

# Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

In-person meeting

9:00 am- 12:00 pm

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### Task Force Members:

xx	CASA Jenna App		CAMI AC Member Tammi Pitzen
	Prosecuting Attorney VACANT	xx	CAMI AC Member Marilyn Reilly
	Person with Experience Working with Children with Disabilities Shawna Clowser	xx	Attorney for Children Rahela Rehman
xx	Criminal Court Judge Hon Andrew Erwin	xx	Lived Experience Expert Sherree Rodriguez
xx	Law Enforcement Amy Ford	xx	Parent Patty Terzian
xx	Mental Health Professional Damon Holland		Person with Experience Working with Homeless Children and Youth VACANT
	Civil Court Judge VACANT		Child Protective Services Deena Loughary
xx	Health Professional Patty Kenyon	xx	Defense Attorney Matthew Muenzen
xx	CAMI AC Member Tina Morgan	xx	CAMI AC Member Beatriz Lynch

### Guests:

xx	Amelia Siders, WRCAC	xx	Shelly Smith, OCAS

### CVSSD DOJ Staff:

xx	Robin Reimer, CAMI Fund Coordinator		Kim Kennedy, GMS Section Manager
xx	Maria Ruiz Ceja, Grant Specialist		Shannon Sivell, CVSSD Director

### Welcome and Introductions

Robin welcomed everyone, and each member introduced themselves.

### Membership Discussion about what motivates participation in the CJA task force.

Each member shared what motivates them to participate in the CJA task force.

### Three Year Assessment Discussion

Robin provided a brief overview of the last three-year assessment process.

- The first step was having each member of the task force identify three stakeholders in their constituency to reach out to for their perspective about the needs of children related to investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of child abuse and neglect in Oregon. Members were given a questionnaire to provide some guidance and structure for the conversations. The questions included identifying weaknesses, strengths, trends and suggestions for improvement in investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of child abuse in Oregon.

- Second, task force members synthesized this information into field reports which incorporated the feedback and the member's perspective.
- Third members met in smaller groups organized by role to discuss the information they gained from their conversations and shared themes with the whole task force.
- Next, a survey was created and distributed to a larger group of stakeholders statewide to gather wider input.
- After the survey, all the information that was provided was used to create the three-year priority.

Robin shared feedback about process from the last three-year assessment. Members shared challenges in identifying appropriate stakeholders for some groups as well as responding to questions about processes with which some groups had less knowledge (eg a parent responding to investigation). There were suggestions from the group that the group as a whole might help identify individual stakeholders and that questions might be customized for the particular type of constituent. The group also identified an interest in collecting and reviewing existing sources of information and data related to child abuse intervention and suggested that the statewide field survey be conducted prior to the small group reports.

The following list reflects possible data sources.

- OMS Survey
- CAMI Data
- Governor's Advocacy Office
- Citizens review board.
- ODHS Child Welfare

### **Presentation from Amelia Sider from Western Regional Childrens Advocacy Center (WRCAC).**

Amelia Siders from WRCAC presented information on rural mental health challenges across the region, how CACs are responding, and promising emerging practices. She also shared how WRCAC is helping CACs with training, support, collaboration, and resources. Amelia shared general information on the difficulties the United States is facing with not having enough mental health providers, especially those that primarily work with children and youth. Most of them are facing high caseloads. Rural communities also face ongoing challenges with Wi-Fi access which impacts availability of telehealth. Amelia's role is to support the chapters in the region across the country that support mental health work and to be able to help CACs provide mental health services.

WRCSC is planning to release a tele-mental health readiness report by the end of September or the beginning of October. This will be an implementation resource guide for chapters. Also, the WRCSC website will be updated at the beginning of 2024 with tele-mental health resources for CACs. They will continue quarterly mental health peer consultation, which is open nationally and is in partnership with the National Children's Alliance. They are launching on October 7th, 2023, a consultation forum for advocates and mental health. They are working on a guide for CACs on how they meet the mental health standards.

Meeting adjourned 12:00pm

**Next meeting: Wednesday, November 15, 1pm-4pm via Teams**

<b>Action Items:</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Assigned to</b>	<b>Status</b>
Circulate list of existing data and information resources for input.	Robin	