


pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES


The Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF)

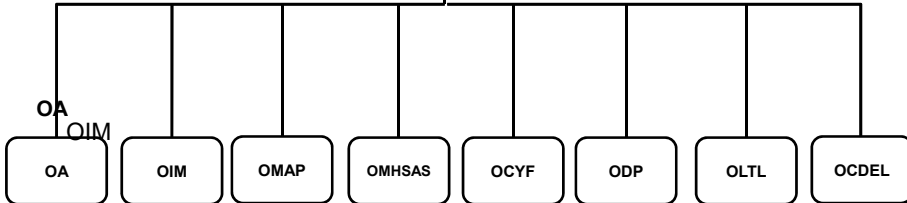
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Department of Human Services (DHS)



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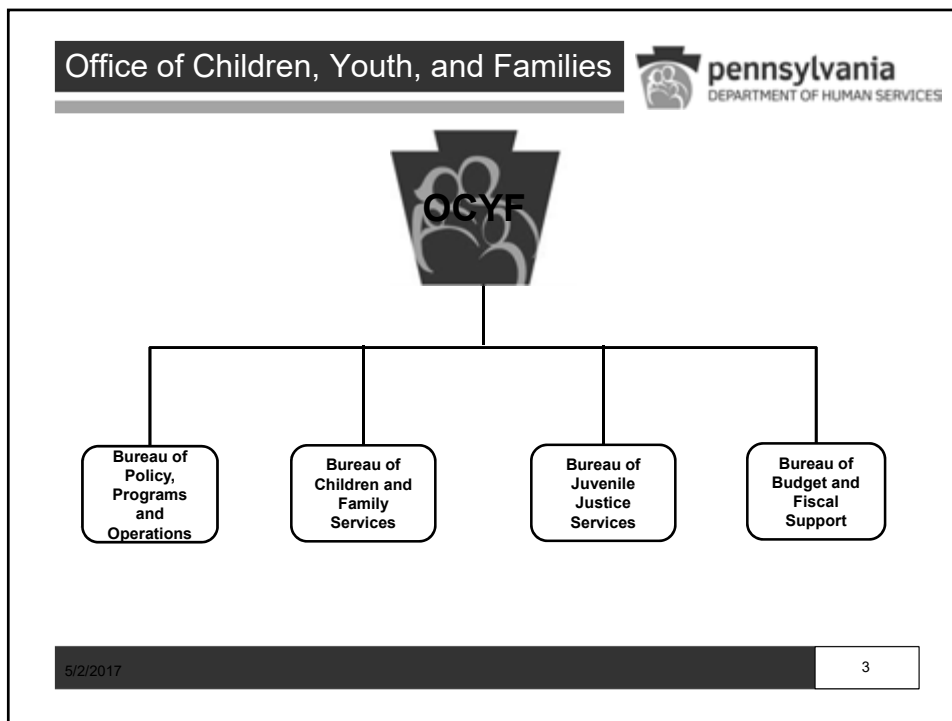





OA – Office of Administration
OIM – Office of Income Maintenance
OMAP – Office of Medical Assistance Programs
OMHSAS – Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

OCYF – Office of Children, Youth and Families
ODP – Office of Developmental Programs
OLTL – Office of Long Term Living
OCDEL – Office of Development and Early Learning

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Mission, Vision and Values



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Mission
The Office of Children Youth and Families supports the provision of quality services and best practices designed to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of PA's children, youth and families.

Vison
All Children and youth grow up in a safe, loving, nurturing, permanent family and community.

In order to achieve this mission and vision, OCYF believes that the agency culture must be built around the following values:

- ☐ Honest and respectful communication
- ☐ Continuous Quality Improvement
- ☐ Child/youth's role and voice
- ☐ Family's role and voice
- ☐ Personal accountability
- ☐ Commitment to action
- ☐ Child, youth and family centered decisions

5/2/2017

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Pennsylvania's Child Welfare System



- Designed to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of Pennsylvania's children and youth.
 - Emphasis on preserving the unity of the family whenever possible and separating the child from his or her parents only when necessary for the child's welfare, health or safety or in the interest of public safety.
 - When the unity of the family cannot be maintained, an alternative permanent family is vital to the health and development of children.
- Funded through state, federal and county funds.
- Supported under the **DHS**.
- State supervised by the **OCYF**.
- County administered by 67 **County Children and Youth Agencies (CCYAs)**.

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Pennsylvania's Child Welfare System



- State laws and regulations prescribe the minimum standards for the county offices; state child welfare and juvenile justice services are organized, managed and delivered by **CCYAs** and **Juvenile Probation Offices (JPOs)**.
- Services to children, youth and their families may be provided by the **CCYAs**, purchased from provider agencies or a combination of both.

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DHS

DHS supports Pennsylvania's children, youth and families through a comprehensive variety of services.



<http://www.dhs.pa.gov>

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OCYF

- Assures availability and provision of public child welfare services.
- Provides oversight and technical assistance to CCYAs.
- Establishes and enforces policies and regulations that support the achievement of child welfare goals and outcomes.
- Licenses public and private child welfare agencies and investigates complaints received regarding these agencies.
- Responsible for the administration of the state-operated juvenile justice facilities, which provide state-of-the-art treatment, care and custody services to some of Pennsylvania's most at-risk delinquent youth.

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Training Opportunities

- DHS contracts with The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center through the University of Pittsburgh to provide face to face and online training for child welfare professionals.
- Recommended trainings:
 202 Truancy: Prevention and Intervention
 301: Engaging Clients from Strength-Based-Focused Perspective
- Non-public child welfare professionals can attend these courses when there is room.
- Several online courses are available for Pennsylvania service providers.
- Information can be found at www.pacwrc.pitt.edu

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County Grant Incentives

County Children and Youth Agencies have the opportunity to request funding for Special Grants through the Needs Based Program Budget at a lower county match rate for the following categories:

Evidence-Based Programs
 Pennsylvania Promising Practices
 Alternative to Truancy Programs
 Housing

Special Grant Incentives are funded through a combination of state and matching county funds with a range of 5% to 15% depending on the program.

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OCYF Sponsored Conferences



Pennsylvania Permanency Conference

- Conference focuses on ways families and professions from all aspects of the child welfare system can support one another and work together to achieve permanent connections for all children and youth.
- This will be the 25th annual conference which will be held June 28-30, 2017 at the Kalahari Resort and Conventions in the Pocono Mountains.
- Offers 41 workshops addressing a variety of topics regarding permanency for children and youth in out-of-home care and the families that serve them.

Pennsylvania Older Youth Retreat

- Sponsored by the PA Department of Human Services and the University of Pittsburgh and held at the University of Pittsburgh's Johnstown campus.
- Retreat offers youth the opportunity to experience life on a college campus with the opportunity to meet peers across the state.
- This years theme is *Even the Stars Need Darkness to Shine* and will be held August 7-11, 2017.

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OCYF Contact Information



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