



CHILD & YOUTH CARE CERTIFICATION BOARD, Inc.

Promoting competent, caring, and compassionate Child and Youth Care professionals.

CYCCB Report to the ACYCP Board

May 24, 2010

This report highlights CYCCB activities and accomplishments between June 2009 and May 2010.

LOAN REPAYMENT & LICENSING FEES

CYCCB has paid the 2010 portion of the start-up loan owed to ACYCP. Licensing fees for certification testing and application processing which accrued in 2009 have been paid to ACYCP.

COMPETENCY DOCUMENT REVISION

The competency document that the certification program is based on, developed under the leadership of Martha Mattingly, was reviewed by a committee led by Carol Stuart that contained representatives from the following organizations : National After School Association, National Institute for Out of School Time, American Association of Children's Residential Centers, Association for Child and Youth Care Practice, Indiana Youth Development Credential (The Journey), Forum for Youth Investment, Academy for Educational Development, National Partnership for Juvenile Services, and the Canadian Council. The review focused on revising language so that the competencies will better describe practice across settings. These changes are expected to increase acceptance of the competencies. The ACYCP Executive Committee reviewed the modifications and approved the changes. This document is currently being rewritten and will be available soon.

Further review of the competencies will be undertaken by the same committee later in 2010. The focus of the review will be assuring collaborators that the full set of competencies from each practice arena are adequately represented. The committee will also make recommendations for the timing of future reviews of the competency document.

REVISION TO CERTIFICATION RENEWAL PROCESS

A committee composed of Martha Mattingly, Frank Eckles, and Carol Kelly created recommendations: 1) to expand the demonstration of professional activity accepted during the certification renewal process; 2) to formalize the process the ACYCP Board will use to review and approve changes to the certification program; and 3) to define

professional organizations which meet certification requirements. These recommendations were approved by both the CYCCB and ACYCP Boards in early 2010. The recommendations have been implemented as part of the certification program.

KENT STATE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SERVICES WORKFORCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

We are looking for funding to support the following:

1. Study of the impact of certification preparation on certification success (passing exam and meeting other certification requirements). We will also look for racial differences. There is some research that suggests that course preparation can reduce racial differences in exam scores.
2. Development of a video-based scenario exam that reflect the written scenarios in the current exam. If funded, we will compare pass rates for minority groups. There is some research that indicates that a video exam can reduce racial differences that typically occur with written exams.

COLLABORATIONS WITH MAJOR PARTNERS

CYCCB is actively expanding collaboration with the following organizations: National After School Association, American Association of Children's Residential Centers, Academy for Educational Development, Indiana Youth Pro and the Indiana Youth Development Credential, Forum for Youth Investment, Next Generation, The Journey, Canadian Council, National Institute for Out of School Time, and National Partnership for Juvenile Services. Work is in progress with each group to increase awareness of the national competencies and the benefits of collaboration in creating a seamless national credentialing system; and connecting existing certification programs to CYCCB.

CYCCB is actively working with the following universities: Ryerson University, University of Wisconsin, University of Pittsburgh, NOVA University, University of Maine, Indiana University and the University of Western Washington.

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES

Presentations on credentialing were made at the following conferences: Indiana Youth Institute, American Association of Children's Residential Centers, WACYCP Regional Conference, and the National After School Association. Testing was conducted at 3 of the 4 conferences.

EXPANSION OF TESTING

A total of 88 practitioners tested since June 2009. A total of 141 practitioners have tested since CYCCB began operations in 2008. This number is lower than desired but understandable in the current economic climate. Testing is expected to increase as testing sites expand and information on certification gets to practitioners. It will dramatically expand when regulations and laws require a credential.

An on-line proctor training will be available within the next month. This will help expand existing testing sites and increase access to certification. By the end of the year it is expected that the following organizations will be authorized on-line testing centers: University of Pittsburgh, University of Wisconsin, University of Maine, NOVA University, Ryerson University, Academy for Competent Youth Work, Brevard Family Partnership, and Casa Pacifica Children's Services.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND NETWORK

An email networking system is in development using Constant Contact to manage the system. This is being integrated into existing systems used by ACYCP and WACYCP. It will allow CYCCB to communicate with Advisory Committee and Network members. This will be one of the first across-practice-setting communication networks ever established. Over time it will be expanded to include most practice settings and certified practitioners.

PUBLICATIONS

The following article is in press in the CWLA Journal of Child Welfare. It describes the certification program including brief descriptions of the three primary assessment measures. This is expected out soon. "The National Child and Youth Care Practitioner Professional Certification: Promoting competent care for children and youth."

Other articles are in development.

IMMEDIATE FUTURE

Major meeting with National Partners – We are quickly arriving at the need to hold a meeting to craft a coalition of national partners who will work together to: 1) integrate education, credentialing, and training into a national system; 2) inform the public and influence public policy to increase standards and requirements for education and credentialing; and 3) increase resources available to CYC practitioners, children, youth and families. A committee is being formed to plan strategies for creating this meeting.

Funding to Support CYCCB Operations and Expansion – CYCCB needs funders who will finance the infrastructure necessary to establish and maintain a national credentialing system. Revenues from certification are paying for basic operations but do not provide adequate revenues to stabilize and expand services, and conduct critical research.

Certification Prep Manual - This is in development and expected to be available in early 2011 to support distance education prep courses and individuals seeking credentialing.

Training and TA Teams – CYCCB has expertise in helping organizations incorporate the competencies and credentialing program into career development

systems, employee evaluations, job descriptions, promotion ladders, etc. Training Teams are being formed. Workshops and TA strategies will be developed later in 2010.

Elections to the CYCCB Board – The CYCCB constitution requires that elections be held four years after the formation of the corporation. This will occur in 2011. Plans are moving forward to set up the process. Certified practitioners will be able to nominate colleagues and elect them to the board. Electronic means are being set up to facilitate notifications, nominations and voting. Following the election, a strategic planning event will be held to help transition.