

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUSTICE FOR ABUSED CHILDREN

Quarterly Meeting

March 9, 2016 – 10:00AM.
Chief State Attorney's Office, Hartford, CT

Present: S. Sedensky, T. Sneed, E. Borecka, K. Butler-Koreth, K. Clark, L. Cordes, K. Diaz, M. Dougherty, J. Leventhal, T. Montelli, C. Spak, K. Rich, F. Vos Winkle

Guests:

Agenda Item	Discussion (<i>brief summary</i>)	Action (<i>and by whom</i>)
Meeting called to order		The meeting was called to order at 2:15PM
Approval of Minutes:	Approval of December 2015 minutes. Review of November 2015 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes	There was a motion to approve the June 2015 minutes. The motion passed. Rich/Leventhal 1 Abstention M/S/P
Budget Update:		
	<p>Village Update- The Village CJA budget was presented. Review of the Village Budget Covered July – December 2015. There was a change from the CJA budget presented on the total line to 192,223.*This indicates the amount that is less monies that are sent to DCF to cover vendor costs.</p> <p>Colposcope: John Leventhal sent a note to GTFJAC regarding the support for the colposcope at the Bridgeport satellite office. This was placed in the meeting packet.</p>	CJA Budget approved to approve the CJA Budget. 1 Abstention Dougherty/Cordes M/S/P
GTF Coordinator Update:	<p>The task force was sent the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child and Family Service Review(CFSR) • Annual Progress and Service Report(APSR) <p>These are provided for your information. The Children's Bureau in DC wants to ensure that state task forces are aware of these documents that are required by each state. We will have members of the DCF come and report out on this area on an ongoing basis to GTFJAC or its Executive Committee.</p> <p>Court Improvement Plan. The GTFJAC will have regular updates and presentations at GTF meetings regarding the state's progress in this area. The state of Connecticut's CIP Monitor is a member of the Governor's Task Force and will provide information to keep the task force informed of efforts in this area. GTFJAC will explore possibly taking advantage of the technical assistance being offered by the Children's Bureau to assist CJA programs and CIP programs with collaboration in the area of improving the handling of Child Welfare proceedings. It has been reported that they have not met since 2014. We will connect with the CIP monitor and another member of the GTFJAC to review the plan.</p>	GTFJAC will continue to monitor the state's child and family services plan.

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CCA Director Update:	<p>New Britain: CMHA has hired a new coordinator. Jessica Grant started in January.</p> <p>Danbury: Donna Meyer has resigned but will continue to work with the team until a new director is hired and trained.</p> <p>Training/Education</p> <p>NRCAC- CCA will partner with NRCAC to host a facilitator training specific to the MDT coordinators. This training will take place in the spring.</p> <p>OMS- The centers began using OMS on January 1, 2016. So far we have received 47 surveys filled out by caregivers and the initial feedback of the surveys seems to be positive (see attached). The MDT survey, which will serve as the new ALL Team Survey, will be administered to all teams by the end of March.</p> <p>Results Based Accountability (RBA): The MDTs worked to create performance measures for the RBA report card. The first report card for 2015 was submitted (see attached).</p> <p>CAC/MDT: CCA has partnered with the Digital and Media Design Department at UCONN to create a short video illustrating what CACs/MDTs do to support children and their families.</p>	
HART Coordinator	<p>Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We received 133 referrals in 2015. 122 were females, 10 males and 1 transgendered youth. See attached handout for breakdown of data. <p>Trainings/Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Foster Care Training for staff was completed on 2/26/16, there were 23 people in attendance. A training for parents is scheduled for 4/30/16 • The Understanding Girls training is being offered to Foster parents. The class started on February 27th and the last session is scheduled for March 12th. Fifteen foster parents attended the first session. • The Foster Care Model Curriculum TOT training is scheduled for April 4th and 6th • We continue to receive request for our Introduction to CSEC/DMST training and we are able to respond quickly to these request due to an increased number of certified trainers Statewide. • Several regions will be offering MLMC groups over the next two months and participating in the MLMC Research Project. • A letter was sent to all the Superintendents in the State related to training and prevention groups on human trafficking for their school districts. We have had several meetings with several districts and we are in the process of arranging trainings and groups for their school district. • Boys Curriculum is finished and a TOT will be offered April 20th and 22nd. • Collaboration with Law Enforcement (FBI and Homeland Security) and the United States Attorney's Office is occurring with an identified contact for human trafficking cases in each department. All critical incidents related to human trafficking through the Careline is now sent to the USAO. 	HART will provide quarterly numbers at the GTFJAC meetings.

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	<p>Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for the conference continues. All speakers for the conference are secured at this point. May 11-12, 2016 is the statewide conference. Registration will occur in March 2016. • We are focused on obtaining sponsorship donations to support the expenses of the Conference. <p>Discussed case where the Therapeutic Foster Care parents used to place an out of state child. Discussed arrests and prosecution rates. Discussed the grant and the work of the MDTs in this area. 133 were all unique referrals and discussed the breakdown of the referral in regards to DMST. Discussed case criteria regarding confirming case as HT vs being a High Risk Case.</p>	
Committee Reports:		
Finding Words Committee:	<p>The 2016 dates that work best are Spring 2016 --May 16, 2016 And the Fall Date is October 17, 2016</p> <p>The faculty will be holding a meeting in mid March to review the new binder and prepare for the Spring 2016 course. Sue Kristoff has resigned from the Finding Words faculty meeting. Karen Diaz has been appointed to the faculty. The next When Words Matter will occur in Atlantic City, New Jersey in June 2016.</p> <p>The Connecticut Finding Words coordinator is working with NCPTC to ensure that the CT Faculty are provided Train the Trainer in the new ChildFirst Extended Interviewing Model.</p>	
MDT Evaluation Committee:	<p>Approval of Det. Kevin Tieman was put forth as a new member.</p> <p>There was a membership update by the chair and a request for new members.</p> <p>There is the last report from the previous cycle to complete.</p> <p>The committee has revised all the tools used to evaluate teams. Victim advocacy and mental health tools have been added to the packet.</p> <p>Currently finalizing the Best Practice Revisions.</p>	<p>There was a motion to approve the candidate for the MDT evaluation committee.</p> <p>Montelli/Leventhal M/S/P</p>
Training Committee:	<p>The training updates were listed in the meeting packet.</p> <p><u>Minimal Facts</u>- The policy draft has been presented to the Intake Community of Practice-Sue Kristoff attended (March meeting), I will be attending the April meeting to discuss items regarding policy language that arose from that meeting. In addition, the advisory board will be working with Kim Nilson of CO on the Minimal Facts portion of the practice guide. The new curriculum is completed and we are on the list to have the new videos embedded into the curriculum so that the flash drives can be completed. The GTFJAC coordinator has consolidated all of the information regarding our current list of trainers. We will be scheduling a meeting of the trainers and the MDT coordinators. Trainer of Training will occur in summer 2016.</p> <p>NCATrak- The PIE system is on hold due to state budget restraints. The teams will need to continue to use NCATrak until the PIE system is built. Some of the coordinators are looking at the variables in NCATrak to use it more effectively.</p> <p>The RBA report card on the MDTs was presented to DCF. Much of this data comes from the NCATrak other information is received through the OMS survey.</p>	

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	<p>The NCA Outcome Measurement Survey (OMS) survey was presented. There is an Initial Survey for families, a Follow Up Survey for families and a MDT collaborative Survey for professionals. This started on January 1, 2016 so there is limited data to review. The narrative data has provided valuable information to the teams.</p> <p>MDT Collaborative Survey – This is for the professionals on the teams. It will be completed every 6 months. It will also replace the All Team Survey that was administered by the MDT Evaluation Committee. This can be broken out by state and broken out by team.</p> <p>There may be a survey developed to gather data from the child victims. Yale is currently administering a survey to youth 7 and over. Paula Schaefer can be approached to get the list of questions.</p>	
<p>Membership Committee:</p>	<p><u>Vacancies</u> There are currently no vacancies on the task force. The task force is all set with the Judge positions. Both Judge Carroll and Judge Conaway are on the GTFJAC.</p> <p><u>GTF Retreat Work Groups</u></p> <p>Victim Services and Advocacy Group –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed notes from prior meeting. Krystal provided CAC Model Case Flow as a guide for the flow of work that needs to be provided by CACs and the victim services’ role. After a discussion of how and where to start the process, we all agreed that we would start with a model of a CAC that employs Victim Advocates. The CACs that have VAs are Bridgeport, Hartford, and Yale. All 17 MDTs are attached to one of the 10 CACs in the state. • With reviewing the wrap around services that the NCA standards require, we discussed the challenges of having one point person for each family that is provided services. A discussion about the challenges of having The Alliance advocates be the “gatekeeper” of the required services followed. It does not appear feasible that The Alliance could fulfill this role. • In looking at resources that are already available and how to utilize them to meet the standards, the group discussed using the NCA tracking system as a case management tool. Krystal reported that there are features of the tracking system that are not currently used by the teams that are tools for case management. • Looking at the CAC Model Case Flow we discussed working on this to outline the victim advocacy portion and creating a Case Flow for victim advocacy. Suzanne reported that she had several case management documents from her trainings with the NCA. Suzanne said that she would bring these to the next meeting and feels that they will be helpful. The goal is to come to the next meeting with some models that can be reviewed by the group that looks at CACs that employ advocates. Next meeting will be March 28th, 9:30-11:30 at the Office of Victim Services. <p>Forensic Medical and Interview Group – The group has not met since the last GTFJAC meeting. The main issue is around Forensic Medical Exams is that there are gaps in the state. Reference was made to a previous recommendation that has been submitted and look at alternative options. This group will reconvene.</p> <p>MDT/CAC Group – CAC/MDT Work Group</p> <p>MDT/CAC Workgroup: This group was initially created to address to recommendations from the 2009 statewide assessment. Several recommendations were addressed in 2010 and the group has now reconvened to continue addressing the recommendations as well as assessing the new needs of teams and centers</p>	

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	<p>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 prior to the next meeting. Once finalized the workgroup will create a brief presentation outlining the changes.</p> <p>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>	
Child Fatalities-	There are still 8 outstanding cases from 2015 and involve primarily infants. Additional numbers were discussed and case specific issue were raised.	
Other Business:	Once the new state standards are completed, we will do a training on both state and National standards	
New Business:	The next meeting is June 8, 2016 and will be held at the Chief State Attorney Office. This meeting will need to change due to the NCA conference. Dates will be sent out via Doodle.com.	
Announcements:		There was a motion to adjourn which was moved and properly seconded. The motion passed. Vos Winkel/Rich M/S/P

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen M. Clark,
GTFJAC Coordinator