

## **Missouri Task Force on Children's Justice Minutes** **May 12, 2022**

*WebEx and In-person—Governor's Office Building*

*10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.*

*Lunch Provided*

- 10:00 a.m. Welcome & Attendance: Chris Jensen and Lisa Mizell (Chairs)  
Approval of Minutes from February Meeting---They were not approved, table until next meeting.
- 10:05 a.m. Introduction of Members and Updates from CJA Members
- Chris: Based on CJA's focus on educating legislators, the Franklin County FCI group is going to be hosting a Legislative Education Day to educate on what is going on in foster care, process and steps of events everyone's roles, and successes and struggles. They have invited the commissioners, judges, PAs, state reps and senators.
  - Dan: From their Child Abuse and Neglect Collaborative in Greene County, they learned that the local office had been cut 35% in way of employee allocations. Dan wrote to Director Knodell and spoke Director Missey about the cuts. Those cuts have now been reversed and they will be working on how those allocations will be used this summer.
- 10:15 a.m. Shima Rostami and Rhonda Liming from Gateway Human Trafficking—Guest Speakers. Shima gave a presentation on trends, misconceptions on trafficking, data and just invaluable information regarding human trafficking. The presentation is included on the WebEx and I would encourage anyone who did not get to watch it to watch the WebEx, if not for the whole meeting, but for Shima's presentation. It starts at about minute 12.
- 11:00 a.m. Kara Bixby from With Insight went over the Three Year Assessment in the Annual Report and next steps/recommendations. The TF has agreed to go forward with proposals from With Insight regarding recommendations. Kara's PP is attached to e-mail. Discussion on how to get trainings out to LE, rural area team members, and reportedly "overtrained" professionals.
- 11:45 a.m.: Lunch
- 12:15 p.m. Update from the CJA Annual Report and Conference—Chris, Lisa, Cari  
CJA Annual Report is being approved now and will go out to the Children's Bureau next week.  
Day 1 Break-out Session 1: Advancing Racial Equity Efforts to Improve Child and Family Outcomes. A group of panelists were brought on and had discussions on child welfare agencies and partners considering planning and advancing racial equity efforts to improve child and family outcomes. What is CJA doing to advance racial equity efforts and inclusion? Making it a priority is something our TF should be looking at. Look at possibly developing a sub-committee on how we can support efforts. There is a need for training/mentoring/modeling in this

area. TF could look at funding trainings that increase diversity awareness for frontline staff. Something we can work with With Insight is to make sure and capture data that is specific on diversity and equity. Focus on community engagement to make a systematic change. TF could also assist with trainings regarding that as well.

Session 2: Updates and Resources from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). The OVC described their role and noted new resources and funding available.

Session 3: Using a Systematic Approach to Understand Child Welfare Workforce Issues and Opportunities. It is a national crisis with employee shortages in child welfare. They focused on data driven reasons on why people leave, stay, etc.

Day 2 Breakout Session 1: The States were broken out into groups to discuss various topics unique to their state. There was discussion on Human Trafficking and to support Shima's earlier statements, all states are years behind where we would like to be, but are working to educate and train on human trafficking. We also discussed the fact that Day 1's session mentioned CJA being able to help with recruitment and retention, but there were no suggestions on how to do so. A representative from the Children's Bureau is supposed to get back with us on that.

Session 2: Evaluating CJA Funded Projects: Why, How, and What Now? This had a focus of the work that our TF has started with With Insight, so we are on the right track!

1:00 p.m.

Task Force Business:

- Legislative update—Lisa noted that it had been recommended that the CACs get a 20% increase in funding. It is set for the Governor's signature and hoped to pass!
- Show Me a Helping Hand update—Set for November 3&4.
- Budget Update—Chris. Broke down monies left to spend by September 2022 (2019 grant funding) and a breakdown of monies needing to be spent each year. At this time we have almost \$900,000 to spend for the 2020-2022 grant funding with expected funding of approximately \$315,000 rewarded for 2023. We will look at developing a flyer to give to community partners to educate them on what CJA is and what we can possibly fund. Cari will work on this.
- CFSR/CIP Updates: CD will get a penalty for an unmet PIP. CIP, Kim mentioned that things like racial equity are also on their radar on providing grants for training. And also for grant requests for coaching.
- Finance Committee—recommendations on additions to grant proposals.

***Attendance:***  
***Cari Pointer***  
***Chris Jensen***  
***Lisa Mizell***  
***Leanne Reese***  
***Judge Leslie Schneider***  
***Danielle Corley***  
***Sheriff Clay Chism***  
***Terrie Martin***  
***Shelly Shugart***

***Guests: Shima Rosami and Rhonda Liming***

***Sara Smith***

***Via Web:***

***Jill Groff-Rosloniec, Russ Dempsey, Lindsey Parton, Kelly Schultz, Dan Patterson, Kara Wilcox***

***Next CJA Meeting: August 11, 2022, GOB 10-1***