



Children, Families, Health and Human Services Interim Committee

57th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

EVE FRANKLIN
DUANE GRIMES
JERRY O'NEIL
GERALD PEASE

HOUSE MEMBERS

BOB LAWSON
MICHELLE LEE
TRUDI SCHMIDT
BILL THOMAS

COMMITTEE STAFF

SUSAN BYORTH FOX
RESEARCH ANALYST
DAVID NISS
STAFF ATTORNEY
LOIS O'CONNOR
SECRETARY

MINUTES

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed. Committee tapes are on file in the offices of the Legislative Services Division. **Exhibits for this meeting are available upon request. Legislative Council policy requires a charge of 15 cents a page for copies of documents.**

Organizational Meeting
Room 102, State Capitol
August 9, 2001

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Sen. Eve Franklin
Sen. Duane Grimes
Sen. Gerald Pease
Rep. Bob Lawson
Rep. Trudi Schmidt
Rep. Bill Thomas
Rep. Michelle Lee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

Sen. Jerry O'Neil

STAFF PRESENT

Susan Byorth Fox, Research Analyst
David Niss, Staff Attorney
Lois O'Connor, Secretary

VISITORS

Visitors' list (ATTACHMENT #1)
Agenda (ATTACHMENT #2)

COMMITTEE ACTION

- Elected Rep. Schmidt Presiding Officer
- Elected Sen. Grimes Vice Presiding Officer
- Approved that Committee staff summarize the DPHHS's rules of significant interest and controversial rules in writing or email in intervals that Committee staff deems appropriate
- Approved that two House Republicans (Representatives B. Thomas and Lawson); two House Democrats (Representatives Schmidt and Lee); and one Senate Republican (Sen. O'Neil) be appointed to the SJR 22 Subcommittee
- Approved that the Children and Families Interim Committee subsidize the two extra members appointed to the SJR 22 Subcommittee if the Economic Affairs Interim Committee objects to the extra appointments
- Approved that Committee staff prepare a proposed study plan for SJR 8--privatization of foster care and adoption services. It will be decided at the Committee's next meeting whether to appoint a subcommittee to review the issue.
- Approved the proposed Committee interim work plan.

CALL TO ORDER AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The meeting was called to order by Sen. Franklin at 8:40 a.m. by teleconference call. Roll call was noted; Sen. O'Neil was excused.

Sen. Franklin nominated Rep. Schmidt for Presiding Officer stating her background in human services issues while Rep. Thomas nominated Sen. Grimes because of his experience. Because he did not want to start the Committee out on a political overtone, Sen. Grimes did not oppose Rep. Schmidt as Presiding Officer. In the spirit of bipartisanship, Rep. Lawson nominated Rep. Schmidt as Presiding Officer by acclamation and Sen. Grimes as Vice Presiding Officer by acclamation respectively.

COMMITTEE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Susan Fox, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division, provided an overview of the Committee's interim study plan that included its proposed meeting dates, its duties and responsibilities, and its possible areas of study. (EXHIBIT #1)

STUDY RESOLUTIONS

HJR 1

Lois Steinbeck, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Services Division, provided an overview of HJR 1. (EXHIBIT #2) She stated the following:

- One recommendation from the public mental health study in the last interim was to continue legislative oversight and research on public mental health services.
- HJR 1 requires that a subcommittee be developed among members of the Legislative Finance Committee, the Children, Families, Public Health, and Human Services Interim Committee, the Legislative Audit Committee, and the State Administration and Veterans Affairs Interim Committee.

- The goals that have guided the HJR 1 study plan are (1) to meet the directives of HJR 1 and (2) to not duplicate the efforts of other interim committees.
- Other goals are to identify areas of research that are important to the mental health system and to identify potential changes to mental health services that are compatible with the state's proposed regional system design.
- Another entity involved with mental health services issues is the Mental Health Oversight Advisory Council (MHOAC) that will develop the core services that will be provided, develop the regions of the system, develop the contracts, and develop the outcome measures and oversight. These areas are not considered as research topics for the HJR 1 study but oversight topics.
- The primary areas of research that HJR 1 staff is recommending centers on adult services. They are as follows:
 - veterans issues and potential cost shifts to the state if veterans do not receive services through the VA;
 - review how the Montana State Prison (MSP) and the Warm Springs State Hospital interact (i.e., review the services offered by Warm Springs, the revenues generated, the types of uses that the counties close to the State Hospital make of it, review the State Hospital design to see if it accommodates the number of forensic patients currently residing there);
 - review sentencing options for people who are mentally ill and convicted;
 - review community commitments in lieu of state hospitalization;
 - review the problematic issue of forced administration of medication in community settings--civil rights and due process issues;
 - monitor children's services; and
 - review ways to leverage additional federal funds for the mental health services system.

Sen. Franklin asked if a committee had been formed to monitor SB 454. Ms. Steinbeck said yes, adding that it was established by the DPHHS. It has conducted two meetings and has developed a list of children that it is trying to bring back to Montana from out-of-state placements. It is also identifying coalitions of providers provided for in HB 2. HB 2 appropriated approximately \$480,000 to fund innovative services for children to be able to keep them in their own communities and homes. Sen. Franklin asked if the Committee was going to review what services were diminished secondary to the supplemental, how it affects the newer paradigm of children's services, and would the CFHHS Committee be used for oversight purposes only. Ms. Steinbeck was unsure but would find out. Sen. Franklin suggested that this issue be resolved between Committees. Senators Franklin and Pease accepted appointments to the HJR 1 Subcommittee.

HJR 32

Jim Nelson, Legislative Audit Division (LAD), provided an overview of HJR 32 and DPHHS audit projects. He stated the following:

- The top six performance audit requested of the LAD will be on the DPHHS.

- The LAD is currently finishing three performance audits from the past biennium--(1) the Area Agencies on Aging, (2) nursing home inspections, and (3) controls over prescription drugs at the various institutions under the DPHHS.
- The current biennium audits selected by the Legislative Audit Committee are: (1) the Child Protective Services (HJR 32) of which the Indian Child Welfare Act will be a large part of the audit (i.e. how are Indian children cases handled by the Department, tribal courts, and the court system in general). LAD will coordinate with the federal review to share information; (2) the administration of Medicaid and the contracting for mental health services; (3) the children' health insurance program (CHIP); and (4) the following three audits related to the Human Resource Development Councils (HRDC) will be combined: HRDC monitoring, the low-income energy assistance program, and the job search and employment programs.

Sen. Grimes asked what the impetus was behind the request for the audit on the administration of Medicaid. Ms. Steinbeck said one of the charges in the HJR 35 study in the last interim was an oversight function of mental health services. When she reviewed the development of community services, there were two instances where the Department let sole-source contracts with two providers. Federal procurement laws do not provide for sole-source contracts and it was her belief that a waiver of federal Medicaid regulations was needed to implement the contracts. She also believed that there was no way that a contract involving federal funds can be let without following the RFP process which was not done. She was also concerned that services, such as respite care for children and housing for adults, were reimbursed with Medicaid funds which, under federal regulations, is not an allowable use of those funds. When the Legislative Finance Committee heard her report, the Department maintained that the issues she raised were not pertinent. At that point, the Committee requested a performance audit on the issue. The Committee noted that prior to the reorganization of the Departments of Corrections, Public Health and Human Services, and SRS, Medicaid had been administered by a single division. With reorganization, Medicaid was organized more along customer groups, such as senior and long-term care, developmental disabilities, mental health, and other primary health care services. The Committee had questions about how in a large organization, when there is a funding source administered by four divisions, can it make sure that all the divisions use Medicaid funding and financing creatively and to the fullest benefit of the Divisions while still following central management tenants. Sen. Grimes said that there is a large economy in Montana that is built around the current funding structure and he requested that the Children and Families Committee be kept up to date on the audit. An update will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Rep. Lee asked what was going to be reviewed regarding the CHIP program. Mr. Nelson said that most audits review the areas of economy and efficiencies and whether there are better ways for a program to be run.

Sen. Franklin said that one issue that will affect CHIP disbursement, or perhaps the focus of the program, will be the use of it as a primary insurance vehicle for children with severe mental illness. Based on the financing structure of children's services, the Department has now looked at CHIP as a major vehicle for funding those children.

SJR 8

Ms. Fox provided an overview of SJR 8--the study of the privatization of foster care and adoption services. (EXHIBIT #3) She will provide a Committee "white paper" and provide a background report for the February meeting. Ms. Fox will also set a stakeholders meeting for sometime in October for the purposes of public input.

Sen. Grimes requested that thought be given to contracting out some of the research, particularly in the areas of privatization and how it affects the stakeholders involved (i.e., parents, foster-care parents, adoption agencies, and Department adoption personnel). He felt that this was an area where empirical research would pay off because the quality of the decision made by the Legislature will depend upon the quality of the information.

The Committee discussed forming a subcommittee to help Ms. Fox formulate the recommendations for the privatization of foster care but postponed the decision until more information was collected.

SJR 22

Gordy Higgins, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division, provided an overview of SJR 22--the study of health care and insurance costs. (EXHIBIT #4) He also provided a memorandum requesting three appointments from the CFHHS Committee to the SJR 22 Joint Subcommittee. (EXHIBIT #5)

Sen. Grimes questioned why the SJR 22 study resolution was assigned to the Economic Affairs Interim Committee when part of the Children and Families Interim Committee's charge is health care policy issues which is what SJR 22 is. He felt that the SJR 22 study resolution should be under the purview of the Children and Families Interim Committee.

Ms. Fox said that staff resources played a major role in the decision to put the SJR 22 study resolution under the purview of the Economic Affairs Interim Committee. In addition, the success or failure of much of the health care legislation in the 2001 Session indicated that it was the cost and economic issues that many legislators were more interested in rather than health care policy issues. When the Legislative Council assigned the SJR 22 study to the Economic

Affairs Committee because of resource availability, it also left the composition of the SJR 22 Subcommittee up to the Economic Affairs Committee, and the best compromise was having participation from the Children and Family's Committee on the SJR 22 Subcommittee.

Sen. Grimes said that health care is the largest industry in the state and he was concerned that the Legislature was not giving it their full attention. He requested that the Committee, the Legislative Council, and the Economic Affairs Committee give thought to a permanent interim committee that monitors Montana's health care policy issues and he requested that it be added to the SJR 22 Subcommittee interim agenda.

Rep. Lee asked if the SJR 22 Subcommittee was going to review how all of its tasks relate to Medicaid. Mr. Higgins said yes, adding that the first item on the Subcommittee's agenda is a primer on Medicaid and BlueCHIP to set the stage on how the programs work.

Rep. Schmidt suggested appointing five members from the Children and Families Committee to the SJR 22 Subcommittee.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW RESPONSIBILITIES

David Niss, Staff Attorney, Legislative Services Division, provided an overview of Administrative Rules and MAPA Requirements and The Need for the Montana Administrative Procedure Act and Legislative Oversight, Under MAPA, of Administrative Rulemaking. (EXHIBITS #6 and #7 respectively) Five options were provided in the proposed study plan on how involved the Committee wanted to be in its rule review responsibilities. Mr. Niss offered the Committee a sixth option--it could ask a representative of the Department to brief those rules that are of significant interest to the public to the Committee at every meeting.

Rep. Lee asked if the Secretary of States' Office could provide the Committee with the DPHHS rules electronically if possible. Mr. Niss was unsure whether the Secretary of State's Office had the capability of emailing rules to individual committee members but he would find out.

AGENCY MONITORING AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Gail Gray, Director, Department of Public Health and Human Services, provided an overview of the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) report and an organizational chart showing the various bureaus within the Department. (EXHIBITS #8 and #9 respectively) She said that she is in the process of hiring a deputy director who will be responsible for fiscal and programmatic audits, particularly those that cross Division lines within the Department and it was also approved to hire an internal auditor. Other activities within the Department are: (1)

establishing personal care facility rules, (2) working on Olmstead planning, and (3) working on intergovernmental transfers.

Dan Anderson, Administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD), provided a summary of the AMDD programs and program issues, a map of the proposed service area authority structure, and the Department's plan to control out-of-state placements of youth for mental health services. (EXHIBITS #10, #11, and #12 respectively)

Rep. Schmidt said that Sen. Franklin had a concern about who was monitoring SB 454 (creates a multi-agency children's services initiative for children with serious emotional disturbances). Ms. Steinbeck said that Sen. Franklin's question was who was monitoring what happens with the reductions made in children's services during the 2001 Session's appropriations process and if SB 454 was looking at the ramifications of those reductions. Mr. Anderson said that was not a part of the charge of SB 454. The Department has a small appropriation through HB 2 which is earmarked for services for non-Medicaid youth to try to avoid out-of-home placement. The Department views that appropriation as being funding to try to fill a small portion of the gaps created by limiting the enrollment and the services in the program. He added that it would be appropriate for the Committee to monitor the SB 454 process and measure the impacts of the reductions in service.

Ms. Fox asked if the Department has been tracking the youth who are no longer being served under the program and what other services they are receiving. Mr. Anderson said that he would provide the information to the Committee.

Jani McCall, MT Childrens' Initiative Provider Association, Billings, said that the Association is made up of 10 providers in Montana who make up the vast majority of children's service providers. It provides a full range of services from residential care to therapeutic group and foster care through case management in all community-based services. It is also closely involved with the Multi-agency Coordinating Council (Council) which is the work group developed under SB 454. The Council has received a \$45,000 planning grant through the Youth Justice Council for the purpose of moving SB 454 along. It will focus on high-end children as well as help guide some processes for long-term systemic change. She asked that the Association be a formal part of the Committee's future meeting presentations. She said that the Association was the major force in the development of SB 454 and it is working closely with the Department to implement the legislation.

Sen. Grimes asked about the fiscal constraints of the Department and the demands that the Legislature may have created on the Department staff. Ms. Gray said several fiscal constraints are shortage of staff, the inability to meet needs in the child and protective services area, and the shortage of senior staff. The Department has more and more new employees who stay less and less time. They are the people who are the least prepared to deal with the difficult issues. In the area of mental health, other problems are the number of patients at the Warm Springs State Hospital, the cost to provide services to them, and the inability to control either. Cash assistance under the FAIM programs is also increasing. Sen. Grimes said that when child protective services are scaled back so severely, children are left in dangerous situations, and more often than not, the decisionmaking is shifted to local law enforcement who have no training relative to child protective services. He asked if the Department could compile a report that determines the fallout as a result of the Legislature's cutbacks in child protective services. Ms. Gray said that child protective services is currently implementing centralized intake which will help make more consistent the Department's responses to concerns and allegations of child abuse and neglect. Sen. Grimes asked for an update at the next meeting.

Mike Hanshew, Administrator, Senior and Long-Term Care Division, DPHHS, provided information on the Division's history and mission that includes a map of the county-affiliated nursing homes, information on intergovernmental transfers, and impacts of the Olmstead decision as it relates to Montana's long-term care system. (EXHIBIT #13)

Sen. Grimes asked if strings were attached to intergovernmental transfers. Mr. Hanshew said no, adding that intergovernmental transfers allow the counties to discontinue subsidizing their local nursing homes. With the current environment that nursing homes are operating under, he believed that the additional funds will be used to backfill deficits or be used toward the increasing costs of staff.

Rep. Lee asked if intergovernmental transfers had any impact on county interest streams. Mr. Hanshew said that the transfers happen so quickly that it has very little to no impact on the counties' interest streams.

Rep. Schmidt asked if other states were using intergovernmental transfers. Mr. Hanshew said 13 other states have proposals underway. Montana was one of the first states to receive federal approval for intergovernmental transfers under the new rules.

Sen. Grimes asked about the percentage increase in the Medicare rates. Mr. Hanshew said there was a 4% rate increase for non-county nursing home facilities and 8% on average for

county facilities. Sen. Grimes asked if Montana was interpreting the Olmstead decision correctly. Mr. Hanshew said that the Olmstead decision is an indicator that the long-term care system is reconfiguring itself, but it does not state that there is no need for nursing homes or institutions for people with developmental disabilities. The Olmstead decision gives people the right to choose; and based on their choice and a professional assessment of their needs, there cannot be large numbers of people who are served in a facility where they do not want to be or need to be and use money as an excuse.

Rep. Lawson asked if the Montana Advocacy Program (MAP) had commented on the Olmstead decision planning process. Mr. Hanshew said that MAP participated in the funding process and the final draft of the plan which includes MAP's recommendations was sent to them.

Hank Hudson, Administrator, Human and Community Services Division, DPHHS, provided an update on FAIM II-R(revised) (EXHIBIT #14)

Rep. Lawson asked if the Department tracked the cars being sold to FAIM participants under HB 38. Mr. Hudson said that FAIM participants pay for the cars and the Department will know where they are until they are paid for. If participants stop working or violate the conditions of their family investment agreements, the Department has a plan in place for the return of the cars.

Rep. Lee was concerned about unnecessary intrusion and asked if the monitoring of families in the FAIM program was voluntary. Mr. Hudson said that once a family has completed with the FAIM program, all monitoring is on a volunteer basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Caferro, WEEL, stated the following:

- WEEL is an organization of low-income families and supporters who work to secure justice for people living in poverty.
- In preparation for the Legislative session, constituency groups researched best practices and welfare policy throughout the nation and came up with innovative ideas on how to use the TANF surplus and how to best move people out of poverty in a realistic way.
- WEEL played a significant role in the creation of FAIM II-R;
- WEEL is currently working on followup of its legislative work by monitoring the new FAIM II-R programs and the existing programs for fiscal responsibility, content, and how the programs are working for welfare participants.
- WEEL will continue to track the programs in the future and continue to participate in any capacity.
- To its credit, the Department has been soliciting the input of participants.

Bonnie Adee, Mental Health Ombudsman, Office of the Governor, stated the following:

- She could give the Committee updates on what is happening in terms of mental health and, specifically children's restrictions from mental health services, on a regular basis.
- Forty percent of all her office's contacts are in regard to access to mental health care and children represent 36% of those contacts.
- Her office also receives concerns about child and family service issues. Although it is not her mandate, she records the concerns and addresses any part of the concern that may have to do with mental health. For example, the experiences of children who have entered the criminal justice system and their inability or ability to access mental health care.
- One thing she did not observe in the AMDD's plan to reduce the out-of-state placements of children was the consideration of the quality of the in-state facilities. If the Department is going to reduce the use of out-of-state facilities, it should ensure and monitor the quality of in-state facilities.
- With regard to the Department's Olmstead decision planning, it needs to include those people who have cross disabilities. For example, if a child has both a developmental disability and a mental health disability and who may be served under either system, he or she may find it more difficult to access community services because the funding and services need to be blended to meet both disabilities.
- She hoped that the Olmstead decision processes are integrated so that individuals with more than one disability are fully recognized in the planning process.

Tony Plummer, Director, Cherish Your Indian Children, stated the following:

- She provides oversight to the 3-tribe consortium that was developed as a result of the 2001 Session.
- The consortium came together to respond jointly and in partnership with the Department to access the FAIM II-R funding and to review the impacts to tribally enrolled members both within the tribes that reside on the reservations and those who reside within bordering counties.
- The consortium will work closely with the Department in the area of reauthorization of welfare reform to begin to address long-term poverty impacts to tribal members and to review economic development.

Cindy McKenzie, Director of Treatment Services, Riverside Youth Correctional Facility (Riverside), stated the following:

- Riverside Youth Correctional Facility is the Department of Correction's secure care facility for adjudicated girls.
- In 1995, juvenile corrections was incorporated into the Department of Corrections.
- Since that time, it has been an education process to educate people who have always worked with adults on juvenile needs.
- When the Department's budget continues to be cut or if it is not increased, it impacts the juveniles to a great degree. This is true particularly in the last year.
- Riverside had to cut its funding for out-of-home placements and some services for children who do not qualify for Medicaid because of their diagnosis, such as mental health services.
- There is always a conflict over whether a child has a conduct disorder versus a mental health disorder or does the child have both.
- Because of the Department's funding cuts, it has become difficult to send their youth back into the community with the level of services that they need, particularly the girls.

- Nationally, girls in long-term secure care facilities have a history of between 50% to 70% of having been sexually abused. Many of them have not been treated so is their aggression, anger, and mistrust of authority a result of the prior abuse? Because they have not been provided the necessary services based upon their behaviors, they end up in the juvenile corrections system.
- The population of Riverside is 20, and in the last six months, it has been running with a waiting list. This costs the Department up to \$250 a day to keep the girls in detention centers after adjudication when they should be at Riverside.
- Riverside is supposed to be the end of the line for the hard-core, female juvenile felony offenders who are a danger to the community. Over the past six months, she has seen an increase in misdemeanor offense adjudications.
- In order to adjudicate to a secure-care facility with only misdemeanors on their record, they have to have a mental health certification that states that they need to be in a secure-care facility.
- One-half of all the female juvenile offenders at Riverside are girls with only misdemeanor offenses who have had community mental health professionals sign off on that need. She is unsure whether services in the community have been cut or if it is a consensus that the girls' behaviors are so out of control that those behaviors are more important than the mental health need.
- Offenders residing at Riverside are difficult and expensive female offenders who need the services provided at Riverside. On average, they spend seven months at Riverside, and even if they become stabilized in the facility, what services are available in the community from which they came so that they do not reoffend.
- The vast majority of the girls who are returned to Riverside fail because of school, inadequate support, and inadequate community placements. They do not commit new crimes.

Susan Witte, Blue Cross Blue Shield of MT (BCBSMT), stated the following:

- BCBSMT is in a public-private partnership with the DPHHS to provide children's health insurance (CHIP) coverage to Montana's uninsured children.
- The uninsured is the big topic that will be discussed by the SJR 22 Subcommittee.
- BCBSMT has been a good way to address Montana's uninsured population.
- BCBSMT currently serves 9,700 children and it has 2,000 providers in the network.
- She provided a provider map and a caring on-site enrollment map for the BlueCHIP program. (EXHIBITS #15 and #16 respectively)

Sara Lipscomb, Montana Children's Trust Fund, provided an overview of the Montana Children's Trust Fund and a Prevention Works Storybook-Drawbacks/Costs of Child Abuse and Neglect. (EXHIBITS #17 and #18 respectively)

Billie Miller, Program Manager, Family Outreach, provided an overview of the Lifespan Respite Program. (EXHIBIT #19)

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed and took action on the following:

- Approved to tentatively review the voluntary commitment legislation introduced by Sen. Waterman during the 2001 Session at a future meeting following further information and interest and to followup that interest with a letter to the HJR1 Subcommittee expressing the Committee's concern with the issue (Sen. Grimes will discuss the topic at the next HJR1 Subcommittee meeting before the official letter is sent).
- Sen. Grimes **moved** that Committee staff summarize the DPHHS's rules of significant interest or controversial rules in writing or email in intervals that Committee staff deems appropriate. Motion passed unanimously.
- Sen. Grimes **moved** that two House Republicans (Representatives B. Thomas and Lawson); two House Democrats (Representatives Schmidt and Lee); and one Senate Republican (Sen. O'Neil) be appointed to the SJR 22 Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.
- Rep. Lee **moved** that the Children and Families Interim Committee subsidize the two extra members appointed to the SJR 22 Subcommittee if the Economic Affairs Interim Committee objects to the extra appointments. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approved that Committee staff will prepare a proposed study plan for SJR 8--privatization of foster care and adoption services. It will be decided at the next Committee meeting whether to appoint a subcommittee to review the issue. Senators Grimes and Franklin and Representatives Lee and Schmidt will be Committee staff's liaisons to the Committee in the development of the study plan.
- Sen. Grimes **moved** the approval of the proposed Committee interim work plan. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Fox said that the Department of Corrections is currently creating a Juvenile Division that combines the Pine Hills Correctional Facility, the Riverside Youth Correctional Facility, juvenile parole officers, and juvenile placement funding. Steve Gibson, Current Administrator, Pine Hills will become the Division Administrator.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Fox provided an overview of the topics the Committee will be hearing at its next and subsequent meeting. Additions to the agenda items are as follows:

- Regular audit updates will be given on HJR 32 at every meeting.
- Regular updates will be given from the HJR 1 Subcommittee.
- An update will be given by Hank Hudson on TANF and how those funds are being spent.
- Sen. Grimes will informally work on the voluntary commitment issue.
- An update on the multiagency children's services initiative for children with serious emotional disturbances (SB 454); an update from Jani McCall of the MT Children's Initiative Provider Association; an update from Bonnie Adey, Mental Health Ombudsman; and a report from Cindy McKenzie, Riverside Youth Correctional Facility will be given under the listing of children's issues.
- A report from Toni Plummer of Cherish Your Indian Children regarding the 3-tribe consortium's access to FAIM II-R funding will be connected to the TANF update.
- An update on the Montana Advocacy Program lawsuit and its Olmstead planning.
- An update on juvenile issues as they relate to the mental health and foster care systems.
- The Committee will reevaluate how many presentations it wants to hear and from whom at the November meeting.

- Include a fiscal and audit report in Director Gray's updates.

Ms. Fox said that she would also provide more information on the Olmstead decision from the National Council of State Legislatures (NCSL) and on the Office of Civil Rights. The Committee may also want to attend the dental summit put on by the Dental Access Coalition.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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