

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUSTICE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN

Quarterly Meeting

June 2014 – 2:00pm.
Chief State's Attorney Office, Rocky Hill, CT

Present: S. Sedensky, E. Borecka, K. Clark, H. Bey-Coon, L. Cordes, M. Doherty, S. Guess, A. Johnson, J. Leventhal, B. Pellissier, C. Spak, F. Voswinkel

Guests: R. Dillon (OVA Intern), K. Doyle, P. Pisano, C. Collins

Agenda Item	Discussion <i>(brief summary)</i>	Action <i>(and by whom)</i>
Meeting called to order		
Approval of Minutes:	Approval of March 2014 minutes. Changes - Removed J. Marron and add E. Borecki Review of February 2014 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes	There was a motion to approve the minutes. It was moved and properly seconded to accept the minutes of the March 2014 meeting. Leventhal/Pellissier M/S/P
Budget Update:	<p>DCF CJA Budget Update- The CJA budget was presented to the task force for approval and inclusion on the CJA grant. Members of the Task Force requested to see the State budget which details the amounts that are allocated per each team. This is the CAPTA funds. This will be presented at the September 2014 meeting.</p> <p>Unencumbered Funds- The status of the projects approved in December 2013 and March 2014 were discussed. Force. K. Doyle thanked GTFJAC for assisting in sending him to the international conference. Kevin presented at two workshops and J. Leventhal presented at a workshop. He gave an overview on some of the findings and discussion that occurred at the conference. This has been paid in full.</p> <p>Save the Date: Abusive Head Trauma Conference - September 9-10 at Yale University West Campus Conference Center in Orange, CT. This location holds 230 people. MDTs will have 10-15 slots each. Other states have shown an interest in sending professionals. This has been paid in full.</p> <p>Child Death Investigations- There are two trainings in Salem(25-26) and Danbury(23-24). The dates are the last week of June. This has been paid in full.</p> <p>NCA Leadership- Had meetings on the hill with Blumenthal and Courtney. Connecticut is on the cutting edge of human trafficking and this was a large part of the discussion at the conference. Coordinators were able to interact</p>	There was a motion to approve the CJA Budget. It was moved and properly seconded to accept the CJA budget as presented. Giovannuci/Pessillier r/M/S/P

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	<p>with the federal partners that are working in this area and they have been interest. 5 coordinators were able to attend the training based upon the funding that was provided. This area came in under budget.</p> <p>Medical Exam/Forensic Interview Brochure: There could be a need to increase the budget in order to ensure that all teams have this available. Also, this will be translated into Spanish.</p>	<p>There was a motion to allow Executive Committee to approve an invoice up to \$5,000 for this project. Doherty/Pellissier M/S/P</p>
GTF Coordinator Update:	<p>CJA Grantee Meeting: GTFJAC coordinator and the DCF Executive Committee chair attended the annual CJA Grantee meeting in New Orleans, LA in conjunction with the 19th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect.</p> <p>The Children's Justice Act grant was submitted on May 28, 2014. Thanks to all members who submitted their information.</p>	
CCA Director Update:	There is an offer for the CCA Director position.	
Committee Reports:		
Executive Committee:	<p>There is one vacancy on the Executive Committee. GTFJAC received one nomination and bio for Carolyn Signorelli. Below is her bio. Please review and we will discuss and vote to approve on Wednesday. (A copy of this bio will appear in the meeting packet)</p> <p>Carolyn Signorelli is currently with the Child Protection Department of the Attorney General's Office where she has prosecuted child abuse and neglect cases for a total of 12 years. Currently Attorney Signorelli handles a varied case load of child protection trials, defense work in state and federal court and administrative and appellate matters. Attorney Signorelli was appointed in 2006 as Connecticut's first Chief Child Protection Attorney where she spent 5 years creating a new agency devoted to improving legal representation for children and parents in child protection proceedings. Under her leadership the agency was recognized as a model program by the National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System. Attorney Signorelli served on the ABA's National Committee to Improve Parent Representation from 2009 to 2011; the Executive Committee of the Children's Trust Fund from 2004 until 2013, the Chief Justice's Public Service & Trust Commission as Co-Chair of the Demographics Committee; the Families With Service Needs Advisory Board convened by the Legislature in July of 2006; the Committee to Expedite Appeals in Child Protection Matters operating from 2009 until 2011 and the Advisory Board of Connecticut's Juvenile Access Pilot Program. She continues to be involved in the Connecticut Bar Association's Litigation Section and the Committee Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice; the Judicial Department's Court Improvement Project Strategic Planning Task Force and Training Grant Workgroup. Attorney Signorelli is a member of the National Association of Counsel for Children and the Juvenile Law Society and teaches for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. Attorney Signorelli received her B.A. from Vassar College in 1986 and was a Mary SiegreHinz Fellow at William & Mary School of Law where she graduated in 1991.</p>	<p>There was a motion to approve Carolyn Signorelli as a member of the executive committee. Leventhal/ Vos Winkel M/S/P</p>
Finding Words Committee:	Our next Finding Words Connecticut dates are October 6 th through October 10 th , 2014. Four faculty members traveled to Arkansas to be trained in the new protocol. Three differences: 1. Instructions will occur at the beginning of the interview. "If I make a mistake, then you can correct me". 2. Narrative Practice will occur with the child during the rapport state and want to talk about episodic event. 3. There is going to be an open invitation like "Tell me you are here today". Those are the three changes. The faculty will do a training for all current forensic	

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	interviewers on June 27, 2014. The Faculty held a 1/2 day retreat in May 2014 and will have a full working meeting in July 2014. Four faculty traveled to Baltimore for the When Words Matter conference, a training for forensic interviewing in June 2014.																								
MDT Evaluation Committee:	<p>Members of the committee is going to Enfield to do a training with the Enfield team. This team will be evaluated in 2014-2015 year.</p> <p>The committee is encouraged to look at findings on a statewide basis. Look at where the strengths and areas for growth are around the state. The committee is already working on a statewide report that should be ready for the September meeting. There is discussion at the meetings on system.</p> <p>Reports: Danbury and Middlesex evaluations were presented for approval at the meeting. Talked about the process of the evaluation. This final report should be sent to Regional Administrators of DCF and State Attorney in this area.</p> <p>There was a question regarding who should be at the team meetings. Medical personnel involvement with each of the teams was noted in the longer report.</p> <p>1. First Round Teams review process.</p> <p>All First Round Teams (Children's Connection, Norwalk MDT; CAIT NW CT, Torrington MDT; Central CT MIT, New Britain MDT; and, East-Central MDT, Manchester MDT) evaluation review reports have been approved by GTFJAC and a letter sent to the team.</p> <p>2. <u>Second Round Teams</u></p> <p>An updated schedule for the Second Round teams is as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="401 938 1751 1399"> <thead> <tr> <th>MDT</th> <th>Period Under Review (PUR)</th> <th>On-Site Review Date</th> <th>Evaluation Team</th> <th>Status of Report as of 6/9/14</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Danbury</td> <td>6/15/12-6/15/13</td> <td>2/19/14</td> <td>Theresa Montelli, Tricia Falcone, Jim Wright (Shadow), Margaret Soussloff (Village)</td> <td>Waiting for Approval by GTFJAC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middlesex</td> <td>8/15/12-8/15/13</td> <td>1/23/14</td> <td>Maureen Ornousky, Bethany Ferreira, Colleen Zingaro (Shadow), Margaret Soussloff (Village)</td> <td>Waiting for Approval by GTFJAC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ansonia/Milford</td> <td>10/15/12-10/15/13</td> <td>4/10/14</td> <td>Kari Pesavento, Jim Wright, Setta Mushegian (Shadow), Margaret Soussloff (Village)</td> <td>To be reviewed by MDT Evaluation Committee 6/10/14</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				MDT	Period Under Review (PUR)	On-Site Review Date	Evaluation Team	Status of Report as of 6/9/14	Danbury	6/15/12-6/15/13	2/19/14	Theresa Montelli, Tricia Falcone, Jim Wright (Shadow), Margaret Soussloff (Village)	Waiting for Approval by GTFJAC	Middlesex	8/15/12-8/15/13	1/23/14	Maureen Ornousky, Bethany Ferreira, Colleen Zingaro (Shadow), Margaret Soussloff (Village)	Waiting for Approval by GTFJAC	Ansonia/Milford	10/15/12-10/15/13	4/10/14	Kari Pesavento, Jim Wright, Setta Mushegian (Shadow), Margaret Soussloff (Village)	To be reviewed by MDT Evaluation Committee 6/10/14	<p>There was a motion to approve the Danbury MDT evaluation. The motion passed. Pellissier/Spak M/S/P</p> <p>There was a motion to approve the Middlesex MDT evaluation. The motion passed. Pellissier/Johnso n M/S/P</p>
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	Waterbury	1/15/13-1/15/14	Scheduled: 6/11/14	Caroline Diemar, Setta Mushegian, Margaret Soussloff (Village)																																					
	<p>3. Medical Evaluations From the Teams evaluated so far, there is generally low rates of medical exams being offered and conducted as compared to the DCF Scope of Service Benchmarks of 90% of cases have been offered Medical Evaluation and 85% of cases have Medical Evaluation.</p> <p>4. Third Round Teams The third round evaluations of the redesign begins in July 2014 and is scheduled to end in June 2015. All third round teams (Windham MDT, Bridgeport MDT, Stamford MDT, Hartford MDT, New Haven MDT, MDT-14, and Enfield MDT) have been sent a letter notifying them of their upcoming review.</p>																																								
Training Committee:	<p>Committee Update-</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="415 792 1759 1357"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="415 792 562 857"><i>Date Received</i></th> <th data-bbox="562 792 758 857"><i>Requesting Agency</i></th> <th data-bbox="758 792 905 857"><i>Participant</i></th> <th data-bbox="905 792 1213 857"><i>Function</i></th> <th data-bbox="1213 792 1367 857"><i>Requested</i></th> <th data-bbox="1367 792 1507 857"><i>Approved</i></th> <th data-bbox="1507 792 1759 857"><i>Comments</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="415 857 562 1036">1/23/2014</td> <td data-bbox="562 857 758 1036">State's Attorney's Office New Haven</td> <td data-bbox="758 857 905 1036">Stacey Miranda</td> <td data-bbox="905 857 1213 1036">30th National Symposium on Child Abuse</td> <td data-bbox="1213 857 1367 1036">1000</td> <td data-bbox="1367 857 1507 1036">882.61</td> <td data-bbox="1507 857 1759 1036">Recommended applicant apply to department for travel funds \$1000 approved actual expenditure 882.61 PD</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="415 1036 562 1187">1/23/2014</td> <td data-bbox="562 1036 758 1187">Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling and Education</td> <td data-bbox="758 1036 905 1187">Ingrid Pastern</td> <td data-bbox="905 1036 1213 1187">International Social Development and Capacity Building in a Global Context</td> <td data-bbox="1213 1036 1367 1187">997</td> <td data-bbox="1367 1036 1507 1187">0</td> <td data-bbox="1507 1036 1759 1187">Request outside guidelines</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="415 1187 562 1252">1/24/2014</td> <td data-bbox="562 1187 758 1252">Middlesex MDT</td> <td data-bbox="758 1187 905 1252">Rebecca Sullivan</td> <td data-bbox="905 1187 1213 1252">National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect</td> <td data-bbox="1213 1187 1367 1252">780.12</td> <td data-bbox="1367 1187 1507 1252">780.12</td> <td data-bbox="1507 1187 1759 1252">Approved PD</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="415 1252 562 1357">10/1/2013</td> <td data-bbox="562 1252 758 1357">Hartford MDT</td> <td data-bbox="758 1252 905 1357">LE & DCF</td> <td data-bbox="905 1252 1213 1357">Multidisciplinary Team Investigations of Child Abuse</td> <td data-bbox="1213 1252 1367 1357">1000</td> <td data-bbox="1367 1252 1507 1357">1000</td> <td data-bbox="1507 1252 1759 1357">Approved</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					<i>Date Received</i>	<i>Requesting Agency</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Comments</i>	1/23/2014	State's Attorney's Office New Haven	Stacey Miranda	30 th National Symposium on Child Abuse	1000	882.61	Recommended applicant apply to department for travel funds \$1000 approved actual expenditure 882.61 PD	1/23/2014	Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling and Education	Ingrid Pastern	International Social Development and Capacity Building in a Global Context	997	0	Request outside guidelines	1/24/2014	Middlesex MDT	Rebecca Sullivan	National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect	780.12	780.12	Approved PD	10/1/2013	Hartford MDT	LE & DCF	Multidisciplinary Team Investigations of Child Abuse	1000	1000	Approved	
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	3/20/2014	<i>Child Advocacy Programs, Day Kimball Healthcare</i>	<i>ANDREW J. SLITT</i>	<i>Child Proof</i>	<i>1000</i>		<i>1000 Approved (canceled 5/12/14 by Christine Collins)</i>									
	3/20/2014	<i>Litchfield Judicial District</i>	<i>Terri L. Sonneman</i>	<i>Child Proof</i>	<i>1000</i>		<i>Approved Request withdrawn by applicant</i>									
	4/3/2014	<i>Litchfield Judicial District</i>	<i>Terri L. Sonneman</i>	<i>Investigation and Prosecution of Child Fatalities and Physical Abuse</i>	<i>1000</i>	<i>1000</i>	<i>Approved</i>									
	<table border="1" data-bbox="856 537 1184 750"> <tr> <td>Allocated</td> <td>\$20,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prior committed</td> <td>\$8,008.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Commitments</td> <td>\$3,662.73</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Available</td> <td>\$8,328.63</td> </tr> </table>							Allocated	\$20,000.00	Prior committed	\$8,008.64	Commitments	\$3,662.73	Available	\$8,328.63	
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	<p>NCA Trak update- Tammy Sneed has been researching the pros and cons of NCATrak data and the system. There was a workgroup that was convened on February 28, 2014 and will continue to work on this issue.</p> <p>Minimal Facts update Board meeting occurred in January 2014 and a Train the Trainers was held in February 2014. No written update submitted.</p>															
Membership Committee:	<p>Members: The executive committee has begun to address the vacancies on GTFJAC in key areas. CCA is working on securing a parent representative. Steve Sedensky has been tasked to make contact around getting law enforcement representatives.</p> <p>GTF Retreat Work Groups Victim Services and Advocacy Group - No report submitted.</p> <p>Forensic Group – Committee Update – (As supplied in the Meeting Packet) In the last five years, Forensic Interviewing has improved in the state based on increased numbers, intensive training, statewide peer review, interviewer mentoring and how the interviews are funded.</p> <p>Medical side- Slightly better off than we were five years ago. Still parts of the state that are lacking medical coverage. There is a low number of medical providers, the dollars are not accurate and there is quarterly peer mentoring. The workgroup would like to come back with a proposal. DCF does support the 2 centers of excellence, but there is a need to support the smaller providers and provide uniform access to these exams. Perhaps a mobile van, smaller regional centers or everyone goes to the centers of excellence. MDT evaluation committee is compiling a list of all the teams and their medical providers.</p>						Steve will send letters to the Commissioner of public safety and the head of the chiefs of Police Association. CCA to look for a parent representative									

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	MDT/CAC Group – No report submitted.	
Old Business:	DMST - There is on-going trainings occurring around the state with all of the MDT/CACs. The state is looking into writing for federal grant around Human Trafficking. One of the requirements is that the Human Trafficking grantee collaborate with the Children's Justice Act grantee.	
New Business:		
Announcements:		There was a motion to adjourn which was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed. Bey-Coon/Leventhal MSP

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen M. Clark,
GTFJAC Coordinator