



Children's Justice Act Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

Portland DOJ Office, Ross Island Room

9:00 AM – 12:00 pm

Task Force Members: John Casalino, Shawna Clowser, Hon. Andrew Erwin, Debra Gilmore, Tina Morgan, Tammi Pitzen, Marilyn Reilly, Sherree Rodriguez, Shelly Smith

CVSSD DOJ Staff: Robin Reimer, Amanda VanTil

Task Force Members absent: Tami Kane-Suleiman, Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn, Aaron Brenneman, Carol Chervenak, Rahela Rehman, Patty Terzian, Patti Kenyon

I. Welcome and Introductions

Members were asked to introduce themselves with their name, their agency or organization, and a description of their role in child abuse intervention/response.

II. Overview of CJA

Robin explained the basics of the Children's Justice Act (CJA) grant. This is a federal award administered by the Department of Justice (DOJ), Crime Victim & Survivor Services Division (CVSSD) for the State of Oregon. Oversight is provided through the CJA Task Force and membership is statutorily dictated. Currently the CJA Task Force membership has vacancies of a mental health professional and representative from law enforcement.

Grant awards totaling \$215,000 from CJA run on a three year cycle in accordance with the Federal fiscal year. Funds from the 2017 award cycle need to be obligated by September, 2020 and spent by the grant recipient by December, 2020. Also during the recurring three years grant cycles, assessment of child abuse needs across the state must be completed. With the needs assessment in place for the current award cycle, the CJA Task Force discussed how to allocate the remaining 2016 and 2017 funds.

The Task Force was asked to assist with promoting awareness of funding opportunities when open applications for funding are used to address state-wide needs. The Task Force considered allocations for sustaining ongoing projects and the possibility of eliminating annual application for these grantees. The Task Force also discussed the process for grant applications and dissemination.

III. Purpose of funding The established priorities for the 2015-2018 grant cycle as established by the former grant administration (Department of Human Services):

1. Commercial sex exploitation
2. Trauma informed response
3. Bias
4. Children with disabilities
5. Co-occurring conditions

ACTION: Future assessments should include feedback from Child Abuse Centers.

Established priorities for the 2018-2021 grant cycle established by the former grant administration (Department of Human Services):

1. Cross System Collaboration & Communication
2. Interviewing Children Referred for Concerns of Maltreatment using the Oregon Interviewing Guidelines
3. Reducing Recurrence of Child Maltreatment in Cases involving Domestic Violence
4. Improving Outcomes for Children and Youth Maltreatment Victims from Traditionally Underserved & Otherwise Diverse Populations by Providing a Victim Centered, Culturally Sensitive System response
5. Task Force Revitalization

Past funded projects include a Karly's law video training, CSEC 101 training, and the revision of Project Ability,

IV. Discussion of Roles and Representation

The group discussed the need for further representation on the Task Force, including law enforcement, mental health providers and more rural representation.

ACTION: Task Force members will provide recommendations for law enforcement and mental health to Robin.

Shelly Smith will reach out to representatives from Wheeler and Sherman Counties' mental health providers.

ACTION: Debra Gilmore will reach out to a representative from Columbia River Intertribal Police for a law enforcement representative

V. Bylaws Review/Discussion/Adoption; Nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Task Force elected Tina Morgan as chair and Debra Gilmore as vice-chair..

The Task Force adopted the draft bylaws with minor corrections.

ACTION: Robin will ask the Children's Bureau if additional members can attend the national conference and will explore whether or not the budget can support sending additional members to the conference.

ACTION: Robin will ask how other states complete the needs assessment, including whether or not they use CJA funds to contract for assistance with the needs assessment.

The Task Force approved the bylaws draft with the suggested edits.

VI. Discussion of CJA historical uses and plan going forward

Robin shared that past CJA funding supported Summit, Shoulder to Shoulder, and the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Conferences. The Task Force recommended continued funding for an additional year for the Child Abuse Summit, Shoulder to Shoulder and the ICWA Conference with a short application and enhanced outcome measures. The Task Force recommended that the Oregon

Network of Child Abuse Intervention Centers be asked for a proposal including a budget for the next three years for continued delivery of OCFIT and other child abuse intervention training.

The Task Force discussed ways to support training to judges in the area of child abuse intervention.

The Task Force also supported providing funding for delivery of prosecutor training (previously funded by CAMI). John Casalino will discuss with Kevin Barton.

Meeting adjourned: 11:57 AM

Next meeting: Monday, February 24, 2020