

Vendors gearing up for 10th Annual National Child Welfare IT Managers' Meeting

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Registration is open for the **10th Annual National Child Welfare IT Managers' Meeting**, an event sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, (**HHS**) Administration for Children and Families (**ACF**), Children's Bureau. The event will take place May 23-26, 2011, and will be held at the **Waterview Conference Center** in Arlington, VA. The theme of this year's event is "Profiles in Progress: Applying the Results after a Decade of Collaboration," in which vendors, state leaders, and other health and human services stakeholders will discuss a variety of **topics** including:

- Improving accessibility and mobility through data warehouses and other technologies
- Innovative projects in child welfare and how to leverage technology to support business practices
- Business continuity planning and human services integration in view of state or local budget deficits and staff furloughs
- Innovative ways in exchanging data within and among systems
- Cloud computing, Software as a Service (SaaS) and Virtualization
- Transforming the delivery of health and human services with national standards

A handful of states are mirroring these topics of discussion and are involved in modernization efforts for antiquated child welfare information systems. The **Mississippi** Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services is performing an alternatives and analysis study to determine the feasibility of replacing its 2001, legacy Mississippi Automated Child Welfare Information System (MACWIS). The state's system supports financial transactions, caseworkers on cases, and tracks child welfare services from the intake report to adoption finalization. **California's** Department of Social Services is procuring for child welfare Web solution Services. The contract is expected to be worth approximately \$130 million and will enhance and support the effectiveness of the California's Child Welfare Services Program. The state envisions an interoperable solution that will allow CWS workers and public health professionals to manage the safety, well-being and mental health of a child.

The **Oklahoma** Department of Human Services (OKDHS) released a request for proposals (RFP) in December 2010 to implement an enterprise system that will integrate various information systems. Better known as the MOSAIC Project, OKDHS will be transitioning to an enterprise business process model with a supporting technology infrastructure. The contractor will also be able to demonstrate additional software solutions in areas including unemployment benefits, WIC, and mental health that compliment MOSAIC enterprise system. Proposals for the solicitation were due last month and are now under evaluation.

Kansas is another state that recently solicited for services related to their child welfare program. The Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA), a Medicaid agency responsible for administering the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and the State Employee Health Plan (SEHP), is in the process of reviewing proposals to create a new, integrated benefits and eligibility system. The system is expected to open new service channels for easier access to medical coverage applications and information, maximize investments, and improve workflow. The award is expected to be determined by the end of May 2011.

Furthermore, this year's Child Welfare IT Managers' Meeting will include a federal update session with a discussion of the National Information Exchange Model (**NIEM**), several panel discussions, and a vendor symposium hosted by the State Information Technology Consortium (**SITC**) and TechAmerica's Human Services IT Advisory Group (**HSITAG**), supporters of ACF. Presentations will be given by vendors including Accenture, Curam Software, Adobe, Unisys, Oracle, IBM, and Gartner. There will also be representatives from Wisconsin, Alabama, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, Washington, Minnesota, Georgia, California, Tennessee, Rhode Island, Utah and Oklahoma in attendance.

GovWin's Take

This year's conference is expected to cover an array of topics pertinent to child welfare IT and other technologies. The vendor symposium will be held on May 23, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. PST, and will be an excellent opportunity for vendors to network and share information on various IT solutions. For that, vendors can expect for this year's conference to draw attention back on child welfare and illuminate innovative

avenues for streamlining and improving business processes in both health and human services.

GovWin will be attending this year's event and providing a report to recap major topics of discussion. A summary from last year's Annual Child Welfare IT Managers' Meeting can be downloaded [here](#).

Be sure to follow GovWin's Health and Human Services Team at [@GovWin_HHS](#) for future announcements of upcoming events our analysts will be attending!