



Cultural Competency

The Cultural Competency and Gender Specific Services (CC&GSS) Committee is charged with responding to the cultural competency needs identified in local comprehensive plans. A state coordinator for Cultural Competency, housed at OCCF, staffs the committee.

The CCGSS Committee develops cultural competency requirements within the comprehensive planning guidelines, and provides technical assistance to communities while encouraging collaborations among all partners. Key partners are Department of Human Services, Department of Education, Oregon Youth Authority, Department of Justice, Juvenile Departments, County Commissions on Children and Families, and other government agencies and community based organizations. The Six-Year Comprehensive Guidelines for County Planning require counties to:

- Reflect and incorporate diversity: Plans and planning processes should reflect the social, cultural and economic diversity in the community, and
- Address availability of culturally competent and gender specific services: Focus issues selected by the county must reflect demographic data of the county.

The CC&GSS Committee serves as a central state resource on ethnic, cultural diversity and gender-specific issues affecting each of the SB 555 partnering agencies and their affiliates. The CC&GSS Committee serves as an advisory body to the Partners for Children and Families (PCF) Implementation Team, and consequently to the State Commission, on the issues of diversity, cultural competency and gender specific services. The Committee provides informed recommendations that assist the PCF Implementation Team to develop plan based initiatives, break down barriers, and align resources. In order to maximize committee's efforts to support the vision of the State Commission and broader work of the PCF Implementation Team, the Committee's goals and objectives align with the PCF's Strategic Initiatives.

2007-08 Results

The Committee engaged in an analysis designed to:

- Measure the impact on minority communities in identified PCF Initiatives areas and establish baselines for planning, and identify prevalence and demographics of minority representation in PCF Initiatives areas.
- Research data specific to minority representation and provide policy and program recommendations on the findings to the State Commission and PCF Implementation Team.
- Eliminate barriers to service delivery to culturally specific populations.
- Identify evidence-based, culturally competent and gender-specific systems of service delivery that can effectively support diverse ethnic and minority communities.



The Committee identified and reviewed the Oregon's benchmarks data pertaining to children, youth and families, and organized the findings according to the Wellness Dashboard Indicators to determine the areas of both special concern and relative stability.

Summary of Findings

Minority children, youth and families are overrepresented in the following benchmarks' domains and related areas:

- BM 54 - Poverty
- BM 56 - Homelessness
- BM51 A - Child Abuse and Neglect (Substantiated)
- BM 54 – Oregonians without Health Insurance (except Asian)
- BM 41 - Infant Mortality (African American and Native American)
- BM 39 - Teen Pregnancy (Hispanic in particular)
- BM 22 - High School Dropout
- BM 66 - Juvenile Recidivism
- BM-63 - Juvenile Arrests (African American at 2.9 Relative Rate Index (RRI)
- Relief Nurseries (Hispanic)
- Foster Care Placements
- Domestic Violence (Native American women in particular)
- Runaway and homeless youth population
- Suspensions and expulsions
- Referrals to Juvenile Court (African American and Hispanic)
- Secure Detention (African American, Hispanic and Native American)
- Confinement in Secure Juvenile Correctional Facilities (African American and Hispanic)
- Cases Transferred to Adult Court (African American, Hispanic, and Asian)

Minority children, youth and families are underrepresented in the following benchmarks' domains and service delivery areas:

- BM 73 - Home ownership
- BM 40 - Prenatal Care
- BM 53 – Alcohol and Tobacco Abstinence During Pregnancy (Native American)
- BM 20 - Eight Grade Reading and Math
- BM 21 - Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM)
- BM 23 – High School Completion
- BM 26 – Adults with a Bachelors Degree
- Adoptions

No information by race and ethnicity was found in the areas of:

- BM 51 B - Threat of Harm
- BM 54 - Affordable Childcare
- BM 42 - Immunizations
- Children's mental health services

Contact:

Anya Sekino • 503-378-5115 • anya.sekino@state.or.us
Oregon Commission on Children & Families • 530 Center Street NE, Suite 405 • Salem, OR 97301
FAX: 503-378-8395 • Web: www.oregon.gov/occf
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