Council Member Attendees: Dr. Pam Brown, Ted Dallas, Paul Dilorenzo, Dr. Scott Krugman via telephone, Dick Paulman, Claudia Remington, Melissa Rock, Joan Little via telephone, Vanita Taylor, Tracy Watkins-Tribbitt via telephone, Al Zachik

SSA Representatives: David Ayer, Steve Berry, Shanda Crowder, Rene King, Carnitra White, Audrey McLendon

Other attendees: Christa Linton, Maria Tillman

Welcome and Introductions
Ted Dallas welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ted introduced Rene King, the new SSA Director for Alternative Response. Rene implemented Alternative Response in Ohio and is a welcome member to the team. Carol Spigner reviewed the agenda for the meeting and asked that members think about how future meetings should be structured now that Alternative Response is in the Implementation Phase.

Minutes
The October minutes were approved with no changes.

Workgroup updates

Practice /Community Partners Workgroup
Phase I: Implementation since July 1, 2013. Staff report that implementation is smooth and give a favorable response to the approach to families using Alternative Response.

Phase II: Implementation occurred November 1st.

In the previous week, 40% of the cases in Phase I and II were placed on the Alternative Response (AR) track.

Phase III: Train the trainer training occurred

Phase IV: The Eastern Shore Kick Off meetings were held Oct. 23rd and 24th, with good participation from all jurisdictions.

Most jurisdictions implemented a blended unit for AR and Investigative (IR) cases. The work is evolving with Administrators learning to work and collaborate differently with community groups and to tap resources in a different way, for example, a church utilizing a van to assist people with transportation.

Casey Family Programs is assisting with a Learning Collaborative, including bringing staff from other states to discuss issues and implementation. Webinars and discussions
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will be implemented in the Learning Collaborative as well. Steve Berry and Diane Banchiere, Social Services Administration were recognized for their work during implementation.

**Evaluation Workgroup**
IAR met with Phase I staff. The Evaluators are seeing some slight differences in implementation between jurisdictions. 60 surveys were returned to the evaluators; which they felt was a good response.

**Policy Workgroup**
No report for this meeting.

**Communications**
Brochures were distributed in the jurisdictions implementing AR and good feedback was received regarding the brochures.

The SSA staff has participated in outreach for AR at various meetings and venues:
- MASSD meeting in September
- Cecil County newspaper article
- Washington Post clip
- Frederick County clip

**Additional**
In reviewing the information, the council noted that they would like to track progress and the emergence of the phases. Al Zachik wanted to ensure that DHMH continues to partner with DHR and provide resources.

The Council would like to be helpful as the implementation is phased in. Resource issues were noted as being critical for the success of AR. It was suggested that a future needed committee may be a Resource Committee to look at the needs of families and how they are met. Consider other partners as resources that may be outside child welfare, for example farmers markets.

**Wrap up / Next Steps**
- Send agenda items to Audrey McLendon at audrey.mclendon@maryland.gov and note resources that can be leveraged for families with stakeholders.
- Report on progress of IV-E Waiver; which may impact Alternative Response resources

**NEXT MEETING:** December 10, 2013, Conference call, 1-877-668-4493, participant code 23279306#