

CJA Task Force Meeting

Date: March 18, 2024, 12:00-2:00pm

Summary Statement: The CJA Task Force is a federally mandated, multidisciplinary advisory board that reviews and evaluates statewide front-end child welfare policies and practices and makes recommendations to DHS and others for systemic, equitable improvements to promote children's justice and well-being.

Attendance:

Role (42 U.S.C. §5106c (c)(1)) (voting members)	Name	Present	Absent	Notes
1. Law enforcement	Barrett Chrissis	x		
2. Law enforcement	Wade Rasch	x		
3. Criminal court judge	Judge Stumme	x		Left early
4. Civil court judge	Judge Anderson	x		
5. Prosecuting attorney	Adam Hinz		x	
6. Defense attorney	Emmalie Brudzinski	x		
7. Attorney for children	Anne Gueinzius	x		
8. Guardian ad litem	Erika Randall	x		
9. Guardian ad litem	Vic Walker	x		
10. Health professional	Dr. Mark Hudson	x		
11. Health professional	Janaye Stewart	x		
12. Mental health professional	Saprina Matheny	x		
13. Mental health professional	Anna Clavin	x		
14. Child protection services	Kari Hohn	x		
15. Child protection services	Jessica Iwen	x		
16. Parent representative	Joanne Hodgeman	x		Late
17. Parent representative	Tatiana Bergum	x		
18. Foster care survivor	Dawn Hyland		x	
19. Foster care survivor	Marlena Jasch	x		
20. Individual experienced working with children with disabilities	Kate Rickord	x		Left early
21. Individual experienced working with children with disabilities	Tascha Just	x		
22. Individual experienced working with homeless children/youth	Amanda Leathers	x		
23. Individual experienced working with homeless children/youth	Lolita Carter	x		

24. Survivor of child abuse or neglect	Brent Genereux	x		
25. Survivor of child abuse or neglect	Cindy Devonish		x	
Role (non-voting members)	Name	Present	Absent	Notes
Ad hoc – Corner House CAC	Jane Straub (CAC)	x		Left early
Ad hoc -Minnesota Children’s Alliance	Marcia Milliken (CAC)	x		Left early
Ad hoc -First Witness CAC	Tracie Clanaugh (CAC)	x		
Ad hoc -Ombudsperson	Jill Esch (OAIF)			
Ad hoc -CJI Representative	Judy Peterson (Courts CJI)	x		
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Muriel Gubasta (OBFF)	x		
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Misty Coonce	x		
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Manuel Zuniga (OBFF)	x		
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Ann Hill (OBFF)		x	
DHS American Indian Well-Being Unit CSP Division	Cindi Miller	x		
DHS CJA Task Force Coordinator	Laura Gapske	x		
DHS CS&P Dept. Manager	Rebecca Wilcox		x	
DHS CS&P Family Supp & Place Svcs Attorney/ CJI	Baudry, Jennifer L (DHS)		x	

I. Welcome and brief intros of members

- Check in question: how does meeting day/time work for you?

II. Presentation Sarah Ladd on Labor Trafficking Changes

- Resources: West Coast Children’s Clinic
- Hennepin County pilot tool for screening open investigations-will invite to future meeting
- Sarah will come back for a longer and more in-depth presentation in the future

III. Updates DHS

- NEW DCYF website to get updates on transition from DHS: [DCYF Implementation / Minnesota Management and Budget \(MMB\) \(mn.gov\)](#)

IV. MN Secretary of State Open Appointment Applications

- Recommended appointments for GAL (Ericka Randal and Vic Victor Rhyn Walker) and Parent Representative (Tatiana Bergum) APPOINTED 3/18/2024

III. Chair and Vice-Chair Elections (5 mins)

- Motion (Kate Rickord) and second (Lolita Carter) for nomination of Barrett Chrissis for Chair of CJA Task Force
 - Unanimous vote by appointed TF members.
- Motion (Barrett Chrissis) and second (Tascha Just) for nomination of Vice-Chair of CJA Task Force
 - Unanimous vote by appointed TF members.
- **CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU BARRETT AND KATE!**

V. Presentation by CAPTA CJA subgrantees Cornerhouse, First Witness Child Advocacy Center and Minnesota Children’s Alliance (See attached PPT)

- Jane Straub from CornerHouse
- Tracie Clanaugh from First Witness Child Advocacy Center
- Marcia Milliken, Minnesota Children’s Alliance

VI. Draft Report for Annual Report and Application Workplan (65 mins)

- Develop more defined workplan for application.
 - Use tool and small break out groups to develop workplan on each project:
 - Category A: Establish a statewide child/youth centered commercial sexual exploitation screening (CSE), commercial sexual abuse material (CSAM), trafficking (including labor) or identification process for MDT members.
 - Training and presentations with Sarah Ladd, DHS
 - Category B: Develop specific advanced and culturally responsive training to multidisciplinary team (MDT) members that is accessible throughout the state
 - Potential partnership with MCA, Cornerhouse, and First Witness
 - What are already established MDT trainings?
 - [Annual Spring Conference | Red River CAC \(rrcac.org\)](#) May 15-16, 2024
 - Category C: Identify other national programs which have been successful in attracting attorneys or other legal professionals to take CHIPS cases to advocate for the parents. Develop innovative ways for court appointed representation for all parties involved in CHIPS hearings.
 - Father engagement: [Improving casework for fathers \(state.mn.us\)](#)
 - Father engagement: Hennepin County research project

- Budget proposal alignment with objectives for proposed application.

Announcement of future presentations: (5 mins)

- Expanded presentation by Sarah Ladd on screening tools and trafficking.
- Erin and Amanda from DHS CSP on screening guidelines updates
- Legislative update

IV. Next Meeting

Meeting-Virtual	Schedule	Date
CJA Task Force	3 rd Monday of every other month noon-2 pm	Monday, May 20 th from noon-2 PM