



**State of Florida
Department of Children and Families**

*Charlie Crist
Governor*

Robert Butterworth
Secretary

DATE: August 14, 2008

TO: Robert A. Butterworth
Secretary

FROM: Sheryl G. Steckler *MS*
Inspector General

SUBJECT: Six-Month Status Report for Auditor General Report No. 2008-072

In accordance with Section 20.055(5)(g), Florida Statutes, enclosed is our six-month status report on Auditor General Report No. 2008-072, *"Department of Children and Family Services – Community-Based Care Pilot Program – Fiscal and Administrative Monitoring, Operational Audit."*

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Enclosure

cc: Terry Shoffstall, Staff Director, Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

SIX-MONTH STATUS REPORT: AUDITOR GENERAL REPORT #2008-072

*"Department of Children and Family Services
Community-Based Care Pilot Program-
Fiscal and Administrative Monitoring
Operational Audit"*



Sheryl G. Steckler, Inspector General
Jerry Chesnutt, Director of Auditing

Enhancing Public Trust in Government

Report #E-14-0809-016

August 14, 2008

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a written response to the Secretary on the status of corrective actions taken six months after the Auditor General published Report No. 2008-072, *Department of Children and Family Services – Community-Based Care Pilot Program – Fiscal and Administrative Monitoring, Operational Audit.*

completed a review of all service tasks at least once, the Department now has information available which would allow a consideration of risk and the adjustment of the frequency and scope of service tasks to address problem areas more frequently and thoroughly and areas that have the lowest risk less frequently.

Status (per Administrative Services staff): Ongoing

REPORT FINDINGS, COMMENTS & STATUS

The Department was responsible for providing updated status and corrective action comments for findings one and two. This report includes the full text of the Auditor General's recommendations and Administrative Services' staff updated status and comments.

A contract amendment is being negotiated to allow for a more risk-based perspective on monitoring tasks. The provider is readdressing areas of concern identified from the July 2008 site visit.

RECOMMENDATION NO.1: *...the initial selection of contractor was exempted from the competitive processes. We recommend that the processes used to select any future contractor employ competition. The use of competitive procurement processes will provide additional assurance that the contract is awarded to the most qualified provider at an economical price.*

Status (per Administrative Services staff): Ongoing

Chapter 2006-30, Laws of Florida, expires on June 30, 2009. The department will determine the next steps associated with the future procurement of services for fiscal and administrative monitoring based on the guidance from the Legislature during the 2009 session.

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2: *While we found that the monitoring services provided were consistent with contractual requirements, the efficiency and effectiveness of the monitoring services provided for the pilot lead agencies would be improved by amending the monitoring plan to address service tasks on a schedule and scope that is risk-based. Currently, the service tasks listed in the Abel & Associates contract must be addressed as outlined in the monitoring plan, and generally, all service tasks are to be addressed annually. Since Abel & Associates has*

This follow-up audit was conducted as required by Florida Statute 20.055(3)(g) and section 2500.A1 of the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing as published by the Institute of Internal Auditors. Elton Jones compiled this follow-up audit from representations provided by program management. Please address inquiries regarding this report to Jerry Chesnutt, Director of Auditing, at (850) 488-8722.

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