



Office of Adoption and Child Protection  
Executive Office of the Governor

## Recommendations for Administrative Flexibility

A Presentation for the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet

By Cyndee Odom, Director  
September 1, 2011



## Background

- On February 28, 2011, President Obama released a Presidential Memorandum on "Administrative Flexibility, Lower Costs and Better Results for State, Local and Tribal Governments."
- In early July 2011, the Office of Management and Budget asked the Children's Cabinet Network to identify policy changes that can both improve efficiency and achieve better outcomes for children and families.
- The Children's Cabinet Network, managed by the Forum for Youth Investment, submitted a report of recommendations to the Office of Management and Budget.

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Background (Continued)

- A meeting was arranged for August 11, 2011 with representatives from the Children's Cabinet Network and federal agencies to discuss ideas on flexibility.
- In early August, the Forum for Youth Investment prepared a white paper report using the same barriers and solutions provided by the states focusing solely on reconnecting disconnected youth.
- This report grouped the barriers and solutions into functional categories:
  - Governance and Advisory Structures.
  - Eligibility Criteria & Intake Processes.
  - Allowable Uses of Funds.
  - Data, Accountability and Quality Improvement Systems.
  - Grant Application, Administration and Reporting Requirements.

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Contributors to the Administrative Flexibility Report

- The Forum for Youth Investment organized all of the information into the various reports and coordinated and facilitated the meeting on August 11, 2011.
- 8 State Children's Cabinets contributed information for the reports and participated in the meeting.
  - Colorado Prevention Leadership Council
  - Florida Children and Youth Cabinet
  - Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development Council
  - Maine Children's Cabinet
  - Maryland Children's Cabinet
  - New Mexico Children's Cabinet
  - New York Commission on Children and Families
  - Pennsylvania Commission on Children and Families

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Opportunities for Change

- Governance and Advisory Structures.
- Eligibility Criteria & Intake Processes.
- Allowable Uses of Funds.
- Data, Accountability and Quality Improvement Systems.
- Grant Application, Administration and Reporting Requirements.

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## National Level Meeting Participants

- During the August 11 meeting, 37 representatives participated from the national level:
  - American Public Human Services Association
  - Department of Education
  - Department of Health and Human Services/ACF/ACYF/SAMHSA
  - Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Department of Justice
  - Department of Labor
  - Domestic Policy Council
  - Office of Management and Budget
  - Office of National Drug Control Policy
  - National Academy of Public Administration
  - US Interagency Council on Homelessness
  - White House Council on Community Solutions

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## State Level Meeting Participants

- Eight states also participated in the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Florida had the largest state delegation attend the meeting with 29 representatives from the following agencies:
  - Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection
  - Governor's Office of Policy and Budget
  - Agency for Health Care Administration
  - Agency for Persons with Disabilities
  - Agency for Workforce Innovation
  - Department of Children and Families
  - Department of Education
  - Department of Health
  - Department of Juvenile Justice
  - Guardian ad Litem

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Summary of Meeting

- Both state and federal representatives came to the meeting with a desire to learn about and analyze these topics as well as explore potential solutions.
- The meeting was successful in that there was an open discussion and the stage was set for exploring improvements.
- A three-tier system of achievability was mentioned in the meeting:
  - Solutions that can be implemented right away.
  - Solutions that will require authorization or permission from an executive or agency head.
  - Solutions that will require legislative action to implement.

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Next Steps

- Federal agencies were charged to review the list of stated barriers and potential solutions, and rank them along the three terms of feasibility.
- Each federal agency was required to submit a report to OMB by the end of August. This will aid them in beginning to formulate plans for the future.
- The Office of Management and Budget submitted a report on August 29<sup>th</sup> titled "Implementing the Presidential Memorandum for State, Localities, and Tribes."
- The federal agencies have great interest in continuing to work with the Children's Cabinet Network on administrative flexibility.

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Questions, Suggestions, Feedback?



*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*



## Thank You!

Office of Adoption and Child Protection  
Executive Office of the Governor  
The Capitol, Suite 2002  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Office Phone: 850.921.2015  
E-Mail: [Cyndee.Odom@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:Cyndee.Odom@eog.myflorida.com)

[www.flgov.com/child\\_advocacy](http://www.flgov.com/child_advocacy)

*Vision: All Florida children grow up in safe, stable and nurturing environments that promote well-being.*