

# GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUSTICE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN

## Quarterly Meeting

September 2013 – 2:00pm.  
Chief State's Attorney Office, Rocky Hill, CT

**Present:** T. Sneed, K. Clark, H. Bey-Coon, L. Cordes, M. Doherty, A. Glaser, D. Hallas, A. Johnson, M Kenny, J. Levanthal, , T. Montelli, s. Pakele, B. Pellissier, C. Rapillo, C. Signorelli, C. Spak,

**Guests:** M. Sousloff, J. Bekoe, S. Jolissant, S. Kristoff, P. Pisano, K. Wytrykowska

Agenda Item	Discussion ( <i>brief summary</i> )	Action ( <i>and by whom</i> )
Meeting called to order		
Approval of Minutes:	Approval of June 2013 minutes.  Review of May 2013 Executive Committee Minutes	There was a motion to approve the minutes. <b>It was moved and properly seconded to accept the minutes of the June 2013 meeting. Pellissier/ Bey-Coon M/S/P</b>
<b>Budget Update:</b>		
	DCF CJA Budget Update- The budget was presented to the task force.	
<b>GTF Coordinator Update:</b>	<b>CJA Grantee Meeting:</b> The annual CJA Grantee meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA in conjunction with our 19 <sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect from April 28-29, 2014. The National Conference will be from April 29-May 2 <sup>nd</sup> . The state's participation in the meeting is a requirement of CJA funding and is listed as an assurance in the governor's letter. Kristen Clark and Tammy Sneed will attend the meeting in accordance with the requirements. Additionally, DCF has submitted an abstract to present a workshop on the state's efforts in the area of domestic and human trafficking.	
<b>CCA Director Update:</b>	Kari Pesavento and Ann Glaser have moved into CCA BOD "Co-chair" role, Christine Collins has moved into Treasurer role. Deb Hallas retired from CCA BOD at the end her term, and Caroline Diemar was elected into that vacated role. Additionally, Bridgeport MDT/CAC Coordinator Joanne Martin has joined the board to fill an at-large position vacated by Ellie Hartog. The CCA Director has been asked to be on the planning committee for the NCA Chapter Summit (Atlanta in October 2013). The Chapter and the CAC's fiscal reports this year's NCA award have been approved. They should receive funds by September 15 <sup>th</sup> . CCA is wrapping up the 2012 audit per NCA regulations. The GHCAC is close to submitting their NCA Accreditation application.	

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	<p>Waterbury and Danbury have their reaccreditation site visits scheduled for the mid-November. The New London CAC has been awarded associate member status by NCA. CCA has facilitated the beginning of a discussion between CT state providers and the federal investigative agencies. Led by Maureen Platt, Waterbury State's Attorney, and William Rivera, Director, Multicultural Affairs and Immigration Practice at CT DCF, the goal is to improve collaboration and ensure Child First practice when child victims are identified in our state.</p> <p>CCA is planning a Membership Development Day for late October or early November for all 16 teams. The focus of the retreat will be team building, vision development, and a status report on where CCA is organizationally as a nonprofit. This is in addition to the annual review of our strategic plan.</p> <p>Five teams have been working to work together to get accreditation through NCA. All these teams use one location for forensic interviews and medicals. The applications was submitted last week. Waterbury and Danbury are up for re-accreditation. The New London has been given associate status with NCA. Out of the 17 teams, 15 teams would be affiliated with a National accredited CAC.</p>	
<b>Committee Reports:</b>		
Executive Committee:	There is a need to elect two new members to the executive committee. Individuals have been approached and may be willing to serve. Potential names should be submitted to Kristen M. Clark	
Finding Words Committee:	<p>The next course is in October 7-11 2013.</p> <p>The faculty held a retreat on Thursday, June 27, 2013 to prepare for the fall course.</p> <p>When Words Matters was held July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 at the Hilton Columbus Downtown in Columbus Ohio. New protocols was discussed at this conference. Three faculty will be attended this conference.</p> <p>Theresa Montelli and Kristen Clark are part of a national committee developing a new forensic interviewing protocol.</p> <p>Our 2014 Finding Words Connecticut dates are: March 31<sup>st</sup> through April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and October 6<sup>th</sup> through October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014.</p>	
MDT Evaluation Committee:	<p><b><u>New Members</u></b></p> <p>A new member began in July, Stephen Rossacci, representing law enforcement (presently a detective in New Haven).</p> <p><b><u>Reviews</u></b></p> <p>In general the teams have been very cooperative with the new process. They were both strong teams. There is a need to improve the access to medical services. There was a question around minimal facts and statewide peer review attendance. These are areas that will improve in the future. Participation of disciplines on a regular basis has been an issue (Medical).</p> <p>There was a concern around including Minimal Facts as a question since it is not in the Scope of Service. This is included in the report to get a baseline of where we are around the state in providing this training.</p> <p>Is there a question with feedback from the clients? At this point this is not part of the evaluation process as the teams, as a whole, do not see the team. Separate disciplines see the families. Yale is doing feedback with the</p>	<p>It was moved and properly seconded the Norwalk Report. <b>Signorelli/ Glaser M/S/P</b></p> <p>It was moved and properly</p>

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	<p>families that they see, including asking the child for feedback. Yale will share the form with the task force.</p> <p><u>First Round Teams Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children's Connection, Norwalk MDT and CAIT NW CT, Torrington MDT reports are ready for review.</li> <li>Central Connecticut MIT, New Britain MDT, site visit is scheduled for Tuesday September 17, 2013.</li> <li>East-Central MDT site visit is scheduled for Wednesday October 2, 2013.</li> </ul> <p><u>Second Round Teams Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Orientation for Second Round Teams is being held Tuesday September 10, 2013 in order to review the process, forms, and answer any questions the Teams might have. The Schedule and Teams for the Second Round is as follows:</li> </ul> <table border="1" data-bbox="384 516 1619 771"> <thead> <tr> <th>MDT</th> <th>Last Evaluated</th> <th>Month/year Cycle Begins</th> <th>Period Under Review (PUR)</th> <th>Approximate On-Site Review Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Danbury</td> <td>1/09</td> <td>9/15/13</td> <td>6/15/12-6/15/13</td> <td>12/13/13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middlesex</td> <td>10/09</td> <td>10/21/13</td> <td>8/15/12-8/15/13</td> <td>1/20/14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ansonia/Milford</td> <td>2/10</td> <td>12/16/13</td> <td>10/15/12-10/15/13</td> <td>3/17/14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New London</td> <td>2/10</td> <td>1/13/14</td> <td>11/15/12-11/15/13</td> <td>4/10/14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toiland</td> <td>4/10</td> <td>2/17/14</td> <td>12/15/12-12/15/13</td> <td>5/14/14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waterbury</td> <td>7/10</td> <td>3/17/14</td> <td>1/15/13-1/15/14</td> <td>6/16/14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	MDT	Last Evaluated	Month/year Cycle Begins	Period Under Review (PUR)	Approximate On-Site Review Date	Danbury	1/09	9/15/13	6/15/12-6/15/13	12/13/13	Middlesex	10/09	10/21/13	8/15/12-8/15/13	1/20/14	Ansonia/Milford	2/10	12/16/13	10/15/12-10/15/13	3/17/14	New London	2/10	1/13/14	11/15/12-11/15/13	4/10/14	Toiland	4/10	2/17/14	12/15/12-12/15/13	5/14/14	Waterbury	7/10	3/17/14	1/15/13-1/15/14	6/16/14	<p>seconded the Torrington Report. <b>Pellissier/LevanthaiM/S/P</b></p>
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Training Committee:	<p><b>Committee Update-</b> There is a discussion around increasing the budget line item from \$10,000 to \$20,000. As the number of teams in the state have increased, the team's have lost some of their training funds resulting on more requests to the training committee. There was a suggestion to have someone analyze the requests and then propose an amount as appropriate. There may be a need to put a feedback section in the application. This will be sent back to committee.</p> <p><b>NCA Trak update-</b> Tammy Sneed has been researching the pros and cons of NCATrak data and the system. There was a workgroup that was convened in the winter of 2012 and this group will be reconvened to see if this system is helpful and useful. There is a need from the task force to see the data statewide. How does this data link to DCF statewide? The resolution is that NCA can get us statewide data but that we would need to purchase that report.</p> <p><b>Minimal Facts update</b> There is a plan for a board meeting in October 2013 and a need to do a train the trainers in November 2013. The teams are developing plans to roll out minimal facts within their communities.</p>	<p>Motion that an analysis be completed of the monetary need for training based on requests received and CCA's belief what the future needs will be. <b>Signorelli/Bey-Coon M/S/P.</b></p> <p>Action Item: Training committee will complete this analysis.</p>																																			
Membership Committee:	<p><b>Members:</b> The executive committee has begun to address the vacancies on GTFJAC in key areas. One name has been submitted to fill the vacancy for clinical social worker. CCA is working on securing a parent representative. Steve Sedensky has been tasked to make contact around getting law enforcement representatives.</p>																																				

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	<p><b><u>GTF Retreat Work Groups</u></b>  <b>Victim Services and Advocacy Group</b> will reconvene to select a chair and to refocus the group.</p> <p><b>Forensic Group</b> – Committee Update – (As supplied in the Meeting Packet)  The FI/Me workgroup had their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in over a year on 8.6.13</p> <p>Main topic of conversation was to get an idea of what the work group would like to accomplish over the next 12 months and what is the current environment in CT regarding FI's and ME's</p> <p>Our to dos were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Get a snapshot of what is occurring in State in regards to # of FI's vs. # of medical referrals</li> <li>2. Barriers to families receiving quality medical exams post interview or in ER</li> <li>3. Get information from coordinators that have "expanded" the use of NCATrak to get more detailed info re: MEs</li> <li>4. Create a "state wide" approved brochure that can be personalized for each MDT re: what a Forensic medical is</li> <li>5. Create a training module for CAC medical providers to "teach" the MDT members how to discuss the exam</li> <li>6. Look into issues surrounding lack of SANE nurses</li> <li>7. Barriers to quality interviews-</li> <li>8. Look into discrepancies between DCF reported #'s of SA and severe physical abuse vs. # of interview</li> <li>9. Create an information sheet re: the recent FI mentorship program</li> </ol> <p>What has been accomplished:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received 5-6 sample CAC Forensic medical brochures to review w work group and discuss what would work for CT</li> <li>• Email to all coordinators requesting FI #s; medical referral # s and medical attendance #'s as well as request for coordinator to share barriers they face to getting medicals done</li> <li>• Theresa Montelli contacted a group in Mass. That created a very successful SANE training program</li> <li>• A more detailed questionnaire is being developed to get information re: barriers (and successes) with FI's and ME's</li> </ul> <p>Next meeting is October 29<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>MDT/CAC Group</b> – Committee Update – This workgroup has been dormant as the original charge was around the redistribution. The workgroup may be re-engaged as new teams are formed and issues are identified by</p>	
Old Business:		
New Business:	<p>Homeland Security – Tammy Sneed has sat in on investigations with FBI and they have been open. There is a meeting that will occur between the state, CCA and federal authorities.</p> <p>DMST-(Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking) Need the teams across the state to look at this issue. The teams are</p>	<p>Tammy will do a</p>

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	<p>under utilized in this area and could be a great asset. HART (Human Anti Trafficking Response Team) unit has been convened and since the inception, there has been an increase in referrals. Tammy and Bill see every referral before they are funneled to their individual HART teams. Since 2009 there have been 165 children who have been identified. There is a need to have criminal and prosecution on the same page if the victim is not willing to talk. There is a need to call in these cases as there may be a number of calls on a singular client or on multiple youth in a specific area that can then lead to action.</p> <p>St. Francis will be doing a presentation tonight on how medical providers can start to identify these cases.</p>	<p>2 hour presentation regarding DMST challenges and protocols before the next GTF meeting.</p>
Announcements:		<p>There was a motion to adjourn which was moved and properly seconded. The motion. <b>Pellissier/Signorelli MSP</b></p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen M. Clark,  
GTFJAC Coordinator