



MEETING Minutes

CAMI Advisory Council

Friday, June 26, 2020

Remote meeting

9:00 am – 10:30 am

Council Members: Kevin Barton, Carol Chervenak (absent), Becky Jones, Patty Kenyon, Tina Morgan, Tammi Pitzen, Marilyn Reilly, Rahela Rehman, Jennifer Wynhausen (DHS) for Deena Loughary (DHS)

CVSSD DOJ Staff: Robin Reimer, Kim Larson, Amanda VanTil

Welcome, Introductions

Approval of February 2020 Meeting Minutes

Tina moved to approve the minutes; minutes approved without corrections.

Network Report

Becky Jones from Oregon Child Abuse Solutions (OCAS) shared an update of the work being done by OCAS. With social distancing and precautions in place due to COVID-19, OCAS has been working to move its trainings online. This requires specific capabilities for security, confidentiality, breakouts, practice interviewing, and testing. Cost is also a concern. The National Children's Alliance (NCA) has informed OCAS that trainings conducted online during the pandemic will meet accreditation requirements; Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division (CVSSD) and OCAS will continue to discuss with the NCA what they would require for credentialing of online training to continue after the pandemic ends.

The edits to the Oregon Interviewing Guidelines are now being reviewed by select District Attorneys. When that review is done, the draft will be forwarded for review by DOJ. Curriculum review for Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training (OCFIT) is underway and scheduled to be completed by mid-July.

While some rural areas did not see a drop in service requests, overall child abuse reporting has gone down since the State shutdown. This raises great concern for the safety of children and future need for services. Some Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) limited services to only urgent assessments to reduce COVID-19 risks, and the number of evaluations at emergency rooms was higher than ever before. The group discussed the negative impact of the pandemic on fundraising opportunities for CACs. OCAS estimates that over 2.2 million dollars in lost fundraising by CACs across the state and insurance reimbursements have also declined due to CACs seeing fewer children. The group discussed the potential for telemedicine to help address needs statewide and the potential funding proposal to the Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force.

Children's Justice Act Task Force Updates

Tina Morgan briefly reviewed the proposals presented to the Task Force including their consideration of future funding for a telemedicine/telehealth pilot project. Several CACs are already providing telemedicine, tele-interviewing, or remote mental health services, and the need, especially during this pandemic, is great. The AC membership agreed that as only a couple of AC members are not already part of the CJA Task Force, a brief written summary of the meeting will be provided rather than a verbal report. Amanda will prepare an informal summary and send to AC members immediately following the conclusion of the CJA meeting (since the AC meeting is typically the day after the CJA Task Force meeting).

Regional Service Provider Report

Tammi Pitzen reviewed the Regional Service Provider Report with the group (attached).

What can we do to move toward equity within child abuse intervention?

Kevin Barton shared articles on equity with the group:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2018/09/17/648710859/childhood-trauma-and-its-lifelong-health-effects-more-prevalent-among-minorities>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30242348/>

Becky Jones will send information and a worksheet on racial equity.

Robin Reimer will send the link to the 21 Day Equity Challenge.

The group discussed equity in services across CACs and counties. As a goal, any child who enters a facility needs to have their identity taken into account and outcomes should not be determined by race. Training in equity is important, both for the AC and for the MDTs and CACs statewide, and the group will continue to discuss how equity informed practices can be implemented and progress toward equity measured. Becky is participating in the Midwest Regional CAC. Equity will be a standing topic on the AC agenda and the membership will share information about what is happening around the state, resources, practices and opportunities.

CVSSD and CAMI update

CVSSD is working to get federal and state money for victim services to grantees as quickly as possible. Over the past year, CVSSD, led by Fund Coordinator Ben Bradshaw, has been working to expand the grantee base to include culturally specific services grantees. Ben has spent the last year in outreach to culturally specific programs and has developed a new culturally specific/culturally responsive VOCA grant to be opened on July 1, 2020.

Robin is helping to wrap up VOCA site visits, which are being done virtually now, and will soon put together the CAMI Multi-Disciplinary Team and Regional Children's Advocacy Center applications. Release is planned for late February or early March of next year, but the application forms must be completed soon due to a planned upgrade of the EGrants system (which will also mean the application release date will be later than in past years).

Current Issues Roundtable

Kevin Barton updated the group on the continued progress on the new CAC in Washington County.

Meeting adjourned: 10:38 AM

Regional Children’s Advocacy Center Collaborative Activities Summary January – March 2020

Representatives from each of the five Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers (RCACs), Becky Jones (Executive Director, Oregon Child Abuse Solutions), Robin Reimer (CAMI Fund Coordinator, CVSSD) and Amanda VanTil (Grant Specialist, CVSSD) met in person from 1:00-4:00pm in Salem on February 18, 2020. We welcomed Gil Levy from KIDS Center to his first statewide Regional meeting.

Our values and goals:

- *Equal access for all children in all counties;*
- *Standardization of resources and information (including E-Learning); and*
- *Fostering relationships (both among RSPs as well as between RSPs and the MDTs and CAICs served by the RSP).*

General Updates

Meeting Structure and Frequency

The group discussed our current meeting schedule (phone calls monthly, and in-person quarterly), and thought extended in-person meetings provided greater opportunity for effective and efficient communication. Moving forward, we agreed to schedule meetings in person, on a quarterly basis, for 4 hours, with a phone call a month beforehand to set the agenda.

CJA Proposal

Becky gave an overview of their proposal to CJA which included a variety of training related activities, such as continued management of Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training (OCFIT), biannual review of the Oregon Interview Guidelines, and convening a statewide Designated Medical Provider conference. RCAC representatives agreed to follow-up with their staff on questions related to how we’d all work together toward the success of common projects.

OCFIT Memo of Understanding (MOU)

The group discussed the plan to update the OCFIT MOU, which outlines the history of OCFIT, and the roles and responsibilities among RCACs, Oregon Child Abuse Solutions and CVSSD.

RSP Individual Center Highlights	
KIDS Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On March 11, 2020 KIDS Center hosted a 4 hour training on Investigating and Prosecuting Child Maltreatment cases. The two-part training was presented by local partners, and internationally known expert Dr. Sharon Cooper. The local partners shared insight regarding a recent local case involving starvation and torture. Dr. Cooper provided more expertise on this topic as well as an overview of commercially sexually exploited children. Over 100 MDT partners from the region attended. • KIDS Center sent our quarterly newsletter to regional contacts. The newsletter included updates regarding upcoming trainings, three article spotlights and one TED Talk with Elizabeth Gilbert, as well as information on the availability of online KIDS Center trainings.

Kids' FIRST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted Douglas County CAC/Board team and Ford Family Foundation for a site visit. • Hosted a Vicarious Resilience training for staff and MDT members from Lane and Douglas Counties. • Provided Handling Disclosures training for 28 school counselors and administrators. • Provided three medical peer review sessions (2 for Coos, 1 for Douglas) and two FI peer review sessions (1 in person, 1 remote).
Children's Advocacy Center of Jackson County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We conducted on site FI peer review for Curry County at the Curry County center. • We conducted and hosted Regional Quarterly Peer Review that was attended by Jackson, Josephine and Klamath County. • We held weekly Peer Review for LEA, the DA's and forensic interviewers. • We facilitated and hosted a training for LEA and the DA regarding work in the juvenile department system, and how LEA should interface with the Juvenile PO's.
Mt. Emily Safe Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We provided a complex case consultation, requested by Gilliam County MDT. Our medical provider and FI both assisted in the case review. • One medical peer review and one forensic peer review were held this quarter with participation from Union, Baker, & Wallowa County. Both forensic interviewers provided a field interview training for new officers with the La Grande police department and Union County sheriff's office.
CARES Northwest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim Jacobowitz hosted Mental Health professionals (associated with the MDT) at CARES NW to initiate a Mental Health peer review process. The group's goals included: creating a peer process for case consultation, technical support, and mentorship within our regional service area. Over ten professionals joined the group and we expect that the group will grow and routinely meet in-person or remotely once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. • Rachel Petke and Jennifer Wheeler hosted a Forensic Interviewer learning series, formed to provide a space for center based forensic interviewers to focus on current issues and best practices within the profession. The most recent series focused on court and memory issues, including presentation of updated research and best practices as related to these topics, as well as forum discussion regarding practice implications. • Hosted numerous professionals at CARES NW during the quarter, including 54 hours of onsite training for Forensic Interviewers and 224 hours of onsite training for Medical Providers.