



National Forum for Background Checks

AHFSA Annual Conference
Background Screening Interest Track
September 23-26, 2018

Welcome and New State Introductions

SESSION LEADER: James Joslin

PRESENTERS: Liz Raistrick, CNA; Fernando Castro, ID; Molly Chew, MS; Laurie Arkens - WI



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- ▶ Objective: This session will provide information and updates to the Forum and National Background Check Program, as well as, introduce three States just awarded the NBCP.



WELCOME TO AHFSA

- ▶ WELCOME
 - ▶ Forum News – James Joslin
 - ▶ NBCP News – Elizabeth Raistrick

- ▶ Introduction of New States
 - ▶ Idaho
 - ▶ Mississippi
 - ▶ Wisconsin



WELCOME Idaho

Fernando Castro – Program Supervisor
ID Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

Current Program Highlights:

- ▶ Started on 2003 with LTC facilities employees pilot
- ▶ Currently processing background checks for over 40 types of providers:
 - ▶ Behavioral Health Services
 - ▶ Medicaid Services/DME suppliers/Managed Care
 - ▶ Children Daycare
 - ▶ Adoption/Foster Care
 - ▶ EMS/First Responders
 - ▶ Court Appointed Guardians/Conservators for incapacitated adults



WELCOME Idaho

Idaho Current Program Highlights:

- ▶ We collect and submit our own fingerprints
 - ▶ Over 28,000 background checks completed annually
 - ▶ Live Scan technology in use
 - ▶ Fingerprint cards that are mailed to us are scanned as well
 - ▶ We have 10 fingerprint submitters throughout the State
 - ▶ VPN between Idaho State Police and us for fingerprint transmission

- ▶ Developed and deployed our own web based system
 - ▶ Applicant driven
 - ▶ Employers/providers access their employees through the system
 - ▶ Maintained in house



WELCOME Idaho

Idaho Current Program Highlights:

- ▶ Staff
 - ▶ 1 Supervisor
 - ▶ 16 staff
- ▶ Operating budget SFY2019
 - ▶ \$1.9 M
 - ▶ Applicant is responsible to pay for the cost of the background check



WELCOME Idaho

Idaho Grant Goals:

- ▶ To replace / upgrade our entire fingerprint collection system/infrastructure
 - ▶ Current equipment reaching end of service life
 - ▶ Encryption of CHRI to meet CJIS standards
- ▶ To improve the customer experience with our website by enhancing its functionality/utility
 - ▶ Customers complain about the available interface
 - ▶ Keep pace with current technologies/web browsers
 - ▶ Mobile version



WELCOME Idaho

Additional Idaho Information, Goals and Achievements:

- ▶ Started to process Child Care Development Block Grant of 2014 background checks on 12/4/2017
 - ▶ We have two clearances
 - ▶ Enhanced
 - ▶ Standard
- ▶ Respond to other States inquiries into Idaho's Central Child Protection Registry
 - ▶ Approximately 4,000/year



WELCOME Mississippi

Molly Chew – Bureau Director II, Criminal History Record Check Unit
MS State Department of Health

HISTORY

- ▶ The Mississippi Legislature charged the MS State Department of Health as the surveying agency with performing background checks in the Mississippi Code of 1972 (§43-11-13, §43-8-20).
- ▶ Applicants for jobs in child care facilities came first in January of 2003.
- ▶ Healthcare applicants followed close behind in August of 2003.
- ▶ Since 2003, MSDH has done approximately 556,000 healthcare background checks and 126,000 child care background checks.



WELCOME Mississippi

CHALLENGES

- ▶ Mississippi is a very rural State with a population of close to three million.
- ▶ Quality fingerprints can be difficult to obtain.
- ▶ Many facilities lack technological resources.
- ▶ Jobs are often difficult to come by so the same applicant may apply at numerous facilities creating a great deal of background check duplication.
- ▶ Cooperation between State agencies can be tenuous.



WELCOME Mississippi

NBCP to the RESCUE

- ▶ Ernie Baumann began calling in 2013 and he continued to call.
- ▶ Work began in earnest in 2017.
- ▶ Ernie and CaraLee Starnes provided invaluable assistance in helping us complete the grant process.
- ▶ On June 4, 2018 our State was awarded the NBCP grant.
- ▶ Now the work begins as we will update and add to our current system to improve it for our agency, our providers, and our State.



WELCOME Mississippi

FUTURE PLANS

- ▶ Work to get legislation passed to include language for print retention and ultimately rap back.
- ▶ Upgrades to MDPS AFIS system and MSDH program.
- ▶ Include Nurse Aid Registry (MS and other States), other registries, and LEIE as part of the background check.
- ▶ Provide Livescans stations in 20 health departments located throughout our State to improve the quality of fingerprints for our background checks.
- ▶ Implement rap back program.



WELCOME Mississippi

FUTURE PLANS cont.

- ▶ With rap back eliminating the “need” for rescreening every two years, move toward a process that would allow providers to access screenings completed by other MSDH licensed healthcare providers to further reduce duplicative records. This process will require legislative authority and upgrades to current system.
- ▶ Assemble an advisory group made up of health care providers, the ombudsmen, and other advocacy groups to assist in the development of these plans as they will provide invaluable information and viewpoints.



WELCOME Wisconsin

Laurie Arkens – Director, Office of Caregiver Quality
WI Department of Health Services

▶ **WI Caregiver Law**

- ▶ Recognized model across the nation
- ▶ Covers health care entities regulated by DHS/DQ
- ▶ Background Checks
- ▶ Investigating and Reporting Requirements
- ▶ Caregiver Misconduct Registry



WELCOME Wisconsin

- ▶ Background Check Process
 - ▶ Name based check

 - ▶ DQA conducts at time of licensure for regulated entities
 - ▶ Every 4 years thereafter

 - ▶ Regulated entities conduct on employees/contractors at time of hire
 - ▶ Every 4 years thereafter



WELCOME Wisconsin

- ▶ Goals of NBCP
 - ▶ Eliminate manual processes
 - ▶ Obtain out of State conviction information on entities/employees
 - ▶ Gather background check results (“hits”) and entity employment decisions
 - ▶ Implement a Rap Back System
 - Elimination of unnecessary checks



WELCOME Wisconsin

Areas to gain experience from other States

- ▶ Ideas for proposal of Legislation to allow for retention of fingerprints.
- ▶ Ideas for implementation of Rap Back.



ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – What is happening in your State?

