Conference on Children's Justice and Safety in October** of this year.

Programs/Lines of Business Supported

OJJDP's National Juvenile Information Sharing Initiative (NJIS) worked with its JIS pilots within the State of Colorado to identify and develop several high-priority data exchange specifications, including education exchanges between juvenile probation, law enforcement, substance abuse case managers, juvenile assessment centers and juvenile detention facilities. In a collaborative effort, OJJDP's NJIS worked with the University of Massachusetts Medical School to develop the data exchange for the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2). Additional data exchanges developed include: information regarding a serious, habitual offender direct intervention (SHODI), record of law enforcement's Field Contact with a juvenile, and Human Service placement and services exchanges. Other exchanges are under development.

The Court/Child Welfare National Exchange Template (NET) Project has developed several IEPDs to describe the exchange of information between a state or local child welfare agency and a court with jurisdiction over child abuse, neglect, and dependency cases. The NET team includes representatives from HHS ACF Children's Bureau's Division of State Systems, two of the Children's Bureau's National Resource Centers (Child Welfare Data & Technology, and Legal & Judicial Issues), representatives from state and local child welfare agencies and courts, and NCSC.

The National Judicial-Child Support Task Force, sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families' Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), developed two IEPDs using NIEM's predecessor, the Global Justice XML Data Model. The Task Force included representatives from state and tribal CSE agencies and courts, staff from OCSE's regional and central offices, and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). The Initial Request for Remedy IEPD describes the agency's case-initiation message to the court; the Child Support Order describes the court's findings and judgment concerning the financial responsibilities of a child's non-custodial parent.

Who are the DCJ, OAJJA and the JJDP Council and Why are they Interested in Juvenile Information Sharing?

By Meg Williams, Manager OAJJA – Colorado Department of Public Safety



COLORADO
CHILDREN & YOUTH
INFORMATION SHARING COLLABORATIVE

The Colorado legislature created the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) to "... **improve all areas of the administration of criminal justice in Colorado, both immediately and in the long term, regardless of whether the direct responsibility for action lies at the state level or with the many units of local government**" (24-33.5-501 C.R.S.). The mission of the Division of Criminal Justice is to improve the public safety of the community, the quality of services to crime victims, and the effectiveness of services to offenders which is accomplished by analyzing policy, conducting criminal justice research, managing programs, and [administering grants](#).

Within the DCJ, the Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice Assistance (OAJJA) is responsible for administering federal, state and foundation grants which serve to improve the adult criminal and juvenile justice systems. The OAJJA manager also serves as the designated "Juvenile Justice Specialist", which is a requirement for the state's receipt of Formula (Title II) funds from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The Colorado Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Council is appointed by the Governor as the State Advisory Group pursuant to the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and is charged under the Act to **advise and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature on juvenile justice issues**. The Council reviews and approves applications for federal grant funding through the JJDP Act, monitors and evaluates projects funded, and oversees compliance with the core requirements of the JJDP Act.

So why is juvenile information sharing important to DCJ, OAJJA and the JJDP Council? It is well known that youth who penetrate the juvenile justice system frequently come with a multitude of issues. They and their families have often traversed through a variety of other youth serving systems by the time they reach the delinquency system - education, child welfare, mental health, substance abuse - sometimes simultaneously.

It is also proven through research and case studies, that providing services through a system of care approach yields positive results for youth and their families but a system of care implies that systems can share critical information expeditiously and appropriately. Since the CCYIS was established, cases have been presented that illustrate how difficult it is for service providing agencies to share information to one another easily or at all, because information systems cannot talk with one another which leads to delays but also because the law, rules and regulations about sharing confidential information are unclear, misunderstood or misinterpreted.

It is for these reasons that the DCJ, OAJJA and Colorado's JJDP Council are committed to supporting the CCYIS efforts. If indeed our collective responsibilities includes improving the juvenile justice system, then supporting CCYIS is the first step in remedying a problem that if done correctly, can improve services to youth and their families, even before they penetrate the juvenile justice realm.



What's New with Family and Youth

CCYIS Family and Youth Involvement (FYI) Committee

By Margie Grimsley, CCYIS Family Youth Involvement Committee, Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

The Colorado Children and Youth Information Sharing Collaborative (CCYIS) embraces the concept that family and youth perspectives be integrated into their work. Historically, a collaborative like this would have focused primarily on how state and local agencies collect, exchange and analyze information. In order to assure that youth and families be part of planning and developing Colorado Information Sharing policies and practice, the FYI committee was formed.

Exchanging child-specific information between providers and agencies is complicated. FYI began its work by linking with others in order to learn how information shared across various systems impacts family and youth outcomes. Our list of collaborating partners includes the Collaborative Management Program's Family Voice and Choice Committee; the Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council's Child and Family Committee and Older Adolescent and Young Adult Transition Committee; the Colorado System of Care Collaborative; and the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health-CO Chapter.

In addition, current and future FYI committee activities include: 1) Advising on DYC family and youth focus groups; 2) Collecting family and youth stories to be used as case studies to describe the impact information sharing has on coordinating individual services, decision-making, planning and outcomes; and 3) development of information sharing resources, educational and training materials to be used by families, family organizations and youth; agencies and providers and other state and local partners.

In order to learn more about FYI and or to join this work of balancing the privacy interests of children and their families while allowing agencies and providers to share information in a cost effective and efficient manner, contact Margie Grimsley at: m_grimsley@msn.com or go to the CCYIS web page located at: http://www.juvenileis.org/pilot_colorado.html.

Quick Links

Upcoming CCYIS Meetings

04/20/2011 @ JCJAC
9:00 to 11:00 AM

05/18/2011 @ JCJAC
9:00 to 11:00 AM

Resources

[National Juvenile Information Sharing Initiative](#)

[Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention \(OJJDP\)](#)

[Bureau of Justice](#)

National Agency News

[White House Might Alter Juvenile Justice Spending Plan for 2012](#)

Publications

[Juvenile Information Sharing Guidelines](#)

For more information please contact us at info@ccyis.org