National CASA Standards Assessment

Step 1: Self-Assessment Questionnaire

- Self-Assessment questionnaires were completed April 30, 2022
- National CASA reports were sent September 30, 2022
- Reports separated into 3 categories:
 - Red: items need immediate attention and should be 'fixed' within 30 days
 - Blue: items need attention and should be 'fixed' within 90 days
 - Grey: all other outstanding items and should be 'fixed' within 6 months

Commonly missed Blue items

Standard #22: Do volunteers sign a **Statement of Confidentiality** upon acceptance of each case? Standard #25: Does the program have a written policy to protect **confidential information** of staff, volunteers, governing board, advisory committee members, if applicable, and donors?

Standard #74(a-h): Are Staff or Volunteers permitted to provide transportation for the children Served? Standard #123(a-c): Are there times when a volunteer is assigned to **more than two cases** simultaneously?

Standard #127: Does the program have policies and procedures that specify the conditions for **corrective action and non-voluntary dismissal** of volunteer advocates?

#14: Does the program require and document annual participation of program staff, volunteers and governing board in education and **training about diversity**, equity and inclusion?

#28: Has the program established a written **Strategic Plan** (nonprofits) or Operational Goals and Objectives (PA)?

#31: Does the program ensure that it has applicable **insurance** coverages?

#32: Does the program's governing board/administrative authority evaluate the performance of the executive director in writing at least annually utilizing written performance criteria?

#33: Has the program established a written **Succession Plan** for the Executive Director position?

#34: Does the program maintain accurate and **complete records of every governing board meeting?** (nonprofits only). Does the program maintain documentation of every administrative authority meeting pertaining directly to program policymaking or operations? (PA)

#35: Does the program have a statute or written agreement with the court that defines the case assignment and acceptance process as well as the working relationship between the program and the court?

#57: Has the Executive Director developed a Logic Model?

#58: Does the program follow a written plan for securing and maintaining financial resources adequate to accomplish its established goals and objectives? (**Resource Development Plan** or equivalent financial plan for PA programs)

#66: Does the program produce an **annual report** which includes financial, statistical, and service data summary information?

#103: Does the program require volunteers to **sign a social media policy**?

#105: Does the program have a written policy regarding the **reactivation of volunteers** who have been inactive for more than 1 year?

#107: Does the program maintain **documentation** verifying that all volunteer advocates have successfully **completed the required pre-service** training?

#118: Are any fulltime **program staff supervising** more than 30 active volunteers or a maximum of 45 cases?

#131: Does the program have a written plan for public information, outreach and education activities to provide an understanding of the program's purpose, function and role in judicial proceedings and the community social service system?

#137: Does the program have **operational procedures** governing the use of the tool, system and or software for collection of data?

"date of adoptions"

Next Steps

- ▶ No Pass/Fail
- No expectation for all programs to at 100%
 - The percentage of self-reported alignment is a way of broadly gauging emphasis and focus needed, in terms of tools, resources and guidance, to achieve maximum alignment and consistency as a national network.
- Data used to inform development of NCASA trainings, tools and resources
- If a program believes that circumstances prevent it from aligning with an element of practice(s), that information and corresponding explanation should be emailed to <u>LPQR@nationalcasagal.org</u> for consideration.
 - Helps NCASA understand variances across country and what to address and/or change for future standards

Next Steps (cont.)

- As items listed in the self-assessment reports are resolved, please update the program's self-assessment questionnaire responses by using the link contained in the report.
- The National CASA/GAL Association will continue to review the data as is it updated by programs. Reminders and/or information requests will be sent to programs, as needed, for items reported to be out of alignment, with an emphasis on urgent and high priority items first.
- Still formulating process for site visits and document review
 - States given option to conduct these visits after becoming certified to do so

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK ON STANDARDS!!!

Questions: contact Kathleen at kalumac@ohiocasa.org