

CWEP

Child Welfare Education Project Annual Report FY 11

Executive Summary

Introduction

Starting 1999, The Child Welfare Education Project (CWEP) evolved out of the mutual desire of the Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston and the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) to provide professional educational opportunities to Masters level social work students to prepare them for the demanding and challenging work found in Children's Protective Services. This report details the accomplishments of those goals for FY11 and highlights the new goals for FY12.

Goals and Tasks for FY11:

The goals for FY2011 are organized under the three categories determined by the statewide work group that developed consistent contracts for all participating universities. These areas are faculty and curriculum development, student education, and partnership activities. CWEP's goals for FY2011 were:

Goals

1. Faculty and Curriculum Development

- a. To offer an advanced education and training program, which will include course work and field practicum necessary for completion of degree requirements. The course work should address professional competencies required for work in the child foster care system within DFPS.
- b. To enhance the BSW/MSW curriculum by infusing child welfare content. Training must be focused on enhancing caseworker skills necessary for administering the foster care program as required by 45 CFR 1356.60 (c)(2): referral to services, preparation for and participation in judicial determinations, placement of the child, development of the case plan, case reviews, and case management and supervision. The curriculum will incorporate training topics in accordance with the Department Title IV-B State plan as required by 45 CFR 1356.60 (b)(ii)(2).
- c. To develop curriculum for the training of prospective and current foster/adopt parents and prospective adoptive parents, if requested by region.

2. Student Education

- a. To create opportunities for current DFPS staff to extend their professional social work education by completing BSW and /or MSW degrees.

- b. To develop a pool of trained professional social workers with BSW degrees and/or MSW degrees who are qualified and prepared for employment in Title IV-E eligible Child Protective Services positions.
- c. To provide opportunities for DFPS staff to acquire formal training through extension courses and continuing education that result in enhanced skills in the area of foster care and adoption assistance.
- d. To build the knowledge, skill, and professional competencies of future leaders of DFPS, the single state agency for Title IV-E.

3. Partnership Activities

- a. To enhance the professional partnership between the University and CPS staff by increasing the awareness of the Title IV-E training program in both the University and CPS communities.
- b. To provide and assist with training of prospective foster and adoptive parents and current foster/adopt parents, if requested by region. Training topics will be identified by DFPS.
- c. To assist DFPS with developing meaningful measures to assess student satisfaction with the training program.
- d. To assist DFPS with developing meaningful measures to assess employee satisfaction with the training program.