

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUSTICE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN

February 5, 2015 – 2:00pm.
Chief State's Attorney Office, Rocky Hill, CT

Present: S. Sedensky, K. Clark, H. Bey-Coon, L. Cordes, K. Diaz, C. Diemar, B. Pellissier, C. Signorelli

Guests: Y. Young

Agenda Item	Discussion (<i>brief summary</i>)	Action (<i>and by whom</i>)
Meeting called to order	Meeting called to order at 2:09PM	
Welcome		
Approval of Minutes:	Approval of November 2014 minutes.	There was a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed. M/S/P Bey-Coon/Cordes
Budget	Village budget was discussed. The overall CJA budget will be approved at the March 2015 GTFJAC meeting.	Still need to see the DCF CJA Budget and the CAPTA budget that covers the teams. Steve will contact Tammy regarding this.
Committee Reports:		
Executive Committee	<p>Federal Human Trafficking Grant - Connecticut was granted one of 9 federal grants. Looking to align it with the MDT process.</p> <p>HART Coordinator - Yvette Young is the new HART coordinator and is housed at the Village.</p> <p>DMST Committee- The committee has met twice. November 2014 and January 2015. There have been several sub-committee. Protocols to align with MDT process, Communication among professionals, Training, Credentialing and Forensic Interviewing.</p> <p>There were questions regarding the current state laws and how many children are currently being prosecuted for these crimes or crimes that they committed as a direct result of their risk behavior.</p> <p>Forensic Interviews - These are much different cases and there is a committee that is working on developing a specific protocol.</p>	
Finding Words Committee:	October Course -- The April course is the 6-10th.	
MDT Evaluation Committee:	<u>4. All Team Survey</u> We are gathering information regarding how Connecticut's MDTs Teams function through various means, one being a biennial All Team Survey .	

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	<p>The survey will give insight on Team preparation, participation, meeting management, leadership and communication. Results will be tabulated and shared per Team and statewide (without Team names). Results from the 2015 survey will be compared to the 2013 survey results as well. Information can be used for Best Practices and improved team functioning.</p>	
<p>Training Committee:</p>	<p>To date there have been two requests that have been approved.</p> <p>Minimal Facts- There is a request for funding. The Minimal Facts Advisory Board is requesting funding from the GTF as follows: Each First Responder training offers a laminated palm card, First Responder's Guide to Child Sexual and Serious Physical Abuse, to all that attend to use as a reference while in the field. We have depleted our supply and request funding in the amount of \$2000 to replenish this important training tool. As we update our curriculum to provide the most current information regarding these types of cases we will be supplying our certified trainers with the curriculum and additional forms and information on flash drives. We also request funding for the purpose of providing these flash drives in the amount of \$1000. The total funding request from the Minimal Facts Advisory Board is \$3000.</p> <p><u>NCAtrak</u>- NCA's Board of Directors is reviewing the complaints regarding NCAtrak and the lack of a statewide interface from 9 states. The board is due to have an answer for all 9 states by February 20th. If we do not have an answer that fits our needs, we will change data systems.</p>	<p>Krystal will send a listing of other states who have issues with NCAtrak. Information will be sent to the AAG's office.</p>
<p>Membership Committee:</p>	<p>Member Vacancies – Vacancies remain. Parent representative has been approached and invited to the September meeting to further understand the commitment. Law Enforcement still continues to be an area to be filled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Police, Chief of Police Representative, Parent Representative • SDE will get a new commissioner <p>GTF Retreat Work Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victim Services and Advocacy Group –New Chair Needed. • Forensic Group – Committee Update – The brochure was translated into Spanish. There may be a budget request to print these. • MDT/CAC Group – Committee Update – Investigations involving MDT's & FBI 	<p>Krystal contacted the CCA's liaison at NRCAC who is ready to join GTFJAC.</p> <p>There is a trooper in Southern Connecticut that Caroline Diemar will approach.</p>
<p>CCA Update:</p>	<p><u>Hartford Coordinator</u>- A new coordinator for the Hartford Team has been hired and started training this week. Her name is Erica Mello and</p>	

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	<p>she is a former SACS Child Advocate. She will train with the interim Harford Coordinator, Valecia Williams, and me for the next couple of weeks. As part of the new Coordinator Orientation Program, we are working to identify another coordinator who will serve as her mentor for the next year.</p> <p><u>NRCAC MDT Academy-</u> The Northeast Regional Child Advocacy Center is hosting a team training June 23rd-26th, location TBD. The Multidisciplinary Team Academy is a three and a half day training designed to facilitate team development, enhance team skills and team relationships. NRCAC will be reimbursing travel and lodging expenses for all Team Members to participate in this team building experience. All teams are encouraged to apply but we have identified a few teams that would really benefit and have been working with them to ensure their attendance.</p> <p><u>Statewide Conference/Training-</u> CCA is working with NRCAC to hold a statewide training/conference that will address concerns from various disciplines that have been identified over the past 6 months. We are in the very early stages of planning and will update the GTF with more details soon.</p> <p><u>CCA Subcommittee Updates:</u></p> <p><u>Protocol Subcommittee-</u> A group of coordinators is working on standardizing some of the language in the MDT protocols across the state. During many discussions, coordinators have realized that due to some of the difference in their protocols it is difficult to address things on a statewide level. Additionally, we want to ensure that children across the state have access to the same services. We are keeping in mind the differences from region to region and realize that some things will remain difference from team to team.</p> <p><u>NCAtrak Definitions Subcommittee-</u> A group has formed to standardize the definitions of each field within NCAtrak to ensure all teams are entering the data the same way. It has become clear that all teams are not interpreting the data collection questions the same, making it difficult to collect statewide data. This group has met once already and is meeting next Tuesday to finalize the definitions. These definitions can also be carried over to another data system given that much of the same information will still be collected.</p>	
GTF Coordinator Update:	CJA Three Year Assessment and CJA Application will be due in May 2015. The request for submissions has been sent to GTFJAC.	
Old Business:		
New Business:	Law- Representatives for the Stamford area that have raised a bill on school reporting of sexual abuse cases. School persons should have in person mandated reporting training. Rep. Tongs has raised this. The representatives have not been fully aware of the MDTs and this issue	

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	<p>has provided awareness.</p> <p>March Agenda items - Minimal Fact budget request. CCA Statewide Training, CJA Budget approval, Legislative Update</p> <p>Abusive Head Trauma training - They will replicate the training that was produced by CCA and GTFJAC in the Tolland area. Beth Leaming is heading this effort.</p> <p>April Agenda- CJA and Three Year Assessment Submissions.</p>	
Announcements:	Theresa Montelli has been discharged from the hospital and is home recuperating.	There was a motion to adjourn which was moved and properly seconded. The motion. Signorelli/Cordes MSP

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen M. Clark
GTFJAC Coordinator