



# National Forum for Background Checks

AHFSA Annual Conference  
Background Screening Interest Track  
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## **Multi-Agency Sharing for State Background Screening Programs**

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# Multi-Agency Sharing

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- ▶ Florida Clearinghouse - Taylor Haddock
- ▶ Georgia High-Risk Providers - David Ostrander
- ▶ Kansas System Share with Child Care – Brenda Dreher
- ▶ Alaska Approach for Obtaining Fingerprints from Rural Areas – Tracy Marshall



# Florida Clearinghouse

## ▶ Creation of the Clearinghouse

- ▶ Media exposé
- ▶ Clearinghouse mandated by Governor's Office in 2012
- ▶ Interagency work group formed and made recommendations
- ▶ Goal is to consolidate seven State agencies to reduce duplicative screenings

## ▶ Challenges and Issues

- ▶ Differing business processes
- ▶ No common list of disqualifying offenses
- ▶ Needed a broad legal authorization for FBI and State fingerprints
- ▶ Needed substantial screening system enhancements

## ▶ Solutions

- ▶ Grantee agency manages clearinghouse and automated system
- ▶ All screenings maintained in one system
- ▶ Processing and viewing of screenings determined by agency interest

# Florida Care Provider Background Screening Clearinghouse



Total savings of approximately **\$24 million** to health and human services providers

Rap Back notifications received on **70,356** individuals screened in the system.  
**31%** were then determined Not Eligible for employment based on the arrest.

**2.1 million** screenings have been processed through the Clearinghouse since January 1, 2013

## SEVEN AGENCIES-ONE SYSTEM



# Florida Clearinghouse

## ▶ Benefits

- ▶ Agency review of individuals previously screened by another agency:
  - ▶ No-cost request saves time and money for the individual and provider
  - ▶ Eliminates cost/time of duplicate screening for individuals screened for multiple purposes
- ▶ Retention of fingerprints and rap back notifications
  - ▶ All current employers in any agency notified within minutes
  - ▶ Retention of fingerprints at State minimizes cost, even with 90-day lapse
  - ▶ Only required to pay for a new Federal check (currently \$12.00)
  - ▶ Ability to renew without having to be re-fingerprinted
- ▶ Includes a photo of applicant at time of screening
  - ▶ Employer can verify identity of applicant matches person fingerprinted
- ▶ Provides a copy of Florida public rap sheet and arrest notification



# Florida Clearinghouse

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## ▶ Next steps

- ▶ First set of renewals January 2018
- ▶ Implement the national retained print arrest notification program
- ▶ Access for individuals to initiate and renew screenings
- ▶ Connect with State clerks of court system to receive current disposition information.

## ▶ Lessons Learned

- ▶ Establish a long term plan for support, maintenance and costs
- ▶ Establish a process for system enhancements/updates
  - ▶ Prioritization and agreement amongst agencies



# Georgia High Risk Providers

## ▶ Georgia Medicaid

- ▶ In addition to conducting background checks for LTC facilities, the GA Department of Community Health is also the Medicaid agency
- ▶ New CMS regulations require fingerprinting of “high risk” providers

## ▶ What We Did

- ▶ Received approval from CMS, including 90/10 funding, to modify the existing background check system to conduct screenings of Medicaid high risk providers.

## ▶ Other Improvements

- ▶ Received approval from CMS to use the Medicare Exclusions Database (MED) as part of the LTC background check screenings which will search by Social Security number instead of an applicant’s name – quicker and efficient.

# Two Agencies - One System



# KanCheck

National Background Check Program

## Kansas

Department for Aging  
and Disability Services

## Kansas

Department of Health  
and Environment

Osawatomic  
Larned  
Parsons  
Kansas Neurological Institute

**Adult Care  
Homes**

**Home- and  
Community-  
Based Services**

**State Hospital  
Employee  
Background Check**

**Childcare  
Licensing**





# Kansas BGS System Share with Child Care

## ▶ How it all started

- ▶ KDADS awarded the NBCP Grant
- ▶ Child Care Block Grant changes

## ▶ Collaboration

- ▶ Who needs to be at the table
- ▶ What is the same / What is different
- ▶ How do we make it work
  - ▶ Different disqualifiers
  - ▶ Partitioning information
  - ▶ User Acceptance Testing
  - ▶ Who pays to host/support/maintain?

## ▶ Expected Benefits

- ▶ Cost Savings
  - ▶ Maintaining one system versus two
  - ▶ Requires only one access point for KBI
- ▶ Guiding the Future
  - ▶ Reducing duplicative screening?



# Alaska Fingerprints from Rural Areas

- ▶ **The Issues**
  - ▶ Limited Resources
  - ▶ Vast Area and Transportation Barriers
  - ▶ Extreme Weather
- ▶ **Solutions**
  - ▶ Electronic Fingerprinting
  - ▶ Using State and Local Resources
    - ▶ Office of Children Services
    - ▶ Village Police
    - ▶ Providers
  - ▶ Training
- ▶ **Successes and Realities**
  - ▶ Reduced Response Time
  - ▶ Things you cannot control



# Multi-Agency Sharing

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QUESTIONS?