

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUSTICE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN

July 7, 2016 – 2:00pm.  
Chief State Attorney's Office – Rocky Hill, CT

**Present:** T. Sneed, K. Clark, H. Bey-Coon, K. Butler-Kurth, S. Kristoff, K. Rich, Y. Young

**Guest:** R. Dannehy

Agenda Item	Discussion <i>(brief summary)</i>	Action <i>(and by whom)</i>
Meeting called to order	Meeting called to order at 2:04PM	
Welcome	Ruthie Dannehy is an intern at DCF for the last five weeks.	
Approval of Minutes:	Approval of April 2016 minutes.	There was a motion to accept the minutes. <b>The motion was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed. M/S/P Rich/Bey-Coon</b>
Budget:	<p>There are no cuts to the MDTs as of yet. Tammy will keep the GTFJAC posted regarding this area.</p> <p>Village budget- The group went through each line item and discussed the status. If there is any unallocated dollars, the allocation will be determined in the September. Discussed timelines for yearend reimbursement submissions. The final Village budget will be available after July 30 as all expenses are due by July 15, 2016.</p>	
Committee Reports:		
Executive Committee	<p>Norwalk Colposcope – A question was raised regarding having access to a medical provider who also attends statewide peer review. This was answered by the MDT coordinator who indicates that they have a Medical provider who is available on demand 5 days a week.</p> <p>PEACE Training – Discussed background of the request and issues raised regarding the training amount and payment between two different fiscal years. Brian has decided not to attend the training.</p> <p>GHCAC: Since the special call Executive Committee meeting, there has not been a meeting with St. Francis. There was discussion regarding progress since then. There have been two meetings with the small workgroup since that time. Discussed emergency back up plans to ensure that services to the clients we serve are not lapsed that includes alternate sites and forensic interviewers who will be on call. DCF notified St. Francis that they would be moving the medical piece effective August 1, 2016. The medical piece will be sent to CCMC. St. Francis will be meeting with DCF on Monday, July 11, 2016 to look at next steps as they will be losing their accreditation in December 2016. The GTF has determined that there is a need for an accredited program in Hartford and the</p>	

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HART Update:	<p>teams involved are looking to ensure that the site is accredited as well.</p> <p><b>Data --</b> We received 53 referrals in Q1 of 2016.</p> <p><b>Trainings/Groups</b>  Over the past several months several training have occurred, curriculum revisions occurred and hundreds of people were educated about Human Trafficking. The following information highlights the accomplishments in this area over the past six months:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Intro to CSEC and DMST Trainings continues to be offered on a regular basis, since January of this year 4 trainings were conducted educating 169 participants</li> <li>2. The Caring for high risk youth and child victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSEC) and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) and the 2 Day Understanding Girls Training was offered to foster parents in the Spring. A TOT for the Caring for high risk youth and child victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSEC) and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking (DMST) curriculum was offered and we now have several trainers who will be conducting these trainings across the State which will increase our capacity of trained foster parents.</li> <li>3. The CSEC and DMST of Boys and Male Bodied Youth curriculum was revised and a TOT training for this curriculum occurred in April. We now have 12 new trainers who will begin providing this training across the State.</li> <li>4. We have had several meetings with our Mentoring providers to discuss revising the Intro to CSEC and DMST in CT training for the Mentoring Programs. Final revisions for this curriculum will occur this summer.</li> <li>5. Four trainings of the Human Trafficking Day 1; Understanding Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking occurred since January with 43 individuals being trained.</li> <li>6. Human Trafficking Day 2; Working with children at risk of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking has been completed and two trainings were provided during the spring.</li> <li>7. Nine Internet Safety Trainings were provided across the state over the last few months to staff, providers, foster families and youth ages twelve and older.</li> <li>8. Survivor Speaker, Withelma “T” Ortiz Walker Pettigrew spoke to a group of high risk and/ or confirmed girl victims of CSEC/DMST in May. This workshop was well received by the youth in attendance.</li> <li>9. An Extended Forensic Interview Training was provided to Forensic Interviewers from across the state. (See Forensic Interview Committee for details).</li> </ol>	

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	<p>10. Training for CAC's and MDT's from across the country was provided at the National Children's Alliance Leadership Conference in May.</p> <p>11. Four trainings have occurred over the spring at schools in various parts of the state. Worth noting the number of trainings compared to number of schools in the state remains low due to limited responses from schools.</p> <p>12. A limited number of Law Enforcement Trainings have occurred. A Committee Meeting will be held over the summer to update curriculum and coordinate another Training of Trainers (TOT). One training occurred thus far this year with 17 police officers being trained.</p> <p><b>Conference</b> Our 1<sup>st</sup> annual CCA and HART Response to Recovery Conference on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> was a success. We had over 200 participants attend each day. The feedback from the conference participants was very positive. They liked the breakout sessions and the plenary sessions offered. The variety of options offered was well received. The survivor speakers were exceptional and provided great insight on this issue to those in attendance. Planning for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Response to Recovery Conference will begin this summer.</p>	
Finding Words Committee:	The Spring 2016 was May 16, 2016 and it went well. There were 36 students and we had two new faculty members. The Fall Date is October 17, 2016 Steve, Kristen and Krystal attended When Words Matter in Atlantic City, New Jersey in June 2016. Kristen spent time in the Forensic Interviewing track and Krystal focused on CAST – Child Advocacy Studies and we have had some conversations regarding bringing this program to Connecticut.	
MDT Evaluation Committee:	<p><b>Membership</b> <b>Chairs:</b> Both Maureen and Theresa have stepped down and Krystal Rich and Paula Schaffer will serve as new co-chairs for the next term. <b>Nominations:</b> The group reviewed membership make up to determine which areas of the state and disciplines were not represented on the evaluation committee. The MDT coordinators were then asked to reach out to potential members to fill the identified gaps and 8 new nominations were submitted. If all members are voted in the committee will have statewide representation.</p> <p><b>New Member Orientation</b> A formalized orientation process inclusive of a binder, case review observation and meeting with chairs was created to ensure all new members have a good understanding of the evaluation process prior to evaluating any teams.</p> <p><b>MDT Evaluations</b> Norwalk: This was the first evaluation of 2016 completed in April. Observations and feedback were submitted to MDT Coordinator for feedback and action plan. Torrington: This was the second evaluation of 2016 completed in May. Observations and feedback were submitted to MDT Coordinator for feedback and action plan. New Britain: Case Review site visit is scheduled for 8/16. Coordinator must</p>	

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	<p>submit paperwork to the evaluator no later than July 22<sup>nd</sup>.</p> <p><b>State Standards</b> Revised state standards were approved by the MDT Evaluation committee and are awaiting approval from the GTFJAC. There are a few highlights that were presented to the EC: We have higher state standards including peer review and mentoring for forensic interviewers. Explained the evaluation process, talked about the team functioning and their roles also the populations that the teams served. 100% of cases should be offered victim advocacy.</p> <p><b>Roll out Meeting</b> Once the Connecticut state standards are approved, a training scheduled with coordinators and MDT exec members to go over the new state standards, revised standardized protocols and NCA standards will be conducted.</p>	<p>Executive Committee will receive the update version of the Connecticut Standards based upon comments from this meeting.</p> <p>Revised Connecticut State Standards will be forwarded to the full GTFJAC for review and approval at the September 2016 meeting.</p>
Training Committee:	<p>Information was discussed in the Executive Committee section. GTFJAC Coordinator has asked committee chair to follow up on outstanding reimbursements.</p> <p><u>Minimal Facts</u>-- The COP's were put on hold and an April meeting did not take place. The policy draft was forwarded under the intake policy to legal. Both Co-chairs have met to develop the portion of the intake practice guide related to Minimal Facts. The flash drives with the updated curriculum are being worked on by DCF's media office. The co-chairs are making efforts to schedule a meeting of the MDT coordinators and current trainers for early August. A training of trainers will be coordinated for the end of August or beginning of September.</p> <p><u>NCATrak</u>- Everything is on hold due to budget for PIE has been cut. We still will not be able to implement PIE so we are still using NCATrak.</p>	<p>Ensure that committee chair is following up with all outstanding approved training requests.</p>
Membership Committee:	<p>Member Vacancies – Vacancies remain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent representative – The biography of Nancy Nesbitt was submitted. The committee would like to move forward with her participation on the task force.</li> <li>• Homelessness – Stephanie Guess has had a change in work assignment and can no longer serve on the Task Force. A new member in this area will researched.</li> </ul> <p>GTF Retreat Work Groups <u>Victim Services and Advocacy Group</u> – Will be looking for a co-chair with an expertise in mental health. Need some direction regarding the next phases of the workgroup. Have looked at the gaps in service area and can make recommendations but would like to know where the recommendations will go? <u>Forensic Group</u> – Committee Update – Krystal Rich will be the new co-chair for this with J. Leventhal. Need to look at the compilation of this group and re-engage members.</p>	

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	<p><u>MDT/CAC Group</u> – Standardized Protocol: Expanding on the work done by several coordinators, the group is working to create a standardized protocol template for all MDTs. The workgroup is in the final stages of the editing the standardized protocol that will be used by all MDTs. The protocol will be sent to the whole committee for approval through email. Survey/Assessment: A survey was sent out to all coordinators to gather information on strengths and areas where additional support is needed. In person interviews with each coordinator have been conducted and focus groups will be put together in the coming months to gather discipline specific input. This information will be pulled together in a report to inform next steps for GTF workgroups.</p>	
GTF Coordinator Update:	<p>CJA Application will be due in May 2016. The request for submissions has been sent to GTFJAC in April 2016.</p> <p><u>CJA Annual Application</u> will be due in May 2016. Report updates will be requested of all chairs in April of 2016. Prompt responses will be appreciated. The 16-17 CJA budget and goals will be developed and presented at the March 2016 meeting for approval.</p> <p><u>CJA Annual Meeting</u> will take place in Washington DC on August 29-30 followed by the National Conference on Child Abuse. Both Kristen and Tammy Sneed will be in attendance.</p>	
CCA Coordinator	<p><b>Coordinator Updates</b>  New Britain: CMHA is in the process of looking for another coordinator to fill their part time position. Currently Karolina W is the interim.  Danbury: Donna Meyer has resigned but will continue to work with the team until a new director, Celina, is hired and trained.  New London: The CAC currently has an associate membership with NCA and must go up for accreditation by 2018.</p> <p><b>Training/Education</b>  NRCAC- Four coordinators will attend a facilitator training July 12-16<sup>th</sup> in VT. This training is geared to MDT coordinators and will be something we work to ensure every new coordinator attends.  NCA Leadership: Four coordinators attended the conference as well as Hill Day at the Capitol.</p>	
Old Business:		
New Business:	<p>There is a need to do a retreat. There is a lack of knowledge regarding what a CAC is and there is a need to have a common language.  NRCAC may be able to pay for a facilitator.  June Meeting- We will not hold the June meeting in lieu of a September retreat. There was discussion regarding having the full task force and/or the people who are doing the work on the workgroups/committees participate.</p>	<p>A doodle poll will be sent to the full GTFJAC to determine the date.</p> <p>Retreat planning meeting and conference call.</p>
Announcements:		<p>There was a motion to adjourn which was moved and properly seconded. <b>Rich/Young M/S/P The motion passed.</b></p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen M. Clark  
GTFJAC Coordinator