The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act After The CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010

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The CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320)

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CAPTA REAUTHORIZATION

- Signed into law on December 20, 2010.

- Reauthorized CAPTA, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Adoption Opportunities Program and the Abandoned Infants Assistance Act.

- CAPTA State grants, Children's Justice Act grants, CBCAP, CAPTA discretionary research and demonstration grants, the Adoption Opportunities program and the Abandoned Infants Assistance program were all reauthorized through FY 2015.

- Authorized funding levels for the programs remained the same.

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CAPTA REAUTHORIZATION -
Areas of New or Increased Focus

- Domestic Violence
- Differential Response
- Cross-agency Collaboration
- Children with Disabilities
- Homeless Children/McKinney Vento
  Homeless Assistance Act
- Inter-state and Intra-state
  Collaboration

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CAPTA Research & Demonstration Grants

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New Research Topics

- The Act adds new optional areas of research for HHS to conduct, including:
  - improving attachment of infants and toddlers that experienced abuse or neglect with parents when reunification is a goal
  - improving identification, screening, medical diagnosis, health evaluations and services, as well as activities that promote collaboration between CPS, the medical community, providers of early childhood intervention services and special education
  - effective collaborations between CPS and domestic violence service providers

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New Research Topics, Con’t

• The Act adds new optional areas of research for HHS to conduct, including:
  
  • the impact on child abuse and neglect on the incidence and progression of disabilities
  
  • effective practices relating to differential response programs, including best practices
  
  • child abuse and neglect issues facing Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians, including improving data collection
  
  • the extent to which reports of suspected or known instances of child abuse or neglect are screened out on the basis of cross-jurisdictional complications

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CAPTA STATE GRANTS

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CAPTA State Grants – WHAT HAS CHANGED?

- Grant Purposes
- State Plan Eligibility Requirements
- New Assurances
- New Data Reporting Requirements
- Allotment Formula

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CAPTA State Grants – Eligibility Requirements for Grants

- The Act removes the requirement that States prepare and submit a new plan every five years.

- Instead, each State must now submit a plan that will remain in effect for the duration of the State's participation in the grant program, with additional conditions.

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CAPTA State Grants – Eligibility Requirements for Grants

- These additional conditions are that the State must:
  - periodically review and revise the plan to reflect any changes in the State's strategies or programs under the grant program.
  - provide notice to CB of any substantive changes relating to the prevention of child abuse and neglect that may affect the State's eligibility for the grant program including statutory and regulatory changes.
  - continue to provide notice to CB of any significant changes in how the State is using grant funds which differ from those described in the State's current State plan.
  - continue to prepare and submit an annual report describing how the funds provided under CAPTA were used to address the purposes and achieve the objectives of the grant program.

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CAPTA State Grants – New Grant Purposes

- A focus on improving *intra-agency, interagency, interstate* and *intrastate* cooperation in investigations

- Enhancing the child protective system through the use of differential response

- Developing linkages among CPS agencies and public health, mental health, substance abuse, developmental disabilities and domestic violence service agencies

- Developing collaborations between CPS entities and domestic violence service entities

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CAPTA State Grants – State Plan Requirements

- The law added several plan requirements, including that States must:
  - enact a State law for mandatory reporting on child abuse and neglect by certain individuals required to report such instances
  - address the needs of infants born with and identified as being affected by a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

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CAPTA State Grants – State Plan Requirements

- The law added several plan requirements, including that States must:
  - assure that the State doesn’t require reunification of a child with a parent who has been found by a court to have committed sexual abuse against a child of the parent or who the court has required to be registered in a sex offender registry under federal law
  - require criminal background checks that meet the criminal background check requirements under title IV-E for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adult relatives and non-relatives residing in the household
  - put into place technology systems that support the child protective service system and track reports of child abuse and neglect from intake through final disposition

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CAPTA State Grants – State Plan Requirements

- The law added several plan requirements, including that States must:
  - include **differential response in triage procedures** for the appropriate referral of a child not at risk of imminent harm to a community organization or voluntary preventive service
  - train guardians ad litem appointed to victims of child abuse or neglect in **early childhood, child, and adolescent development**

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CAPTA State Grants – State Plan Requirements

- The State Plan must now include a description of policies and procedures:
  - encouraging the **appropriate involvement of families in decision-making** pertaining to children who experienced child abuse or neglect
  - promoting and enhancing **collaboration among child protective services, domestic violence, substance abuse, and other agencies** in investigations, interventions and service delivery to children and families affected by child abuse or neglect (including children exposed to domestic violence)
  - regarding the **use of differential response**, as applicable

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CAPTA State Grants – State Plan Requirements

- States must assure that:
  - programs and training funded under title I of CAPTA address the needs of unaccompanied homeless youth (a youth not living in the physical custody of his/her parent or guardian who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including youth awaiting foster care placement) and meet the requirements of federal law concerning homeless youth
  - the State has collaborated with community-based prevention agencies and families affected by child abuse or neglect in developing the State plan

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CAPTA State Grants – Annual State Data Reports

The law requires States to annually report additional data, to the extent practicable, including:

- the number of families that received differential response as a preventative service during the year

- the number of children referred to child protective services under policies and procedures established to address the needs of infants born with and affected by illegal substance abuse, withdrawal symptoms or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

- the number of children under age three involved in a substantiated case of child abuse or neglect that due to a disability were eligible to be referred to agencies providing early intervention services under federal law and the number of these children actually referred to these early intervention services

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The law requires States to annually report additional data to the extent practicable, including:

- information on the **caseload requirements for child protective service personnel**, including requirements for the average number and the maximum number of cases per worker and supervisor

- the **average caseload** for child protective services workers responsible for intake, screening, assessment, and investigation of reports

- information on the **education, qualifications and training requirements** established by the State for child protective service personnel, data on the education, qualifications and training of personnel, and demographic information on personnel

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CAPTA State Grants – New Allotment Formula

The legislation included an allotment formula for State grants.

- The method is the same as how funds are currently allocated, but this is the first time the method has been put in law
- States and territories will receive a minimum base amount of $50K, then an additional amount of any remaining funds based on a formula
- This formula is based on the number of children under age 18 in the State
- If CAPTA appropriations increase, the minimum base amount will increase
- No State or territory will receive less than they received in FY 2009

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CAPTA – NEW STUDIES AND REPORTS

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CAPTA – New Studies and Reports

The law requires HHS to undertake several new reports and studies including:

- a study to identify and determine the feasibility of collecting data from States regarding incidence rates and characteristics of perpetrators and victims of *shaken baby syndrome*

- a study and report to Congress on how State and local laws and regulations that provide *immunity from prosecution* facilitate and inhibit individuals cooperating, consulting, or assisting in making reports of suspected or known instances of child abuse or neglect

- a report to Congress on the *effectiveness of citizen review panels*.

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COMMUNITY–BASED CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM (CBCAP)

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CBCAP–WHAT HAS CHANGED?

- General Grant Purposes
- Local Program Requirements
- Application Requirements
- New Performance Measure Reporting Requirements

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CBCAP - New Purposes

The Act adds several new purposes for CBCAP grants, including:

- developing a continuum of prevention services for unaccompanied homeless youth through CBCAP grants

- involving parents in the planning, implementation, planning and improvement of community-based child abuse prevention programs funded under CBCAP grants that build on the strengths of families

- substance abuse treatment services and domestic violence services are now included in the types of prevention services addressing an unmet need that may be funded under CBCAP grants

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CBCAP - Application Requirements

The Act adds new requirements to CBCAP applications:

- the applicant must describe the State’s capacity to ensure meaningful involvement of parents who are consumers, family advocates and adult former victims of child abuse or neglect in the planning, development and evaluation of the applicant’s programs

- The applicant must include a description of the outreach activities that prevention programs will undertake to maximize the participation of unaccompanied homeless youth in the prevention programs

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CBCAP – Local Program Requirements

The Act amends and adds to the allowable uses of grants under the local program requirements, including:

- Development of a comprehensive strategy to provide services to parents who are adult former victims of domestic violence or child abuse or neglect

- Providing for core child abuse and neglect prevention services, to now include respite care services and outreach and follow-up services (this may include voluntary home visiting services)

- Providing referrals to services and supports to parents with disabilities

- Providing domestic violence service programs for children and their non-abusing caregivers

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The law adds requirements for State reporting, including:

- whether services provided to families are supported by research

- a description of either the results of evaluations or the outcomes of monitoring conducted to demonstrate the effectiveness of activities under the grant

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RESOURCES

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CAPTA Reauthorization

RESOURCES

- **ACYF-CB-PI-11-06**: Provides guidance to States, on actions required to receive their allotments for 2012 authorized under title IV-B, subparts 1 and 2, section 106 of CAPTA, CFCIP and ETV programs, including updated information on CAPTA State plan requirements.

- **ACYF-CB-PI-11-05**: Provides guidance on the updated requirements and application instructions for CBCAP grant awards for FY2011.

- **ACYF-CB-IM-11-02**: Provides basic information on the enactment of the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010 and the resulting changes in the CAPTA State grants.

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CAPTA Reauthorization
RESOURCES

- CB Website

- Regional Offices
  - Children's Bureau Regional Program Manager Contact Information

- Questions about this presentation?
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