

Summary of Conference Call

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers
Subcommittee on Medical and Mental Health
April 19, 2016

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers (ACFRC), Subcommittee on Medical and Mental Health convened for its weekly meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, via teleconference from 1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. The purpose of the meeting was for the subcommittee to discuss its approach to the recommendation process and begin generating possible topics for the group to address.

Attendance:

Subcommittee Members Present for the Teleconference:

- Leslye Orloff
- Judith Dolins
- Dr. Andres J. Pumariega

*Dr. William Arroyo had a scheduling conflict and was unable to join the teleconference.

Others Present:

- John Amaya, Deputy Chief of Staff, ICE; Designated Federal Officer (DFO), ACFRC
- Andrea Washington, Special Assistant, ICE
- Maryam Ali, Special Assistant, ICE

Opening Remarks:

Subcommittee Chair Leslye Orloff conducted the roll call and thanked everyone for joining the teleconference. She acknowledged the absence of subcommittee member Dr. William Arroyo, who was unable to participate in the call due to a scheduling conflict.

General Meeting:

After opening the meeting, Chair Orloff reminded everyone that their unavailable dates for the last week of June and the month of July need to be sent to ICE staff as soon as possible to help with scheduling the next full Committee meeting with ICE Director Sarah R. Saldaña.

Chair Orloff then gave an update on how far along she was in the process of organizing and indexing the list of previously asked questions by the Committee. She said she had broken the topics down into more subtopics, and she was crosswalking the questions with the written material ICE had provided to date. She stated that she was expecting to send the document to the full Committee by Friday (April 22) evening.

Chair Orloff continued by informing subcommittee members that they are free to share with each other their personal notes taken during the tours of the family residential centers (FRCs). She said sharing notes would be helpful in giving members a richer database of information, given

that people captured different bits of information and might have had side conversations. She noted that it could also aid ICE in providing more information and/or correcting the record. Chair Orloff said she had an initial draft of her notes that she hoped to review and get out to the subcommittee in the next week. Vice Chair Judith Dolins stated that her notes were already written into a short report, and she agreed to email her finished notes to the rest of the group. The Vice Chair's notes will serve as a guideline for how other members should construct their notes for sharing.

Shifting the conversation to developing recommendations, Chair Orloff told the subcommittee that she and the other subcommittee Chairs have been discussing a framework for brainstorming recommendations based on the level of information available. From that discussion, the Chairs created a document that highlights three buckets:

1. There is enough information to make a strong recommendation;
2. There is partial information, and it is enough to make a recommendation; and
3. There is limited, no, or partial information that has been provided to date, but a recommendation can still be made based on members' expertise and knowledge of best practices.

Chair Orloff walked subcommittee members through an example of each of the buckets. Dr. Pumariega said he thought this was a reasonable approach, but stated that he is hopeful questions posed by Committee members that are still unanswered will eventually get a response rather than remaining unanswered. Chair Orloff said once the crosswalk of the original list of questions was completed, subcommittee members would have a clearer picture of what questions remain outstanding. The subcommittees will identify which of those questions should be given to ICE again, and ICE will either answer them or provide a legal reason for why the information cannot be shared. DFO Amaya concurred that this would be the process.

Subcommittee members moved on to discuss how they would undertake developing recommendations if they have to go forward with limited information or no information at all on a given issue. It was suggested that concerns about the levels of information or lack of information could be weaved into a recommendation produced by the subcommittee.

Chair Orloff then asked subcommittee members to brainstorm broad topics they could potentially focus on. Members proposed:

1. The supervision structure of medical staff and how high up it goes;
2. The adequacy of mental health screening and services;
3. How trauma-informed is the provision of services;
4. Bed checks and sleep deprivation;
5. Medical screening;
6. Vaccine measures and how to make records easily accessible outside of Texas;
7. Where are families referred to in their new communities;
8. Women's health (Pap smears, mammograms, STD screening);
9. The impact of detention on parenting; and
10. Having a culturally comfortable environment (language and culture impact)

Chair Orloff asked the group to continue thinking about potential topics to cover. She said the next meeting would focus on more substance with the goal of identifying the substantive issues members want to address. She added that members should be prepared for work assignments in early May.

Adjournment:

The subcommittee adjourned at 2:30 P.M.