

CWAC Racial Equity Meeting
Wednesday, July 24, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Dagene Brown, Shanquay (Yani) Schaeffer, Arthur Anderson, Cady Landa, Chandler Mattison-Farris, Mari Christopherson, Tanya McGhee, Sylvia Fonseca, Darnita Jackson, Amy Dralle, Jennifer Roland, Paula Truitt-Alohan, Shawnise Newton, Yeni Rojas, Beth Solomon, Lyman Legters, Lindia Holmes, LaTasha Roberson-Guifarro, Augitel Staff: Stevvaie Brown, Tracy Rohrdanz, Gabriela Palacios, Allie Wexler, and Jim Lindstrom.

Beth Soloman presented the history of Allegation 60 and ANCRA via PowerPoint:

- Main changes to Allegation 60:
 - Complete separation between Allegation 10 and Allegation 60
 - Addition of definition of blatant disregard
 - Requirement that child's environment creates a **likelihood of harm to the child's health, physical well-being, or welfare.**
 - Requirement that **likelihood of harm due to blatant disregard of parental or caretaker responsibilities**
- Focus of Investigations Involving Allegation 60:
 - Environment creates a likelihood of harm to the child's health, physical well-being, or welfare.
 - The likelihood of harm is result of blatant disregard of parental/caretaker responsibilities.
 - Parent/caretaker fails to exercise reasonable precautionary measures.
- Four Questions for Every Allegation 60 Case:
 1. What is the likelihood of harm to the child's health, physical well-being, or welfare?
 2. What is the likelihood of harm that is the result of blatant disregard of parent/caretaker responsibilities?
 3. Did the parent/caretaker fail to exercise reasonable precautionary measures? How?
 4. Is this an indicated or unfounded report? Why?

Following the Allegation 60 PowerPoint presentation, there was a Q&A segment which prompted inquiries regarding specific scenarios. Beth Solomon informed meeting attendees that Allegation 60 is fact-specific, and that allegations should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Yeni Rojas provided statistical data: From 2019 to 2024, 76.4% of cases referred to Intact Family Services are due to Allegation 60 pertaining to neglect (see image below for overall data).

Augitel representatives presented the Case Note Bias Analysis which displayed the prevalence of biased language use in notes for CWS referral, investigation, and ongoing cases:

- Biased terms used **more in CWS referrals and investigations**
- Some regions the use of biased language occurs **2+ times as often**
- Around a **20-25%** difference across racial/ethnic groups

Updates:

- Approved final draft for Bias-Free PSA

Next Steps:

- Determining if, and how, mandated reporters will be trained on Allegation 60

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 27, 2024 @ 10:00 AM.