

From: Bradley, Erin (SEN) [Erin.Bradley@state.ma.us]
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2007 2:49 PM
To: Padien, Mary (SEN)
Subject: FW: CHINS suggestions

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From: Rebecca Pries [mailto:acsrebecca@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, November 02, 2007 3:01 PM
To: erin bradley
Cc: david wilcox
Subject: CHINS suggestions

Hi Erin. I think that the role of the Juvenile Court Clinics should be added to the law as we discussed in the meeting on Tuesday, i.e. in providing emergency court evaluations for these very high risk kids. I think the JCCs should also be added in the role of providing comprehensive psychosocial evaluations of the CHINS kids that come before the Juvenile Court. I know that we hope the local screening and treatment services will provide for the bulk of these kids, but for the more complicated/complex cases, the Juvenile Court Clinics often provide crucial information to the Court and to providers (treaters, schools) about what services will be helpful to the child and the family and help stave off committments to DYS. You know best where this should go in the law.

Also, in section (a), beginning with line 592 of the 10-26-07 draft, we typically work with a court's "order" rather than a prescription (text reads "prescribe") which makes more sense to me given that we're not talking about a medical facility or setting at this point. Also on line 594 the draft reads "supervision by a court clinic." This would be a new role for the Court Clinics as we currently provide evaluations and follow-up services to link kids and families with providers in their communities. (Maybe in some future world of increased funding the Juvenile Court Clinics will also have case managers on staff!??) I'm assuming that this is the section that the committee intends to cover the Juvenile Court Clinic evaluations, which are currently provided for under Chapter 119 section 39 G.

I will try to make it to the meeting on Tuesday--not sure if I'll be able to. An emergency here at the Cambridge Juvenile Court today on a 15 year old girl who needed hospitalization has thrown my schedule off :-). That's what we're here for!!

Thanks for all your work on this!

Rebecca

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