

**Priority Focus Area 2  
In-Home Services Design  
December 2011**

**In-Home Grid Development Oversight Committee**

One of the next primary components in the In-Home Services program project has been the development of the In-Home Services Grid. The purpose of the grid is to be a resource to caseworkers and families participating in in-home services. Information gathered to incorporate into the grid will focus on three primary functions, which include:

- i. Evidence-based interventions for each service need.
- ii. Resources, programs, and contracted services that can meet the array of service needs.
- iii. Caseworker home visiting activities targeted at varying service needs.

At the In-Home Services Workgroup meeting held in August 2011, committee members identified individuals and programs areas that they would like to see represented on the committee. The In-Home Services Grid Development Oversight Committee was formed with 16 members that include representatives from the Assistant Attorney General, Guardian ad Litem, state office, contracts, training, Program and Practice Improvement Team, and staff from each of the regions.

During this reporting quarter, the committee met on October 17<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>. Committee members reviewed the history of the in-home services project. The reviewed the structure and outline of the draft grid. The committee decided to begin completing the content portion of the grid by working on the domestic violence column. A questionnaire was developed that committee members could use to gather information from local providers, content experts, and resources from their area or from their own research. That information was gathered and incorporated into the grid. The next target columns will be the “living environment” and “basic needs” columns. The next grid development committee meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2012.

**In-Home Services Workgroup**

During this quarter, the statewide In-Home Services Workgroup met on November 29, 2011. At that meeting, committee members reviewed information from the national 2011 Policy to Practice Conference. National trends and information from both the Children’s Bureau and National Resource Center for In-Home Services are used as a measuring stick for the development of Utah’s in-home services program. An update on the grid development was provided to the committee. Three proposals were also presented for committee consideration:

1. Specialized in-home teams or workers- When a caseworker has a combination of foster care and in-home cases, the foster care cases often take more of a priority. Allowing teams or individual caseworkers to specialize in In-Home cases may help allow more focused attention to in-home cases. Region workgroup members

will get more feedback from their regions regarding the concept of specialized in-home workers/teams.

2. Naming the In-Home program incentive- As part of the effort to inform staff about the new In-Home model and begin to market the concept, the proposal is to put together a brief Camtasia overview that could be sent to all staff. Staff would be asked to submit suggestions for the name of the new In-Home model (the house diagram with the five component parts). The Camtasia overview should contain information about why we are building the program. It should also include the message that it is an opportunity for workers to be back to the work they love- social work. The workgroup agrees with the plan.
3. Pre-Initial Implementation- There is a need to proceed with the first two SDM tools- the Safety and Risk Assessments. The proposal is to select one or two teams from regional offices to try the new assessments. The pre-implementation would start after the documents are ready in SAFE so the old Risk Assessment and IPSA could be turned off for those teams and they could begin using the new documents. There would be training for the team(s) and support throughout the pre-implementation. The pre-implementation could assist with several needs such as:
  - Seeing how the assessments translate to frontline use.
  - Help identify and work out bugs before broader implementation.
  - Gather some data on how many cases are identified as the varying levels of risk.
  - Practice training.