

## **Oregon Children's Justice Act Annual Report May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022**

**Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division  
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### **Introduction**

Oregon's Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force was established in 1987 per the requirements set forth in the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (PL 111-320) (CAPTA). The mission of the CJA Task Force is to review and assess how Oregon's child protection and criminal justice systems handle child maltreatment cases including abuse, neglect, fatalities, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and children with disabilities and serious health related problems who may have been abused or neglected and to make recommendations for improving interventions with the goal of limiting additional trauma to children and their families.

### **Administration of the CJA in Oregon**

In Oregon, the CJA grant has been administered by the Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division (CVSSD) since 2018, when the grant transferred from the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS). The Oregon Department of Justice is headed by the Oregon Attorney General, Ellen F. Rosenblum, and has nine divisions:

- Office of the Attorney General
- Administrative Services Division
- Appellate Division
- Child Support Division
- Civil Enforcement Division
- Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division
- Criminal Justice Division
- General Counsel Division
- Trial Division

CVSSD administers federal victim services grants including the Victims of Crimes Act and the Violence Against Women Act, and state victim services grants including the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, Survivor Housing Funds, Children's Advocacy Center Fund, and the

Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI). CVSSD also administers Oregon's crime victims' compensation program and post-conviction victim advocacy program and provides statewide coordination and technical assistance in victims' rights and human trafficking. In 2022, the Civil Rights Unit (CRU), which implements programs including the bias response hotline and sanctuary hotline, joined CVSSD.

The administrator of the CAMI Program administers the CJA grant as the purpose and uses of both funds are closely aligned. The CAMI Program provides funds to support child abuse multidisciplinary intervention teams (MDTs) in each of Oregon's 36 counties. MDTs use the funds to support local Children's Advocacy Centers, ensure MDT members receive training in child abuse intervention, and fill gaps in local child abuse response. In addition, the CAMI Program provides grants to 5 Regional Children's Advocacy Centers (RCACs) and Oregon Child Abuse Solutions (OCAS), Oregon's chapter of the National Children's Alliance. These grants fund training, technical assistance, and support to Oregon's Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) and MDTs. Additionally, the CAMI Program administrator administers the Children's Advocacy Center Fund grants, one time funding from the Oregon legislature secured by OCAS in the last biennium earmarked to support CACs directly.

The connection between child abuse intervention and the Oregon Department of Justice is not limited to the Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division. The Child Advocacy Section of the Civil Enforcement Division helps protect abused, neglected, and abandoned children throughout Oregon by providing court representation and legal advice to the Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Welfare Program. The District Attorney/Law Enforcement Assistance Program (LEAP) of the Criminal Justice Division supports district attorneys by providing around-the-clock legal advice and support investigating and prosecuting complex criminal cases including child abuse cases. The Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) of the Criminal Justice Division focuses on investigating, prosecuting, and preventing the sexual exploitation of children on the internet.

### **Task Force Membership and Function**

During the reporting period, May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, Oregon's CJA Task Force, which consists of both the statutorily required members and additional members who are part of the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Advisory Council (CAMI AC), met quarterly with one regular meeting cancelled due to technological barriers and an ad hoc meeting held March 30, 2022 to discuss proposed use of funds for 2022. Past meeting minutes, upcoming meeting dates, award amounts, reports, a current Task Force membership roster and other resources are available on the [Oregon CJA Task Force web page](#).

Over the past year, membership of the Task Force, which is comprised of very experienced and dedicated members from across Oregon, has been largely stable and attendance at meeting strong despite the challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Members represent a rich variety of backgrounds and perspectives. They draw on their knowledge and expertise to analyze our systems and make recommendations for improved response to child abuse. Oregon has worked diligently to recruit a representative to fill the defense attorney position. Oregon is experiencing a significant shortage of public defense services which has received significant media coverage and has resulted in a lawsuit filed by the ACLU <https://www.opb.org/article/2022/05/16/lawsuit-oregon-failing-to-provide-attorneys-to-people-charged-with-crimes/>. The lack of

public defenders and the workloads of those practicing is both a likely cause and an argument for the importance of inclusion of a defense attorney in the Task Force. The administrator and Task Force membership continue their efforts to identify and recruit a representative.

Examples of CJA Task Force membership include:

- a senior deputy district attorney from the most populous and urban county in Oregon who manages the MDT/Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Juvenile (Dependency/Delinquency) and Support Enforcement units of the district attorney’s office,
- a registered nurse who works as a pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), is a member of the Attorney General’s Sexual Assault Task Force, and who established Oregon’s first SANE center where survivors of sexual assault can be seen in a private environment separate from a hospital emergency room, and
- a Senior Associate Attorney General who represents the Department of Human Services Child Welfare Division in dependency and termination of parental rights matters, with 20 years’ experience prosecuting and defending child abuse cases.

Oregon CJA Task Force Membership.

<b>Statutorily Required Task Force Members</b>				
<b>Task Force Membership Designation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Relevant Background/Experience</b>
Law Enforcement	Amy Ford	Detective	Oregon State Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 years as Major Crimes Detective;</li> <li>• Member Union, Morrow, Gilliam Child Abuse MDTs;</li> <li>• Member Morrow and Gilliam Sexual Assault Response Teams;</li> <li>• Member Umatilla Child Fatality Review Team.</li> </ul>
Criminal Court Judge	Andrew Erwin	Circuit Court Judge	Washington County Circuit Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Criminal Judge Washington County Circuit Court;</li> <li>• Member of the Oregon Judicial Department Law and Policy Work Group and Oregon Judicial Department Strategic Planning Committee;</li> <li>• Former prosecutor and former high school teacher.</li> </ul>
Civil Court Judge	Amy Holmes-Hein	Circuit Court Judge	Multnomah County Circuit Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Juvenile Court Judge;</li> <li>• Chair of local Child Welfare Council, Model Court Team, JELI committee and JELI Education Subcommittee working actively with JCIP and others to develop trainings for judges and others in all aspects of juvenile court policy and practice;</li> <li>• Deputy DA for 27 years including 10 years as Senior Deputy of the</li> </ul>

				<p>Juvenile Unit;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in many multi-disciplinary system improvement efforts;</li> <li>• Prosecuted child abuse and neglect cases, including child homicide;</li> <li>• Participated in monthly MDT system improvement meetings;</li> <li>• Senior Deputy of the Domestic Violence Unit 2008-13; and</li> <li>• Participated in domestic violence fatality reviews.</li> </ul>
Prosecuting Attorney	John Casalino	Chief Deputy District Attorney	Multnomah County District Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Deputy District Attorney supervising MDT/Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, Juvenile (Dependency/Delinquency) and Support Enforcement units;</li> <li>• Over 20 years experience as a Deputy District Attorney including over 13 years with the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team and 6 years as supervisor;</li> <li>• Prosecuted child abuse, including sexual assault and murder;</li> <li>• Advised DHS regarding their child protection efforts and the intersection with criminal and dependency law;</li> <li>• Chief of Division I, the Family Justice Division; Trained prosecutors in investigation and prosecution of child abuse;</li> <li>• Advised and trained law enforcement, DHS workers and medical professionals in child abuse investigation, prosecution and trial skills;</li> <li>• Lectured internationally on child abuse and benefits of the MDT model;</li> <li>• Provided input on child abuse and U-Visa legislation;</li> <li>• Trained on Child Abuse Reporting for Oregon State Bar and the ODAA;</li> <li>• Member of the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Child Abuse Training and Publication Committee; Revised the MDT protocols for Multnomah County;</li> <li>• Participates in the county and statewide child fatality reviews;</li> <li>• Is on the Board of CARES Northwest Children’s Advocacy Center;</li> <li>• Co-chairs the Multnomah County SART;</li> <li>• Executive member of the Family Violence Coordinating Council; and</li> <li>• Participates on the domestic violence fatality review for Multnomah County.</li> </ul>

Defense Attorney	TBD	TBD	TBD	We have solicited and pursued recommendations from multiple Task Force members and reached out repeatedly to Oregon Public Defense Services but have not yet recruited a member. We continue our efforts.
Attorney for Children	Rahela Rehman*	Assistant Attorney in Charge	Oregon Department of Justice, Child Advocacy Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attorney-in-Charge for the Child Safety Program in DHS which establishes policies and practice regarding the investigation and assessment of incidents of child abuse;</li> <li>• 18 years in the Oregon Department of Justice Child Advocacy Section;</li> <li>• Supervises AAGs in 12 counties who represent DHS across Oregon;</li> <li>• Former Defense Attorney; and</li> <li>• Former Deputy District Attorney exceptionally well versed in the confidentiality statutes that govern child abuse investigations and child welfare practice.</li> </ul>
Court Appointed Special Advocate	Jenna App	Executive Director	Oregon CASA Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JD;</li> <li>• Interim Director, Oregon CASA Network;</li> <li>• Founding member Central Oregon Health Council's Youth and children in Foster care working group, 2017-present.</li> </ul>
Health Professional	Patricia Kenyon*	Pediatric SANE	Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RN;</li> <li>• Founder, Sarah's Place, the first Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Center in Oregon;</li> <li>• Deputy Medical Examiner, Linn County, Oregon.</li> </ul>
Mental Health Professional	Damon Holland	Mental Health Specialist/ Substance Abuse Counselor	Community Counseling Solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health specialist/substance abuse counselor for Community Counseling Solutions in Condon, Oregon, a rural community in central Oregon and</li> <li>• Experience working for Oregon DHS CWP and Washington DHS developmental disability services.</li> </ul>
Child Protective Services	Deena Loughary*	Child Safety Program Manager	Oregon Department of Human Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oregon Department of Human Services Child Safety Manager;</li> <li>• Extensive experience at Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare with a primary focus in Child Protective Services;</li> <li>• CAMI Advisory Council Member.</li> </ul>
Individual Experienced in Working with	Shawna Clowser	Teacher	Salem-Kaiser School District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS, Special Education;</li> <li>• Over 20 years experience working with children with various levels of special needs, including children who have experienced abuse and/or</li> </ul>

Children with Disabilities				<p>homelessness; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 years as instructional assistant for Salem-Keizer School District. Currently 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Learning Resource Center.</li> </ul>
Parent/ Representative of Parent Group	Patty Terzian, CJA Vice-Chair	State Liaison	Western Regional Children's Advocacy Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State Liaison for Western Regional Children's Advocacy Center providing training and technical assistance to Children's Advocacy Centers and Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Teams;</li> <li>• Former Executive Director/Coordinator of Oregon Network of Child Abuse Intervention Centers for 9 years;</li> <li>• Mother of three; and</li> <li>• Co-Chair, Parent Association, Portland Village School.</li> </ul>
Lived Experience Expert (Adult Former Victim of Child Abuse and Neglect)	Sherree Rodriguez	Management Assistant	Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 6 years working for the Oregon Department of Justice.</li> <li>• Current Management Assistant for Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division including supporting the Attorney General's Task Force for Victims' Rights Enforcement, Trafficking Intervention Advisory Committee and the Batterer Intervention Program Advisory committee;</li> <li>• Experience working in pastoral ministry; and</li> <li>• Speaker for survivor Resilience Panel for State Victim Assistance Academy.</li> </ul>
Individual Experienced in Working with Homeless Children and Youth	Shelly Smith	Project Manager	City of Bend, Oregon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Manager for the City of Bend responsible for planning related to homeless youth;</li> <li>• Former Executive Director of a Children's Advocacy Center for 9 years;</li> <li>• Former Regional Service Provider Director;</li> <li>• Former Chair of the CAMI Advisory Council;</li> <li>• Marriage and Family Therapist; and</li> <li>• 5 years previous experience working with homeless youth at a non-profit organization.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Task Force Members/ CAMI AC Members</b>				
<b>Task Force Membership Designation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	
Additional	Tammi	Executive	Children's Advocacy Center of Jackson County	

Member	Pitzen*	Director	
Additional Member	Tina Morgan* CJA Chair	Consultant	National Children’s Alliance Site Reviewer Former Executive Director, Friends of the Children’s Advocacy Center, Lane County Children’s Advocacy Center
Additional Member	Marilyn Reilly*	Victim Assistance Program Manager	Clatsop County District Attorney’s Office

\* Current CAMI Advisory Council Member

**PRIOR YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT MAY 1, 2022 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2023**

**Recommendations/Goals for the three-year period of 2021 through 2024.**

Through the comprehensive three year assessment process completed last year, Oregon identified the following recommendations/goals for the grant period:

- 1. Support experimental or demonstration projects addressing processes and procedures in investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of abuse cases to improve timeliness, equity, and fairness.**
- 2. Provide consistent and reliable support for established, effective trainings and resources for investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of child abuse cases.**
- 3. Support development of new trainings and new training platforms to improve child abuse reporting, investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of child abuse cases.**
- 4. Support projects to evaluate the efficacy of protocols, policies, procedures, or trainings related to investigation, prosecution and judicial handing of child abuse.**

These goals, further described in the 2021-2024 Three Year Assessment, are referenced by number below where they relate to the funded projects described in this Annual Performance Report.

Additional CJA required categories are referred to below as follows:

- A. The assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases, including cases of suspected child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child and the child’s family;**
- B. The investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation; and**
- C. The assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health related problems who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.**

## **Prior Year Funded Projects May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022**

### **Sub-grantee implementing the program**

During the May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022 period, Oregon CJA awarded grant funds to Oregon Child Abuse Solutions (OCAS), a community based not for profit organization that is the Oregon Chapter of the National Children’s Alliance (NCA), to carry out a variety of projects focused on enhancing multidisciplinary response to child abuse. OCAS provides training, technical assistance, advocacy and other support services to Children’s Advocacy Centers and Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Teams throughout Oregon. OCAS delivers a cohesive training and support plan including Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training (OCFIT) and Advanced Interviewing Training Topics: Project Ability, Tools in Forensic Interviewing, and Trauma Informed Practices. Additionally, OCAS coordinates review and revision of the Oregon Interviewing Guidelines. OCAS delivered high quality training and support throughout this project period and maintained good contact with the grant administrator. Shortly before final reports were due to the Task Force, the OCAS Executive Director separated from the organization unexpectedly. Staff at OCAS is working to provide a complete final report on outputs, outcomes, and evaluation. Pending that report, the below information is provided.

### **Linking CJA with Oregon’s Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR), Child and Family Services Review (CFSR), Anti-Trafficking, Court Improvement Projects, and Child Fatality Review and Prevention**

In June of 2019 Oregon submitted its 2020 to 2024 CFSP. The CFSP contained the mission, vision and action of Oregon’s DHS CWP. The Mission: Every child and family is empowered to live independent, safe and healthy lives. Vision: Every child and family has a safe and positive environment in which to live and develop. Action: Promote exceptional and equitable service by embracing opportunity for growth and providing innovation, resources and support to our staff. DHS CWP committed to engaging with community partners, including the Children’s Justice Act Task Force. DHS CWP recently released its [2022 APSR](#) which included updates to Oregon’s Vision and which will be shared with the CJA Task Force membership.

The CJA funded activities are informed by and responsive to the ongoing efforts by the Department of Human Services Office of Child Welfare Programs (DHS CWP). Over the past year, the Oregon Department of Justice CVSSD and the DHS CWP have continued to regularly communicate about the APSR, CFSR, PIP, CFSP and CJA. The DHS Child Safety Manager continues to serve actively on the CAMI Advisory Council and on the CJA Task Force, sharing information about current efforts at child welfare such as updates on Oregon’s statewide child abuse reporting hotline, new mandatory reporter training and the roll out of Family First/family preservation efforts. The CJA/CAMI Administrator has convened a standing monthly meeting with the CAPTA and CBCAP administrators and OCAS Executive Director for the purposes of sharing information on current efforts and projects and identifying areas of potential collaboration and support including eligibility criteria for the Family Support and Connections program and how to access services provided by the CACs. The DHS CWP strategies for improvement: engagement, workforce development, prevention and continuous quality improvement informed the development of the 2021 to 2024 three year assessment. Training of forensic interviewers through continued funding of OCFIT ensures a resource of competent professionals to provide interviews whenever



needed by child welfare caseworkers. The Collaborative Child Abuse Response training was developed based on the identified need to provide support for initial responders including child welfare caseworkers in the field. The Medical Academy was likewise developed in response to the identified need to provide professional development resources specific to child abuse intervention to support the work of medical professionals working at CACs to improve response in child abuse investigations. The Trafficking Response and Intervention Program, Oregon's response to trafficking, is housed at CVSSD and information sharing happens regularly, and the CJA funded a portion of the trafficking intervention work of the program related to child victims. During this grant period, the administrator of the Task Force met with representatives of the Court Improvement Program to learn about current efforts related to specialty courts and to explore a future presentation to the Task Force at large. The Task Force administrator and the prosecutor representative on the Task Force are active members of Oregon's Child Fatality Prevention and Review Team which is part of the DHS CW Child Fatality Prevention and Review Program. They provide connections and updates between the teams to ensure efforts are coordinated.

### **Activities, Outputs, and Outcomes**

#### **I. Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training (OCFIT) Program (A, B, 2)**

OCAS delivered Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training three times between May 2021 – April 2022 in May and October 2021 and January 2022 and trained over 60 MDT professionals. OCFIT is based on the most up-to-date OIGs. These trainings were offered to Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) professionals and CAC staff forensic interviewers throughout the state. OCFIT is the only child forensic interview training offered in Oregon that meets accreditation standards of the National Children's Alliance for providing a standardized, competency-based training for professionals conducting child forensic interviews. OCFIT is a collaborative program of OCAS, RCACs, and ODOJ. Additionally, OCAS convened an annual curriculum review and a train the trainer, activities necessary to ensure the program's ongoing consistency with national best practices.

#### **II. Oregon Interviewing Guidelines (OIGs) Updates (A, 2)**

The OIGs are the basis for statewide forensic interviewer training and offer interviewers information and insights to help them conduct skilled, professional, developmentally appropriate and culturally sensitive interviews with children. OCAS, in partnership with the RCACs, are committed to reviewing the OIGs at least every other year to ensure they are current. Updates to the OIGs were compiled from the OCFIT faculty and other experts and forwarded to the ODOJ for approval prior to incorporating changes into the updated document. Updates to the OIGs were completed and OCAS distributed an updated version of the OIGs to stakeholders. The [updated OIGs](#) is available on the ODOJ CJA web page.

#### **III. Support for Medical Providers (A, C, 1, 2, 3)**

In 2021, after two years of convening medical providers working in the field of child abuse and neglect, OCAS launched a statewide training program called the Medical Academy. The Medical Academy provides monthly lectures, quarterly peer reviews, and topic-specific conferences to child abuse medical professionals by child abuse medical professionals. Members of CACs and RCACs steer the learning opportunities in the

Medical Academy and all lectures and conference materials are captured in an online learning management system, accessible only to child abuse medical professionals.

#### IV. Statewide Training and Technical Assistance Convening (A, B, C, 1)

OCAS identified and reached out to training and technical assistance providers serving MDT professionals in the 2021-2022 CJA grant year to share expertise, identify gaps in knowledge, strategize ways to better meet needs, and identify opportunities for cross-collaboration and cross-training. Ensuring opportunities are readily shared and co-created when optimal is increasingly important with a strained system and the ongoing changes in training and technical assistance provision.

#### V. Interviewing for non-Interviewers (A, B, 1, 3)

During this project period, OCAS developed a new training for non-interviewers consistent with the content of the OCFIT curriculum, but geared toward MDT professionals who conduct minimal facts interviews and/or conduct interviews in the field. This training was created to respond to the high demand by MDT professionals who do not conduct forensic interviews for information shared in OCFIT relevant to their work. The training emphasizes the benefits of the MDT model and stresses the advantages of conducting child forensic interviews at a local CAC by a trained forensic interviewer whenever possible, and covers the disclosure process, questioning of children, child development, trauma and memory. A pilot of this training was delivered in April 2022. Over 40 MDT professionals were trained.

**Prior Year Line Item Budget Expenditures**

PROJECT FUNDED	PRIORITY AREA(S)	EXPENDITURES
<b>OCAS</b>		
I. OREGON CHILD FORENSIC INTERVIEW TRAINING (OCFIT) PROGRAM	A,B 2	BUDGET \$140,000 OBLIGATED \$140,000 EXPENDED \$140,000 (PENDING REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SUBGRANTEE'S FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT)
II. OREGON INTERVIEWING GUIDELINES (OIGs) UPDATES	A 2	
III. SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL PROVIDERS	A,C 1,2,3	
IV. STATEWIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CONVENING	A,B,C 1	
V. INTERVIEWING FOR NON-INTERVIEWERS	A,B 1,3	
ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FROM 2019-21 BUDGETED PROJECTS		
TRAFFICKING RESPONSE & INTERVENTION PROGRAM - "Roadmaps: Understanding Sex Trafficking Through Survivors" (FKA Vignettes Project)	A,B 1,4*	BUDGET \$8,000 OBLIGATED \$8,000 EXPENDED \$1,995 \$6000 REPORTED IN 2020-21
VII. CAC COVID – 19 GRANTS	A,B,C 1,2,3,4*	BUDGET \$210,000 OBLIGATED \$186,429.02 EXPENDED \$73,363.04 \$105,153.69 REPORTED IN 2020-21

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES (NOT TO EXCEED 5% OF ANNUAL ALLOCATION)		BUDGET \$10,840 EXPENDED \$1,951 (AS OF 4/30/22)
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\* **Recommendations/Goals for the three-year period of 2018 through 2021.** The CJA Task Force, in its previous iteration at the Department of Human Services, identified the following recommendations/goals for the grant period:

1. **Cross System Collaboration and 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 for Traditionally Underserved and Otherwise Diverse Populations by Providing a Victim Centered, Culturally Sensitive System Response**
5. **Task Force Revitalization and Maintenance**

**APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES**

In the coming reporting year CJA funding will continue to be used to support projects implemented by OCAS. CJA funding will be granted on a two year basis, in furtherance of the identified priority of providing consistent, multi-year funding to successful projects/grantees. Building on previously funded successful projects and expanding into new areas, OCAS has proposed the following. The proposed budget reflects one year of the two year allocation to OCAS.

**Proposed Line Item Budget**

PROJECT TO BE FUNDED	PRIORITY AREA(S)	ANTICIPATED AWARD
OCAS		\$200,000
2023 NATIONAL GRANTEEES MEETING		\$3,000
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ESTIMATED AT 5% OF \$216,891 2021 ALLOCATION		\$10,840
PROJECTED FFY 2022 TOTAL		\$213,840

**Proposed Project Detail**

OCAS strengthens Oregon’s child abuse intervention and assessment systems so that child victims of abuse receive quality, comprehensive services. OCAS is a systemic change nonprofit that works hand-in-hand with frontline child abuse interventionists to co-create solutions in practice, policy and training. OCAS membership includes 24 Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs), five of which are Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers (RCACs). OCAS has worked effectively with its membership CACs and RCACs, the Children’s Justice Act Task Force (CJA) and the Oregon Department of Justice (ODOJ) Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention Program (CAMI) for nearly a decade.

The 2022 – 2024 CJA proposal addresses the following federally identified priorities:

- A. Investigation of child abuse and neglect
- B. Prosecution of child abuse and neglect
- C. Judicial handling of child abuse and neglect

The 2022 – 2024 CJA proposal addresses the following Oregon CJA Task Force priorities as identified in the “Oregon CJA Annual Report, Application and Three Year Assessment (2021 – 2024)”: The recommendations are labeled 1-4.

1. Support experimental or demonstration projects addressing processes and procedures in investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of abuse cases to improve timeliness, equity and fairness.
2. Provide consistent and reliable support for established, effective trainings and resources for investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of child abuse cases.
3. Support development of new trainings and new training platforms to improve child abuse reporting, investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of child abuse cases.
4. Support projects to evaluate the efficacy of protocols, policies, procedures or trainings related to investigation, prosecution and judicial handling of child abuse.

Oregon has a high need for training and coordination that will support multidisciplinary team (MDT) professionals in consistently implementing best practices. In our most recent grant cycle trainings with differing audiences and topics all filled quickly and many trainings were waitlisted. Oregon has many challenges that continue to create barriers to consistent implementation of best practices.

- MDT professionals have high-caseloads and are working long hours within their job responsibilities and there is still high turnover across many disciplines.
- Oregon is geographically and demographically very diverse and many rural and under-resourced areas have less access to affordable, local training.
- In the medical community, many professionals are part-time or contracted and work other full-time jobs making national travel unattainable due to ongoing responsibilities.

- Training and Technical Assistance providers that serve the entire state continue to be under-resourced and understaffed, with many operating with 1 or 2 FTE. Given other high priorities many do not have the capacity to coordinate needed MDT trainings in a consistent and sustainable manner.
- State agencies are often siloed and under-resourced, and continue to have competing priorities that prevent each agency from working intentionally with one another or with community-based entities on training development and implementation.
- A long-standing, annual, multidisciplinary conference, the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Child Abuse Summit has not been held, even remotely, since 2020 and has recently announced that the conference will not be reinstated.

#### I. Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training (OCFIT) Program (Priorities A, B, 2)

OCAS proposes to offer Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training at least five times from May 2022 – April 2024. OCFIT is the only child forensic interview training offered in Oregon that meets accreditation standards of the National Children's Alliance for providing a standardized, competency-based training for professionals conducting child forensic interviews. OCFIT is a collaborative program of OCAS, RCACs, and ODOJ. Included in this program is an annual curriculum review and train the trainer. OCAS additionally proposes to coordinate an Advanced FI Summit which includes all three advanced trainings: Project Ability, Use of Tools and Trauma-Informed Interviewing.

#### II. Oregon Interviewing Guidelines (OIGs) Updates (Priorities A, 2)

The OIGs serve as the basis for statewide training and help interviewers conduct skilled, professional, developmentally appropriate, and culturally sensitive interviews with children. OCAS, in partnership with the RCACs, will begin updates on the OIGs in June 2022 with anticipated publication no later than 2023.

#### III. OCAS Medical Academy (MA) (Priorities A, C, 1, 2, 3)

Launched in 2021, the MA includes monthly lectures, quarterly peer reviews and topic-specific conferences. Members of CACs and RCACs steer the learning opportunities in the Medical Academy and all lectures and conference materials are captured in an online portal accessible 24/7 to child abuse providers. In 2021, the MA provided 27 hours of learning opportunities.

#### IV. Child Physical Abuse Training for Primary Care Clinicians (PCC) (Priorities A, B, 1, 2, 3, 4)

The PCC was conceptualized and created between August 2021 and March 2022 and will be piloted in March, April and May of 2022. This four-session training, led by Board Certified Oregon-based child abuse pediatricians in our Network, will help primary care providers identify the signs of child physical abuse and conduct an exam and identify patient and familial history elements that are concerning for child physical abuse.

Additionally, it will train to the roles and responsibilities associated with Oregon’s county-based Designated Medical Providers, Karly’s Law, the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline, and Child Protective Services.

V. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Training Program and Strategies (DEI) (Priorities A, B, C, 1, 2, 3, 4)

In 2022, OCAS will compensate and convene a voluntary group of direct service professionals interested in developing a training and competency program that addresses diversity, equity, inclusion, access and belonging. This voluntary group will draw from the expertise of professionals located in communities across the state and will identify desired outcomes, strategies and priorities related to increasing culturally-responsive services. OCAS will coordinate the project and ensure deliverables are consistent with meeting the 2023 NCA Standards for Accreditation.

VI. Enhanced Program-Based and Comprehensive Evaluation (Priorities A, B, C, 1, 2, 4)

In 2021-2022, OCAS worked with a program evaluation expert to develop a longitudinal study for OCFIT participants. As OCAS expands training, we are in a good position to make evaluations of each opportunity more robust, to support CACs in tracking outcomes and to facilitate completion of the Federally required 3 Year CJA Assessment for the 2025-2028 cycle.

VII. Coordination Support for Trainings (Priorities A, B, C, 1, 2, 3)

As OCAS continues to expand trainings, we anticipate that urgent training needs will arise during the duration of this two-year grant. This grant allows for more capacity for OCAS to facilitate and coordinate needed trainings. Potential trainings and topics that OCAS may lend a hand in coordination may include a child abuse prosecution training, doll re-enactment training, disabilities for first responders, advanced medical Karly’s Law training, and many more.

Please see attachment for detail on deliverables, outputs and outcomes.

Thank you for your time, expertise, and thoughtful consideration of this application.

**STATE OF OREGON**

Acting by and through its Department of Justice

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Shannon L. Sivell

Title: Director, Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division

Date: May 31, 2022

