

**Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)  
Region 2 Citizen Review Panel Annual Report  
Fiscal Year 2006**

June 1, 2006

The Region 2 Oversight Committee also serves as a CAPTA citizen review panel. This report summarizes the committee's activities during the state fiscal year which began July 1, 2005 and ends June 30, 2006.

Members, Areas of Expertise, Geographic Representation

Law enforcement	Kelly Rosenow, Co-chair
Domestic violence	Ann Passmore, Co-chair
Mental health	Dawn Petre
Education/ Migrant students	Ignacio Resendez
Education, Residential Treatment	Robert Alexander
CASA	Gale Gorrod

Members represented Kittitas County, Klickitat County, Walla Walla County, Columbia County and the three distinct areas within Yakima County.

Meeting Dates and Locations

August 25, 2005	Ellensburg
September 22, 2005	Goldendale
November 10, 2005	Richland
January 26, 2006	Toppenish
March 30, 2006	Grandview
April 27, 2006	Kennewick
May 25, 2006	Dayton
(June 22, 2006)	(Cle Elum— <i>scheduled</i> )

Meetings are attended by the following agency staff: DCFS Regional Administrator, DCFS and DLR Area Administrators and several regional program managers, one of whom provides staff support to the committee.

Citizen Review Panel Role

The Region 2 panel evaluates the extent to which the State is effectively discharging its child protection responsibilities by examining the policies, procedures and practices of the regional and local Children's Administration offices. The committee particularly focuses on assessing the impact of current agency practices upon children and families in Region 2. Meetings are held in different communities served by CA Region and a part of each meeting is set aside for public comment.

Community members with information about the needs of, and services to, families and children are invited to discuss experiences, problems and/or recommendations with the committee at each meeting. During the year, community representatives from various locations who attended meetings included: juvenile court judges, foster parents, county sheriffs, pediatricians, school superintendents, police chief, police detectives, Yakama Nation court administrator and prosecutor, juvenile probation officer, bi-lingual parenting instructor, dependency drug court staff and parent participants.

### Panel Projects

Based on community input, the Region 2 panel made recommendations and followed agency progress to address three identified problem areas this year:

1. Strained working relationships/ Klickitat County (still in process)
  - Several community forums have been held to advise the agency's quality improvement committee. The local administrator has invited the court administrator to collaborate on development of a new resource.
2. Underserved by agency/ Columbia County (successfully completed)
  - DCFS, assisted by a panel including the sheriff and the local CAPTA/Oversight panel member, has hired a social worker and stationed her in the county (previously served by neighboring Walla Walla). CPS referrals are increasing as public awareness and confidence are growing.
3. Shelter for runaway youth/ Kittitas County (still in process)
  - Community collaboration including the local CAPTA/Oversight panel member, DCFS staff and local law enforcement to design short-term housing/protection resources for the disproportionately high numbers of runaway youth from other counties while awaiting return to families.

### 2006- 07 Panel Goals

1. More clearly define the Panel's mission and role.
2. Hold meetings in different, smaller communities throughout the Region.
3. Expand Panel membership to be more representative of the Region.

### Recommendations

1. The agency should be more respectful of, visible in, and responsive to the communities it serves. When allocating resources, the state should factor in distances to services in rural areas and changing demographics.
2. The agency should support strong clinical supervision of line staff, with special attention to assisting staff with issues of secondary trauma.

