

Panel Members

- Honorable Walter Olszewski, Philadelphia*
- Honorable Michael Sholley, Snyder & Union*
- Bill Browning, Lackawanna*
- Honorable Dwayne Woodruff, Allegheny
- Bill Cisek, Esq., Venango
- Catherine Volponi, Esq., Allegheny
- Heath Brosius, Esq., Snyder & Union

*Congregate Care Workgroup Chairpersons

How did we get here?



Our Charge

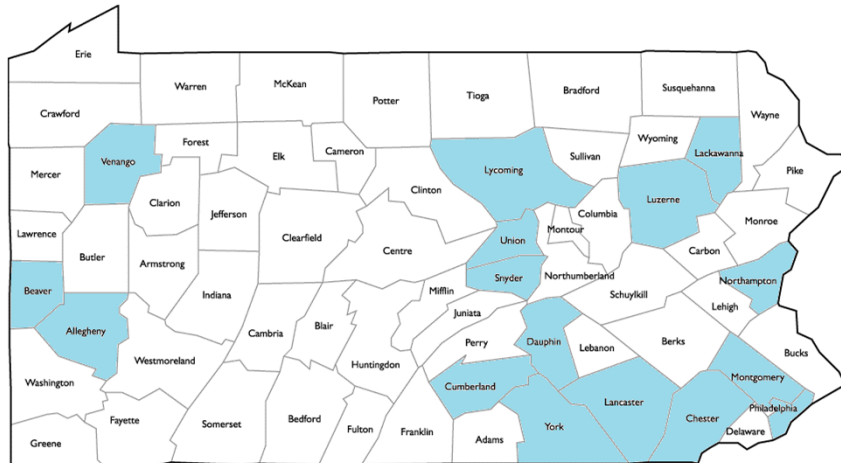
Examine congregate care for the purpose of significant reduction/elimination and assist Pennsylvania in the implementation of the Family First Prevention Act.

Identify effective alternatives to the use of congregate care for dependent youth.

Workgroup Membership

- Judges
- Hearing Officers
- Parent Attorneys
- Solicitors
- GALs
- JCJC
- OCFC
- CYS Administrators
- Casework Supervisors/Managers
- Human Services Directors
- OCYF
- OMHSAS
- Child Welfare Resource Center

Workgroup Member Home Counties



From whom should we hear?

- Department of Education
- Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Office of Children, Youth & Families (Family First)
- Managed Care Organizations
- Community Providers
- Group Home facilities
- Residential Treatment Facilities
- Family Finding Expert
- County Child Welfare Supervisors

From whom will we hear?

- Youth
- Parents
- Additional group home, residential treatment and community providers
- Other states (New Jersey)
- Counties

What does Data say about Congregate Care?



<http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-ot1uPjmvwNo/TB65sVIA0uI/AAAAAAAAAcs/Y8MnjVHYYPw/s1600/datasday096.jpg>



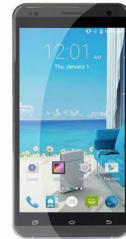
Education

- Little to no oversight by PDE
- Most youth attend on grounds schools with some exceptions
- Quality of education was unmonitored
- Young and older youth often in same class
- Problems transferring credits

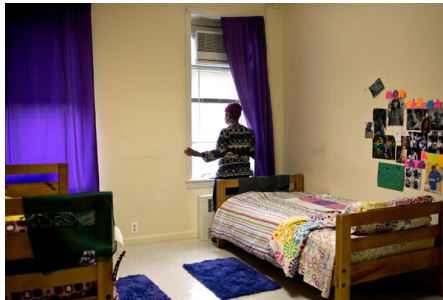


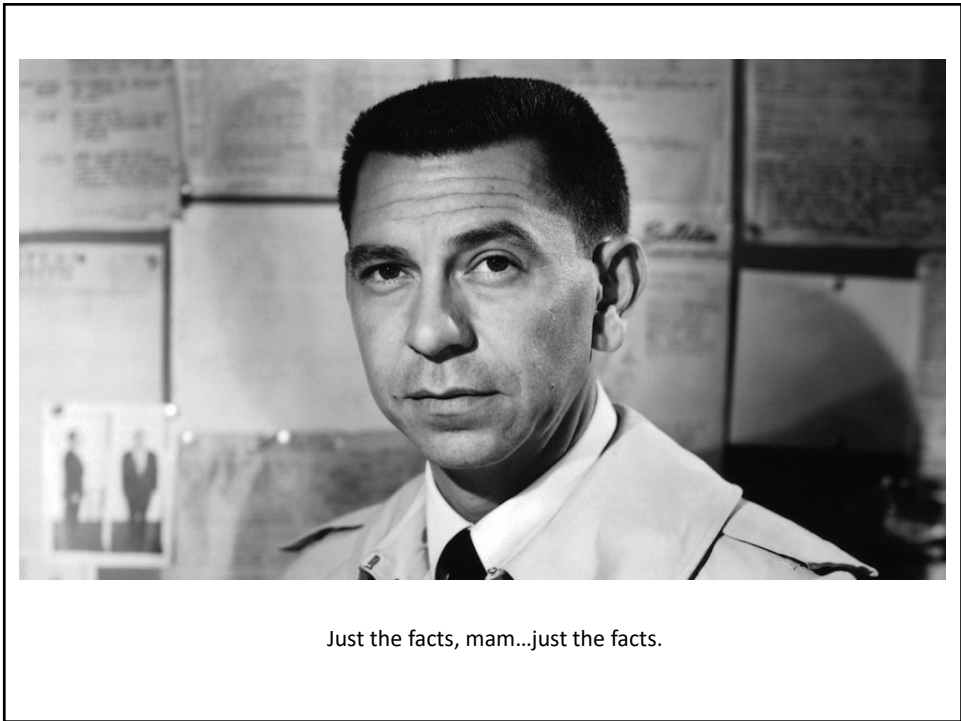
Contact and Visitation

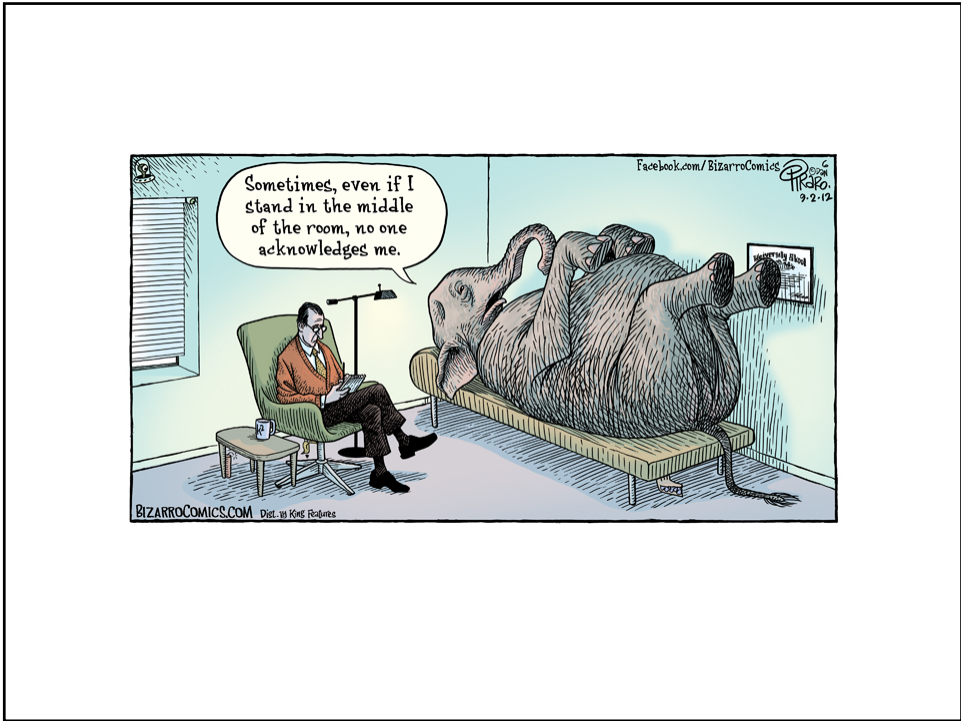
- Contact is rarely sufficient
- Visitation is rarely sufficient
- Family involvement in treatment is rarely sufficient
- Transitions home are challenging
- Distance is often a barrier



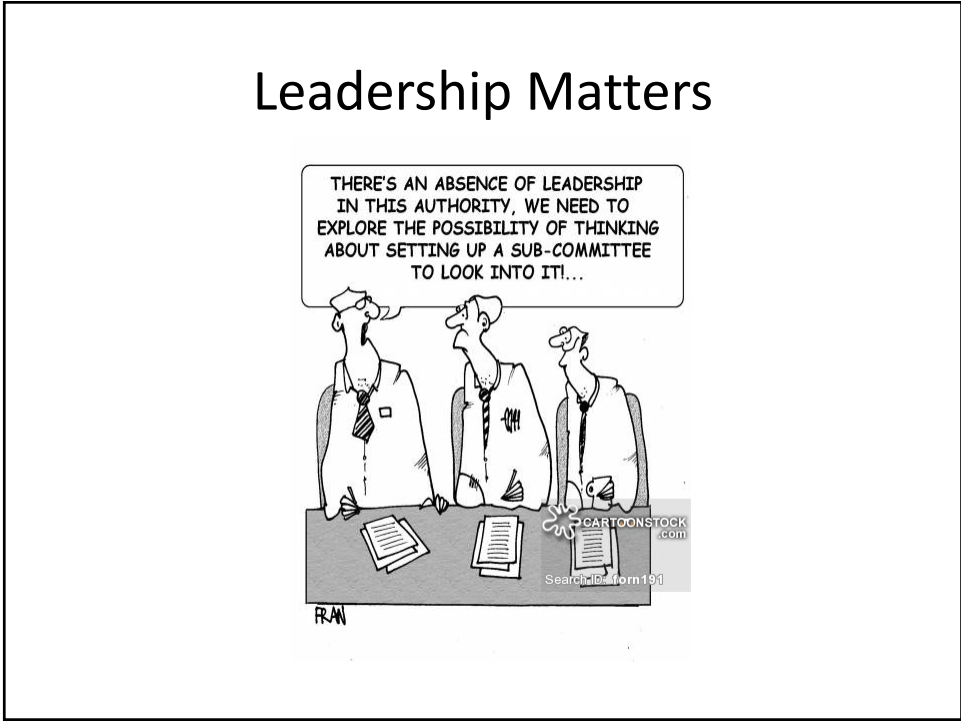
12 minutes/week







Leadership Matters



Contracts Matter

