



Children's Justice Act Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 2, 2025

Remote Teams meeting 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Task Force Members:

X	CASA Christopher Hinkel	X	CAMI AC Member Gil Levy
X	Prosecuting Attorney Stacy Neil		CAMI AC Member Marilyn Reilly
	Person with Experience Working with Children with Disabilities VACANT		Attorney for Children Rahela Rehman
X	Criminal Court Judge Hon Andrew Erwin	X	Lived Experience Expert Sherree Rodriguez
X	Law Enforcement Amy Ford	X	Parent Patty Terzian, Vice Chair
X	Mental Health Professional Damon Holland		Person with Experience Working with Homeless Children and Youth VACANT
	Civil Court Judge VACANT		Child Protective Services Kristen Khamnohack
	Health Professional Patti Kenyon	X	Health Professional Natalya Miller
X	Parents/Defense Attorney Emily Cohen	X	CAMI AC Member Beatriz Lynch
X	CAMI AC Member Tina Morgan, Chair		

Guests:

X	Shelly Smith, OCAS		
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CVSSD DOJ Staff:

X	Robin Reimer, CAMI Fund Coordinator		Kim Kennedy, GMS Section Manager
X	Kevin Dowling, Fund Coordinator		Shannon Sivell, CVSSD Director
X	Amanda Shinkle, Grant Specialist		

Welcome/Minutes approval

Robin welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. The February meeting minutes were approved without edits or objections.

Children's Justice Act (CJA) Updates

The deadline to apply for 2025 CJA funding and report on the 2024 award is June 20, 2025. Due to federal changes, the Children's Bureau will not host a teleconference to review the program instruction, but generally the requirements and priorities have not changed but for removal of diversity, equity and inclusion language. The report will reflect activities for May 2024-April 2025. For Oregon, these funds support programs implemented by OCAS so the report will consist primarily of OCAS' reported activities during that period. Though not required, Robin would like to include a list of legislative changes from the past year and any reports reflecting the current state of child abuse intervention in Oregon. Robin requested the group review this list of legislation circulated by Kevin and email her if there is something that should be added. Robin also asked the group to share suggestions for other resources for inclusion in



the report. The OCAS census and preliminary results from a recent survey by the ODHS Jurisdiction committee will be included.

The group reviewed the open positions on the Task Force and requested nominations from current members. Nominees would ideally have a state-wide lens but as the open positions for a civil court judge and individuals with experience working with houseless children and children with disabilities have been challenging to fill, the group should also consider individuals with regional or local perspectives. Members can email or call Robin with their recommendations.

Robin thanked Kristen for sharing her contacts at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). Robin has contacted Julie Colinson, who formerly worked with Clackamas County and coordinated the Clackamas Child Abuse Summit. Julie expressed a willingness to discuss DPSST trainings particularly the topic of child abuse response at an upcoming CJA meeting.

The Statewide Child Death Review and Prevention Team met May 22nd. They discussed support for counties needing to obtain hospital records to complete the reviews. Rahela has offered to draft a letter stating the law and purposes of the records request. County fatality review teams could include the letter with their requests to hospitals to clarify the statutory basis and purpose of the request. The Statewide Child Death Review and Prevention Team is also working to compile hospital records contacts, processes and forms and a tip sheet for obtaining records. County fatality review teams have also been engaging with Matchstick Consulting on retrospective suicide analysis.

Oregon Child Abuse Solutions (OCAS) Update – Shelly Smith

Shelly updated the group on OCAS' CJA funded work including the County Child Fatality Review Team support charter, Drug Endangered Children (DEC) toolkit and protocol templates, and the status of Oregon Child Forensic Interview Training (OCFIT).

The task force discussed the appropriate party in the county to identify a county DEC lead. It was suggested that the DA would be most appropriate given their role as convener of the MDT. Oregon District Attorney Association has committed to having DEC as a topic at an upcoming Continuing Legal Education (CLE) session.

Shelly shared information about OCFIT, including data on attendance over the past several years. Currently, OCAS offers OCFIT twice a year as a multi-day, in-person trainings. OCAS also offers other trainings for those who do not and will not conduct forensic interviews. This has had some impact on attendance. The benefits and drawbacks of offering the training more or less frequently, and the inclusion of child welfare workers and law enforcement officers were discussed as well as whether out of state training was sufficient for interviewers.

The group discussed thoughts on the reason for the decline, and general questions about OCFIT:

- There are fewer OCFIT trainings offered now than in the past, so could that be a reason for the decline?
- How many child abuse forensic interviews are being done in Oregon by OCFIT trained CAC based forensic interviewers (FIs) vs LEA or ODHS based FIs?
- What are turnover rates for OCFIT trained FIs?
- OCAS currently charges a registration fee for OCFIT training. Should CJA funds be used to cover more of the cost of the training and reduce or eliminate registration expenses paid by organizations?



- Is it time for the format of the OCFIT training to be re-imagined? What does NCA recommend as best practice for FI training?
- Could there be a 4-hour refresher course on OCFIT for those who took the training years ago?
- What resources are being offered for FIs waiting for one of the two OCFIT trainings each year?
- Could there be peer review sessions offered for OCFIT trained LEA and ODHS interviewers, like the ones offered for CAC based interviewers?

The guidance document developed by CAMI for new interviewers who must interview before they are able to attend OCFIT was shared.

The funds supporting the first year of OCAS' 2 year grant must be fully expended by September 2025. OCAS proposed modification to the grant to ensure the funds are expended timely. The group agreed that OCAS should use a portion of the year one funds as proposed on the county child fatality review support charter and the remainder of the year one funds should be sub-awarded to CACs by OCAS. This is an allowable use of the CJA funds as long as it does not support direct service.

OCAS/ODHS/CAMI check-ins: This group was created at the request of ODHS Child Welfare as a forum for these programs to discuss responding to MDT trainings and needs. Two meetings have been held. A representative from ODAA, Stacy Neil, will also be added.

Meeting adjourned 3:58 PM

Next meeting: August 12, 1:00pm-4:00 pm

Action Items:		
Item	Assigned to	Status