

# GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUSTICE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN

May 8, 2019 – 1:30 PM.  
Connecticut Children’s Alliance, 75 Charter Oak Ave, Hartford, CT

Present: K. Lawlor, K. Rich, T. Sneed, H. Bey-Coon, M. Doherty, K. Butler-Kurth, K. Clark, B. Hamilton, S. Hamilton, T. Hunt, A. Johnson, B. Leaming, N. Nesbitt. M. Manning, L. Messner, N. Pierre, P. Schaeffer, S. Schleif, F. Vos Winkel, Y. Young, S. Zanker-Rivera

**Guests:** K. Cabral, J. Garow( for C. Cunningham)

Agenda Item	Discussion ( <i>brief summary</i> )	Action ( <i>and by whom</i> )
Meeting called to order		The meeting was called to order at 1:38 PM
Approval of Minutes:	Approval of March 2019 minutes.	There was a motion to approve the March 2019 minutes. <b>The motion passed. K. Rich/Bey-Coon M/S/P</b>
<b>Budget</b>	DCF – Discussed the content of the DCF Budget by line item. Village – Discussed the content of the Village Budget by line item including the unexpended funds line item. Discussed what goes into each budget.	
<b>CFSP</b>	<p>Ken Cabral from DCF. The Child and Family Services Plan(CFSP) is completed every 5 years and is due on June 30, 2019. Family First Prevention Service ACT is looking at Child Welfare System vs Child Welfare Agency. The date for implementation for Family First Prevention date is October 2019. There are many states that have had an extension. The task is to develop how Connecticut will move in that direction and prevention?</p> <p>What is submitted and the acronyms:            Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP)            Annual Progress and Services Report(APSR)            Child and Family Services Review(CFSR)            Program Improvement Plan(PIP)</p> <p>The desire is to submit this as a state plan vs an agency plan created by DCF only. The commissioners from several state agencies have committed and signed on to develop the statewide plan. There will be stakeholder meetings to discuss the Vision and Strategic Goals of the CFSP.</p> <p>The last Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) showed areas for improvement and a Program Improvement Plan(PIP) was developed and recently accepted in February 2019. This PIP needs to be completed by 2023. There are key areas around safety and assessment where Connecticut needed improvement which was included in the PIP.</p> <p>The first meeting is on May 30, 2019. There will include electronic work outside of the meeting and follow up meetings by June 30, 2019.            Krystal will seek an MDT Coordinator to participate, Margaret Doherty volunteered to serve and Tammy will participate.</p>	The first meeting of stakeholders in the CFSP process is May 30, 2019.

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<p><b>GTF Coordinator Update:</b></p>	<p>The annual CJA meeting occurred in April 2019 along with a national conference directly after the meeting in Washington, DC. Review of CJA Budget and Priorities that were developed in the March 2019 meeting. Legislative Issues can be sent out to the GTF so the group is aware of bills related to children.</p> <p>CJA Priorities I. Legislation -- Engage in key community partners and add legislative agenda update during the session. Kristen can receive legislative priorities from GTF partner agencies, compile and send out a weekly blast.</p>	<p>There was a motion to approve the 2019-2020 CJA Priorities. <b>The motion passed. N. Nesbitt/K. Lawlor M/S/P</b></p>
<p><b>CCA Update</b></p>	<p>CCA went over the statewide data collected from the NCAttrak data system. There was a discussion regarding how the information is collected to generate this report. The data points were discussed (variables used and redefining those that are ambiguous). The incidences of neglect have increased in the past year.</p> <p>There was a question around the number of children that are reported to the DCF Careline in certain categories (sexual abuse or human trafficking) and the number of children that are seen by the teams. At this time, it is about a third of the cases are going to the team. Additionally, it is difficult to categorize severe physical abuse, as there is no concrete definition for severe physical abuse.</p> <p>Outcome Measurement Survey – Several teams sent out their surveys to team members across the state. The Minimal Facts question was added to the OMS stakeholder survey. Responses will assist with identifying which areas of the state need additional training in this area.</p> <p><b>MDT Academy</b> – Four teams participated in this activity and are currently working on their plans with the NRCAC. May 22, 2019 is the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Response to Recovery conference. There are 500 people registered.</p>	
<p><b>Training</b></p>	<p>The GTFJAC Training committee welcomed two new members to our committee, Sue Laiuppa, from Bloomfield Police Department and Bill Meier from the Vernon Police Department. The committee continues to update both the Discoverers and First Responder’s curriculum. The Discoverers curriculum is 95% complete and the First Responder’s curriculum is 80% complete. The next two meetings of the Training Committee which are Monday, May 13 and May 20 will be dedicated to finalizing the two curricula.</p> <p>Once completed, the committee will plan a conference call to update existing Discoverers and First Responders Trainers on the Discoverers curriculum updates. For the First Responders curriculum, at least one 3 hour in-person update will occur. For new trainers, in person Discoverers and First Responders Train the Trainers will be convened.</p> <p>In the midst of these updates, there have been several Minimal Facts training requests. We have recently trained the State Police recruits, there will be a training at the DCF Training Academy on May 14 and a First Responder’s curriculum deep dive for the Attorney Generals on June 13. A date has not been scheduled to do a similar training to for the juvenile public defenders. In addition, the Discoverers training continues to occur throughout the state at the request of the MDT coordinators. We are still looking for a centralized way to register and track trainings. From what we have collected, the Minimal Facts data is as follows.</p> <p>Kristen has been researching Connecticut Foundations who may be able to supplement the GTFJAC training budget. Over 20 Community Foundations have been identified. For example, there have been costs around minimal facts books and palm cards that may be able to be subsidized through these efforts. The Village grants department will assist with the writing of any grants in these efforts. There are also family, bank, credit union and corporate foundations who may have an interest in our topic areas. One family foundation researched, grants wish lists. Applications to this family foundation received on or before August 30, 2019, will be reviewed on September 20, 2019, and can be a coordinated resource for the teams for training and resources.</p>	

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	<p>Beth Leaming will be developing training for Vernon Police Department. The training will focus on what a CAC/MDT is and how these types of child maltreatment investigations are different from other investigations. The Vernon PD will also undergo First Responders training once the new curriculum is complete. There has been increased training with school administration regarding mandated reporting training and “obligation to report” in Beth’s jurisdiction.</p> <p>The chairs have discussed conducting a half or full day training in the fall with local and national trainers as options to conduct the training. Topic areas will be discussed with the full committee.</p> <p>Connecticut Principals, Superintendents Association or Connecticut Association of Schools will be approached to ascertain the status of the school-based curriculum that is required by statute – Erin’s Law</p> <p>Finding Words – The course will occur June 17-21, 2019. The faculty has expanded for this session and will be assets for future courses as well as smaller topic area training around the state.</p>	
<b>GTFJAC Presentations</b>	<p><b>CASA</b> National CASA network. Public Act 16-201 authorized CASA programs were established in Connecticut in 2016. There are two new networks being set up in Connecticut (Hartford and New Haven). There is a desire to have these programs run out of the Hartford/New Britain courts and the New Haven Court.</p> <p>The CASA of SW(Stamford court) has been operating for the past 6 years and has 46 cases and 60 volunteers waiting to receive referrals.</p> <p>GAL vs CASA. CASA does not serve probate court. The CASA model is more holistic than the GAL model who’s legislation is more restrictive. All CASA cases are DCF involved cases and end when DCF involvement ends.</p>	
<b>MDT Evaluation</b>	<p>The committee received most of the team protocols with their customized sections. The committee is looking to ensure that these become slightly more uniform across the state.</p> <p>Standard Medical procedures were developed from Yale and CCMC. The medical providers are working on an information sheet to give to providers to explain the medical exam. Also looking to develop a pamphlet for parents.</p>	
<b>Membership</b>	<p>Vacancies – Welcomed new members to the Task Force and described the areas that they fill on the task force.</p>	
Other Business:	<p><b>Future Agenda items</b></p> <p>Prioritize the order in which we take on issues.</p> <p>Looking at Education for the Task Force.</p> <p><b>July-</b> CIP is a suggested topic.</p>	
New Business:		
Announcements:		<p>There was a motion to adjourn which was moved and properly seconded.  <b>The motion passed.</b>  <b>M. Doherty/M.</b>  <b>Manning M/S/P</b></p>

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristen M. Clark,  
GTFJAC Coordinator