For Discussion at Child Welfare Council Meeting on 9.7.22

DRAFT
Operations Manual Amendment

Current Description of Steering Committee (Operations Manual, Version Approved December 2014, Appendix II Updated September 2016)

IV. Organizational Structure

Steering Committee
In December 2011, the Co-Chairs appointed a Steering Committee comprised of seven Council members to (1) work with Council staff to advise the Co-Chairs and members regarding issues and processes that should be addressed; (2) be involved in the development of Council meeting agendas; and (3) give input to the Operations Manual. Effective July 2015, the Steering Committee members will serve for two years, and the Co-Chairs will appoint new members. The Steering Committee will include representation from the array of public, private and consumer agencies that comprise the membership of the Council based on criteria approved by the Council prior to the effective date.

Proposed Amendment

IV. Organizational Structure

Steering Committee
The Steering Committee shall include one member from each of the Council’s committees and action teams. Members of the Steering Committee shall also be members of the Council. Each committee and action team shall select one of its members to serve on the Steering Committee, making every effort to ensure that members collectively represent the following sectors of the community: (1) Those with lived experience in the child welfare system, including minors, parents, and caregivers; (2) Judges and attorneys with past or current experience working with the child welfare system; (3) Service providers and program leaders with experience working with foster youth in multiple settings; (4) Other constituencies needing representation as identified by Steering Committee members. Co-Chairs of the Council may appoint additional Council members to the Steering Committee to ensure representation of these sectors of the community, but the Steering Committee shall be limited to a total of 10 members.
Members shall serve terms of three consecutive years, and terms shall have staggered start and end dates to preserve Steering Committee identity and knowledge transfer. Members must commit to active participation in the Steering Committee, including attendance at Steering Committee meetings. Excessive or prolonged absences from Steering Committee meetings may result in a request from Council Co-Chairs to resign from the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will: (1) work with Council staff to advise the Co-Chairs and members about issues and processes that should be addressed; (2) be involved in the development of Council meeting agendas; and (3) give input about the Operations Manual. To support the work of the Council as a whole, members of the Steering Committee should work with one another, Council members, and Council staff to identify and support goals that are shared by committees and action teams. Steering Committee members should work to ensure that committees and action teams coordinate efforts to produce meaningful and effective recommendations and input to the Council.