## Pennsylvania Children and Youth Administrators, Inc.



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## PCYAdvocate for November 14, 2014

Mandated Reporter Training Through CWRC Goes Live: Just a reminder that the CWRC Mandated Reporter Training went live today. For those desiring to review this program, plan on 3 hours. As information is being disseminated, remember that the main statutes dealing with mandated reporters and training are Act 31 of 2014, Act 33 of 2014, and Act 44 of 2014. There was a substantial expansion of who is now considered a mandated reporter, including those maintaining professional licenses, certain attorneys, and volunteers who work with kids, such as coaches. There is also now a mandatory training component for those who are considered mandated reporters. If there is a question regarding whether someone is a mandated reporter, this training can assist them with ascertaining for certain. Please feel free to disseminate this information to those people in your counties that are impacted. The training can be found at the following link: <a href="https://www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu">www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu</a>

County Visits: Special thanks to Lynne and Laurie (Bucks and Montgomery), Deirdre (Delaware), Vanessa (Philadelphia), and Peter (Dauphin) for taking their time to meet with me. As always, I was extremely impressed with the level of professionalism, dedication, and ingenuity with which the child welfare professionals in Pennsylvania approach their work. Even in this time of limited budgets, increased demands, and the never-ending paperwork, the administrators are constantly working to improve their practice and develop new programs that will better serve their clients.

Dauphin County just opened a visitation program, Samara, in a former CYS satellite office. This program provides not only visitation in a wonderful, family-like setting, but a structured parenting skill development program. What really struck me, aside from the well thought out program, was how well the office space was transformed. With the idea of being able to observe visits without having to be right in the room, walls were built with large open windows that allowed for observation while still creating separate rooms. Very ingenious and effective.

Best Wishes, Brian Bornman-PCYA Executive Director