



MEETING Minutes

Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) Advisory Council

Wednesday, August 21, 2023
Remote Teams meeting, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Council Members:

X	Representative of Oregon Child Abuse Solutions (OCAS) Shelly Smith	X	Citizen with an interest in advocating for the medical interests of abused children Patricia K. Kenyon
	Representative from a local Child Advocacy Center recommended by Oregon Child Abuse Solutions (OCAS) Beatriz Lynch	X	Citizen with an interest in advocating for the medical interests of abused children Rahela Rehman
X	Employee of the State Office for Services to Children and Families Child Welfare Deena Loughary	X	Representative from an Operating Regional Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) Tammi Pitzen
X	District Attorney Kevin Barton	X	Person having experience dealing with child abuse Tina Morgan
X	Citizen with an interest in advocating for the medical interests of abused children Marilyn Reilly	X	Law Enforcement Gary Bell

CVSSD Staff:

X	Robin Reimer, CAMI Fund Coordinator	Kim Kennedy, Grant Unit Manager
X	Amanda VanTil, Grant Specialist	Shannon Sivell, Director

Welcome: Chief Gary Bell was introduced, and each member introduced themselves.

Approval of May 2023 Meeting Minutes: May minutes were approved with no edits.

OCAS and RCAC Updates: The CACs received another one time \$6 million from the legislature which will be distributed through The Oregon Department of Justice (ODOJ) as the Children's Advocacy Center Fund (CACF) to help maintain CAC services. The immunity bill intended to protect medical providers working at a CAC from civil litigation was referred to a legislative work group for the 2024 Legislative session. OCAS continues providing technical assistance across the state to CACs. STAR Center, Amani Center and Mt Emily Safe Center are now NCA accredited. Of the 24 centers, 14 are accredited and the others are affiliate members. The Oregon Child Forensic Training (OCFIT), Collaborative Child Abuse Response (CCAR) and advanced forensic interviewing curriculums were recently reviewed in-depth by the trainers. The Medical Academy continues monthly trainings for providers. Survey feedback from attendees regarding content and relevance is positive. OCAS is working in collaboration with the

Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force on Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurses Examiner (SANE) role in child abuse response.

OCAS brought together medical providers to learn which CACs and counties conduct hair drug tests and to discuss their perspectives on the practice. Information was shared at the last OCAS membership meeting. Council members expressed interest in hearing more about this and Shelly agreed to reach out to providers about presenting at the next Council meeting. There is no uniform response or agreed upon best practice at this time. It was noted that 40% of drug exposures reported involved children under age five. Representatives from southern Oregon hope to bring the issue to the legislature. The council discussed the need for review of the model Child Drug Endangerment protocol. OCAS staff are convening Oregon medical professionals on this topic and may develop resources on hair drug testing which could help inform a revised protocol and provide information to MDT partners regarding response around the state.

Tammi updated the group on RCAC activities included as an attachment below.

CVSSD and CAMI Updates: The final 2021-2023 CAMI MDT (Multidisciplinary Team) and RCAC (Regional CAC) financial reports have been received and approved which means that 2023-2025 applications can be finalized. Robin is setting meetings with those applicants whose AC reviewer recommendations were “conditional” to discuss the requested application modifications. Upon completing the modification process, Robin will provide the Council an update on any areas where counties are struggling in MDT process or response. MDT grants are retroactive to July 2023; payments will be distributed after approval of the July-September financial reports. Regional CACs will receive their first payment upon execution of their grants.

Applications are now open for the VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) non-competitive grants for which CACs are eligible. The report from the consulting firm hired to review the joint allocation formula is expected to be available in October and will be shared with the Council when available.

The CACF application is anticipated to be released at the end of August or beginning of September.

Member Updates

Rahela shared that the Child Advocacy Section (CHAS) of ODOJ which represents ODHS in dependency matters is now the Child Advocacy and Protection Division (CAPD). Litigation and DHS assistance case load has increased significantly.

Meeting adjourned: 10:50 AM

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm Remote Teams Meeting

Action Items:		
Item	Assigned to	Status
Share results from recent hair drug testing survey of Oregon CACs	Deena/Shelly	Scheduled for 11/14/23 CAMI AC Meeting
Share the consultant's report on the Joint grant distribution formula when available	Robin	
Update AC on MDT applications	Robin	

Regional Children's Advocacy Center Report to the CAMI Advisory Council for April through June 2023

August 16, 2023

Training for child abuse multidisciplinary teams is of paramount importance in ensuring effective and sensitive handling of abuse cases. Proper training equips these professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to conduct interviews, collect evidence, and offer therapeutic services, all while minimizing further trauma to the child. The Regional Children's Advocacy Centers in Oregon believe that fostering coordination, communication, specialized expertise, and training for these professionals enhances the chances of justice, recovery, and prevention of further abuse for the children served through the MDT process within a safe and child-centered environment.

While the Regional CAC's provide many services, during this report we are focusing on the trainings facilitated by a Regional CAC or by support of a Regional CAC to MDT members across the state.

Regional Centers partnered with other organizations to provide trainings. An example of this is in Lane County the KidsFirst Center partnered with DOJ to provide Responding to Sexual Assault Disclosures in Schools. Another example is in Jackson County, the Regional CAC partnered with local law enforcement to provide a Child Abuse Symposium focused on defining the growing problem of substance abuse in our community and on identifying drug exposed children through hair strand testing.

Regional Centers supported MDT members to attend trainings both in Oregon and nationally. These trainings included the Oregon Child abuse Symposium and the National Children's Alliance Leadership Conference. Regional Centers provided 16 trainings to MDT members during the quarter to include but not limited to the following topics; First Responder, Karly's Law, Dynamics of Child Abuse, Response to Drug Endangered Children, Abusive head Trauma, and Minimal Facts Interviewing. These trainings were for law enforcement, medical providers, forensic interviewers, prosecutors, and CAC staff. During this quarter. Over 270 MDT members received training through these trainings across the state of Oregon.

In addition, each Regional CAC facilitated Medical and Forensic Peer Review in a variety of ways—virtual, in person, one on one, by supporting statewide peer review (medical) and by supporting subscriptions to Midwest Children's Advocacy Center's platforms. In some regions, peer review is offered a number of times depending on the needs of the MDT's in their region.

Regional Children's Advocacy Centers have also supported the facilitation of CCAR and OCFIT during this quarter. Regional CAC's have offered support to MDT's by attending MDT meetings, by completing outreach and technical assistance and by sending out emails and newsletters notifying MDT members of available training options. The RCAC's continue to provide complex case consultations and expert witness testimony as appropriate and requested.

The regional providers, the five CACs and OCAS, will be meeting in person later in August. This meeting will be to discuss and review the purpose and history of the CAMI RCAC grant expectations and to discuss future ways of collaborating to provide services across the state.

In conclusion, Regional Service Providers are working more diligently to provide robust training options, to fill gaps in training needs across the state of Oregon, to assist more CACs in the process to become accredited and to offer more opportunities for both forensic interviewer and medical peer review. As investigations of child abuse get more complex and as training needs are identified, the Regional Children's Advocacy Centers are working to provide more focused and directed training designed to equip MDT members with the skills and knowledge needed to respond to the ever changing landscape in the field of child abuse.

Submitted by

Tammi Pitzen

On Behalf of:

Cares Northwest

Children's Advocacy Center of Jackson County

KIDS Center

KIDS FIRST

Mt Emily Safe Center