

## Our Mission

Our mission is to facilitate citizen participation and provide opportunities for citizens to partner with local child protection systems to ensure that these systems:

- Provide the best possible service;
- Prevent and protect children from abuse and neglect; and
- Meet the permanency needs of children.



## Contact Information

For more information on Pennsylvania's Citizen Review process, contact the CAPTA Coordinator at: [PACRP@pitt.edu](mailto:PACRP@pitt.edu)

Or visit the CRP website: <http://www.pacwrc.pitt.edu/CRP>

The Pennsylvania Child Welfare Resource Center  
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(717) 795-9048

In Partnership with:

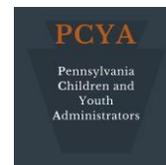
The Child Welfare Resource Center

Pennsylvania Department of Human Services  
Office of Children, Youth and Families

Pennsylvania Children & Youth Administrators



Pennsylvania Citizen Review Panels



## Citizen Review Panels: Southwest Region

*Enacting Positive Changes for the Safety, Permanency and Well-Being of Pennsylvania's Children*



## Who We Are

Citizen Review Panels (CRPs) are groups of citizen volunteers mandated through the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments of 1996 to:

- Evaluate child welfare agencies; and
- Make recommendations for improvement in child protection services (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1998).

Citizen Review Panels provide opportunities for members of the community to take an active role in protecting children from abuse by partnering with county agencies and the Office of Children, Youth and Families to identify resources and strategies to improve PA's child welfare system.

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children."

-Nelson Mandela

## Qualities We Value

- Concern and compassion for children and families;
- Ability to maintain confidentiality;
- Ability to work as a team;
- Sensitivity to cultural, ethnic, and economic diversity;
- Ability to be independent, nonjudgmental, and to listen to others' opinions; and
- The desire to partner with state and local agencies to identify resources and strategies to improve child welfare.



## What We Do

Each year, CRPs identify a focus area. Meetings occur at least quarterly, and consist of reviewing information and data, examining policies and procedures of state and local child welfare agencies and discussing recommendations for improvement of the system. Recommendations are submitted to the Department of Human Services each year.

## Regional Information:

- The following counties make up the Southwest CRP Region: Allegheny, Lawrence, Butler, Beaver, Washington, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Armstrong, Indiana, Somerset, Cambria, Jefferson, Clarion, Venango, and Mercer;
- If you are from one of these counties and interested in joining the panel, contact the CAPTA Coordinator or fill out an application on our website; and
- Applications will be accepted each year from April 1st through June 15th and orientation for new members will take place in August.