

Citizen Review Panel Annual Report
For the Period **January 1 – December 31, 2006**

Panel:	MARATHON COUNTY CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL
Contact Person:	CAROLIE FOX, SOCIAL WORK SUPERVISOR

Briefly describe the number and type of meetings held in 2006: 10 Full panel meetings (3rd Weds of the month/1 hour meetings), subcommittee meetings as needed

Describe the panel's activities in regards to:

1. Evaluating local child protection services
Reviewed Marathon Co DSS response to ACT 232 (Non-Caregiver legislation)
2. Evaluating local and State progress under the State CAPTA Plan
Began work on a CPS Parent's Brochure to assist families in understanding the CPS service and their rights
3. Review of cases, child fatalities and near fatalities
There is an existing Child Fatality Review team in Marathon County chaired by the County Coroner
4. Review of the extent to which the child protective services system is coordinated with the foster care and adoption programs
The CRP supported and advocated for an increase in financial support of foster children; monthly rate increase and increase in the clothing allowance
5. Public outreach and comment
***Ongoing "Public Information" sub committee; issued a press release and articles to local newspapers**
***Home Alone brochure developed and translated into Hmong and Spanish; distribution continuing throughout Marathon County**
6. Other panel activities or issues addressed in 2006
***Ongoing updates to the CRP on the Title V Grant recipient progress & outcomes**
*** 3 Panel members attended the Child Welfare Administrator's conference April 2006 and provided feedback to the full CRP group; members had breakfast with State Child Welfare administrators to dialogue child welfare issues**
***Information given to CRP panel regarding ongoing development of the Child Advocacy Center of North Central Wisconsin**
***Information given to CRP regarding reduction to Marathon County child support and effects of that reduction**
***Planning initiated for CRP representatives to attend the National CRP Conference in May 2007**
***CRP panel informed of MCDSS staff education to Southeast Asian community on Family Group Conferencing service**
***CRP panel informed of MCDSS agency involvement in recognizing April Child Abuse Prevention month**

***CRP panel informed and educated on the Juvenile Justice Restorative Justice Initiative**

Describe any challenges or difficulties the panel encountered in 2006:

- *Continued recruitment and efforts to add a youth member to CRP**
- *Continued efforts to add a service consumer to CRP**
- *Continued to see State Staff involvement in and commitment to CRP**

Recommendations to improve child protection services at the local level:

- *Complete, translate & distribute CPS Parent's brochure**
- *Work with lawmakers, WICHSA & WI state senator to support child welfare system; streamlining system to allow social workers more face to face time with children, youth and families**

Recommendations to improve child protection services at the State level:

- *Advocate for an increase in the foster child clothing allowance**
- *Advocate for streamlining and improving the state eWISACWIS documentation system**
- *Increase efforts to recruit and train foster parents**
- *Establish and implement a reasonable caseload size for social workers**

Recommendations to improve State support of local CRPs:

- *Regular and ongoing communication between State Staff and CRP'S**
- *Communication and planning between Wisconsin CRP groups**
- *Continued funding for CRP local panels**

Indicate if training and/or technical assistance is needed or desired in 2007. Specify the areas in which you would like to receive training or assistance.

- *Same as above**

Please send an electronic copy of the completed annual report to Paula Brown at brownpl1@dhfs.state.wi.us