



Illinois Children's Justice Task Force

Children's Justice Task Force Quarterly Meeting

August 14, 2019

University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria | One Illini Drive, Room A 100-2, Peoria, Illinois
Virginia M. Zic-Schlomas Presiding

Meeting called to order at 9:10AM by the Chair.

Attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Present	Via Phone	Absent
Atwood, Tamela	CJTF			X
Baptist-Spruiell, Sandra	CJTF	X		
Bobo, LaDrena	CJTF		X	
Bree, Debra	CJTF			X
Brown, Leah	CJTF			X
Christopherson, Mari	CJTF			X
Cowart, Lark	CJTF			X
Glick, Jill	CJTF		X	
Hamann, Paul	CJTF	X		
Hofmann, Molly	CJTF	X		
Karim, Elba	CJTF		X	
Ma, Cassandra	CJTF		X	
Mangiaracino, Kim	CJTF	X		
McNamara, Kathy	CJTF			X
Milleville, Annette	CJTF		X	
Owens, Evan	CJTF			X
Parry, Peter	CJTF	X		
Petrak, Channing	CJTF	X		
Porter, Chantelle	CJTF	X		
Rivette, Char	CJTF	X		
Stein, Mary	CJTF			X
Stoffer, Brian	CJTF	X		
Theus, Frederika	CJTF		X	
Torres, Rhiannon	CJTF	X		
Zic-Schlomas, Virginia	CJTF	X		
Talbert, Charles	CJTF (liaison)	X		
Stutz, Tierney ¹	DCFS		X	

¹ Acting Deputy Director of Child Protection

- I. **Welcome:** Chair welcomed everyone. No guests. Quorum confirmed.
- II. **Approval of May 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. Correction to Section VI: strike "and C. Rivette" as C. Rivette did not issue the motion.
 - b. Correct spelling of "FOIA" on page 5.
 - c. Confirmed that the action Item listed in Section VII, the Letter to the Director and placeholder" was not acted on.
 - d. The Task Force confirms the Feb 12, 2020 meeting will be in Champaign.

Action Item: Liaison C. Talbert to send invite to the Director as the meeting will be held in Joliet.
- III. **Approval of May Meeting Minutes:** Motion made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept with requested changes.
- IV. **Public Comment via Open Meetings Act:** No comments provided.
- V. **Vote of Revision of the Illinois Children's Justice Task Force Rules of Procedure**
Motion made by Chair, seconded and unanimously approved.
- VI. **Appointments and Resignations.**
 - a. **Vote of the Extension of Char Rivette's Term.**
Motion made by Chair, seconded and unanimously approved to extend C. Rivette's term under the special consideration of the Rules of Procedure.
 - b. **Need to have a former Youth in Care per the Federal requirements.**

Action Items:

 1. P. Hamann and R. Torres to reach out to connections for potential candidates.
 2. V. Zic-Schlomas to reach out to Jeremy Harvey as a potential candidate.
 - c. **Need to have a judge per the federal requirements.**
 - i. Hon. Evan Owens has resigned due to being appointed as an Associate Judge of the 2nd Judicial Circuit.
 - ii. Hon. Charles Reynard – Term has expired and is interested in staying on the Task Force but has not attended recent meetings.
 - iii. Hon. Stephen Sawyer – Term has expired and is interested in staying on the Task Force but has not attended recent meetings.

Discussion about inviting additional Judge candidates. C. Rivette has a potential candidate to reach out to but that person is in northern Illinois and the Task Force is trying to include members

from all regions of the state. C. Petrak knows a retired judge in the Peoria area that may be interested.

Action Items:

1. P. Hamann to compose communication, V. Zic-Schlomas will sign, C. Talbert will send communication to those interested in remaining on the Task Force. Communication should include the guidelines about attendance and upcoming meeting dates/locations.
2. V. Zic-Schlomas will follow up with a phone call.
3. C. Rivette and C. Petrak will reach out to their potential members.

d. Other Task Force membership changes

- i. Julie Cummings - Term has expired and will not continue to be a member.
- ii. Annette Milleville – Term has expired but is also interested in a Term extension.

VII. CJTF Liaison Update

C. Talbert provided an update and introduction to experience and role. Explanation of new roles and responsibilities and new personnel. C. Talbert is the 6th Liaison since 2016. C. Talbert is the CAPTA Administrator, a DCFS Contract Administrator and Administrator for travel reimbursement. C. Talbert reports to Shirley Davis-Barsh.

C. Talbert highlighted the inconsistencies with the "Rules of Procedure". C. Talbert' position is a liaison based on DCFS determination and procedure.

C. Talbert should be included in any general and committee meeting discussions and will communicate with S. Davis-Barsh. C. Talbert is the contact for meetings and will attend.

Sherry Cobbins is the Children's Justice Administrator. S. Cobbins is the contact for grants, laws, and regulations. S. Cobbins is responsible for the annual report and grant application, meeting mandates and looking at best practices. S. Cobbins will not attend meetings.

There are 3 federally-funded grants and related administrator positions: Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) (S. Cobbins), Children's Justice (S. Cobbins), Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (C. Talbert).

Chair commentary about working relationship going forward. Task Force notes concern of lack of support from DCFS in the recent year. Request to continue to work together with DCFS to continue the goals of the Task Force as required by the regulations and grant requirements.

Discussion of CJTF Annual Report. Task Force raised concerns about a lack of information and itemized listing of grant.

	FFY18	FFY19	FFY20
Requested	\$613,916	\$619,120	\$617,422
CJTF Travel-Grantee/CRP Confs.	\$8,400	\$8,400	\$14,000
CJTF In-State Staff Travel	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
CJTF Expenses	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$22,442
2018 Needs Assessment Researcher	\$20,400	0	0
TOTALS	\$56,400	\$36,400	\$36,442

Task Force requests documentation of line items including: scholarships, support of additional conference, earmark of funding for requirements stipulated in the regulations. DCFS holds the approval of the usage of funds. C. Talbert to provide reports in future meetings of expenses. Records are incomplete related to expenditures. S. Cobbins and C. Talbert worked to create the information. The 1st Quarter of the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 begins annually on October 1.

The Annual report will be available at the next meeting as it was just submitted for printing.

Strong Task Force Concern: This is a Citizen Review Panel that DCFS cannot account for how the funds were spent. The Task Force is concerned that we have reported incorrect information to the Federal Government which may impact future funding for the grant. Additionally, concerned about where unspent funds went.

The Task Force raised additional concerns about 2020 amount of \$4,000 earmarked for CJTF Administrator to travel to meetings especially since CJTF Administrator is not going to attend future Task Force meetings.

Recommendation: S. Cobbins to continue to attend meetings to share information shared at the trainings and meetings and to inform the Task Force of information learned.

Task Force discussion regarding the need for both the CJTF Liaison and the CJTF Administrator to attend meetings.

Task Force discussion related to (i) process on how to invite the DCFS Acting Director; (ii) possible addition of adding a 5th meeting or combined Citizen Review Panel meeting; (iii) Revision of Rules of Procedures to become Task Force Bylaws instead; (iv) Task Force website updates and lack of information.

Task Force discussed the concern about a recent Illinois Governor Executive Order (communicated internally to DCFS employees, and listed publicly in information, such as the recent Prevent Child Abuse of Illinois October 17-18, 2019 conference in Lisle, Illinois), related to travel and mileage reimbursement and the possible impact on Task Force members that are not DCFS employees.

Action Items:

1. S. Cobbins and C. Talbert will raise the issue and concern with DCFS leadership. C. Talbert to send new Travel Reimbursement Form to the Task Force.
2. Individual Members to contact their State Representative and Senators. V. Zic-Schlomas and C. Talbert to work on a template and will send to Task Force to use.
3. C. Talbert to investigate if past meeting minutes and rosters can remain on the website and will see if recent information can be added.
4. All Task Force Members - Ethics forms are due please provide to C. Talbert ASAP.

VIII. Medical Presentation about the Pediatric Resource Center by Dr. C. Petrak

The Pediatric Resource Center ("PRC") located in Peoria is a referral center for a large area of central Illinois for suspected child abuse victims. There are satellite locations in LaSalle, and McClean counties. The PRC can access medical records from most large health systems and works closely with 13-14 Multidisciplinary Teams ("MDTs") in the area. The PRC is not a Children's Advocacy Center. 40% of referred cases are confirmed abusive situations. 65% are Physical Abuse. The PRC is funded by grants, contracts, and fundraising.

There is an opportunity for Task Force to help get a recommendation that in cases of suspected abuse in children 0-3 be seen by a Child Abuse Physician.

There are 19-20 Child Abuse Physician Fellowship spots available nationwide and many are not filled. There is no current funding specific to incentivizing physicians to be trained in the specialty. There is currently no certification for Nurse Practitioners specific to Child Abuse and Neglect. Other states have systems and compensation parameters in place.

Action Items:

1. S. Cobbins will consider the Missouri Model.
2. Dr. C. Petrak will send S. Cobbins additional models to look at as a possible place where Task Force can support influence of change.

IX. Citizen Review Panel Conference Update (during working lunch)

V. Zic-Schlomas reported that the conference was very informative. V. Zic-Schlomas recommends that more than one person should attend to get all the information. The Task Force should look to other models on how to leverage best practices to utilize for our goals. Question was raised if Caregiver Vicarious Trauma should be an area of focus for Task Force?

Action Items:

1. Investigate a Task Force visit to Michigan to learn about their model and how it can be applied to the Task Force for improvement.
2. C. Talbert will ask Stephanie Polacheck (Associate Deputy Director, External Communications and Advisory Groups) about the status of state-wide CRP meeting/conference. There had been one a few years ago that C. Rivette had attended.
3. C. Talbert to request update from Derek Hobson (Chief Accountability Officer) on status of the CRP Retreat so it can be included in the Task Force calendar and agenda.

X. OVC Funding Opportunity Update

Stroger Hospital took the lead to submit the Grant with SIU, Hoyleton, and Pediatric Resource Center. Children's Justice Task Force is referenced as a group to receive reports. Pending response on award.

Action Item: C. Rivette to check if the OVC support letter written by Task Force was submitted.

XI. Legislative Update/Child Protection Update. The following update was provided by C. Rivette:

- a. **ANCRA:** Pending signature by Governor. Expected to be signed. There are some carve outs for certain medical personnel. Clergy will now be required to report the same as other Mandated Reporters all forms of child abuse, not just sexual abuse as previously required. Statute that confessional disclosure is still protected and not amended.
- b. **House Bill 909:** Has been signed by Governor last week. A protective order is now required for forensic interviews to be released. Also specifies that separate consent is not required for the interview and the recording of the interview.
- c. **Senate Bill 456:** Pending signature. Expected to be signed. Related to sexual abuse in a school setting and how interviews are to be conducted and governed.

As part of this discussion C. Rivette raised if we want to add a member with school administration experience. Task Force to consider in future membership discussions.

Action Item: C. Rivette to send synopsis related to Senate Bill 456 to Task Force.

XII. Director Response to CRP Recommendations

S. Cobbins shared that the Federal Administrators are requiring that we provide more detail and outcomes related to our recommendation and funding.

Action Item:

1. Task Force to create a list of questions for the director related to response received. Each subcommittee to meet to define the questions we would like to ask.
2. Each Subcommittee Chair will set up a meeting with the respective subcommittee members to create list of questions to provide to the Acting Director in advance. Meetings should happen within 30 days if possible.

Subcommittee Chairs:

B. Stoffer – Coordinated Investigations

E. Karim – Mental Health

P. Parry – Legal

3. Request clarification of item 11 and Membership. Reach out to Tierney Stutz. Pursuant to response to question 11.
4. Add an agenda item to review subcommittee membership and chairs at the November Task Force meeting.

XIII. Federal Reporting Deficiencies. S. Cobbins provided and update on deficiencies in our reporting:

- a. The Sex Trafficking representation requirement needs to be reviewed to ensure that we are meeting the requirements to address this mandate. Needs to be clearly defined. There was a statewide task force headed by Antwan Turpeau (Associate Deputy Director, Delinquency Prevention), formed within the last 2 years and they may be helpful in getting information to address if this requirement is being met. McCain Institute at University of Arizona, National Network for Youth may also be sources for training.
- b. Timeline of reports and cadence for 3 years so that Task Force is aware of requirements.

Action Item: C. Talbert to see if the timeline exists. R. Torres believes there was one in the binder.

- c. Discussion by Task Force about goals:
 - i. Review of the State Prevention Plan; Annual and 5-year
 - ii. Define Goals

- iii. Upstream and After Abuse Occurs
 - MDT Context – Issues of concern in different areas
 - iv. Medically complex abuse investigations
 - v. Task Force should work to require accountability as a CRP
 - Opportunity to collaborate with Child Death Review
 - vi. Children/Youth with sexually problematic behavior.
 - Has continued to go unaddressed. Lack of treatment response.
 - vii. Pregnant and Parenting Homeless Youth
 - Removal of child when the call is related abuse of the youth
 - Substance Use Disorder of Mothers
 - Lack of plans of safe care and wrap around services
 - Delaware and Ohio may be examples
 - viii. MDT based model
 - ix. Lack of data driving policy related to Child Sex Abuse
 - Ask State Police to share data
 - x. Pediatric/Pre-pubescent kit investigative kit
 - Less Wasteful
 - Lessens the risk of harm or trauma to children being examined with equipment not designed for their bodies.
 - SASETA/SANE Nurse Training; Pediatric SANE Nurse Training
- Action Item: C. Petrak to bring an example of kit at next meeting.**
- xi. MDT Pilot concept
 - Recommend re-introducing the MDT plan
 - Assist Central Illinois in getting the collaborative model like Southern Illinois. Required modules.
 - xii. Child victim advocacy during legislative process.

Action Items:

1. **S. Cobbins to send goals within a 4-week deadline.**
2. **Agenda Item for Next Meeting: Work on updates to each subcommittee's goal. Propose new groups/meeting membership.**

XIV. Meeting adjourned at 2:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhiannon Torres, Secretary
Children's Justice Task Force