



## CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT TASK FORCE

Friday, December 11, 2015

Office of Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)

1215 K Street, Suite 1650, Sacramento, CA 95814

CJA Task Force Members Present: Harry Elias, Catherine Stephenson, Kathleen Cady, (Leigh) David Casey, Garry Ichikawa, Annie Lynn, Brandi Moore, Candy Pierce, Richard Ruiz, Tina (Mavis) Williams, Wendy Wright, Lee Ann Kelly, Rachel Gilgoff, Susan Torrence

CJA Task Force Members Absent: Mark Bontrager, Elizabeth DeRouen, Michael Grogan, Cristina Sanchez, Edwin Weaver

Cal OES Staff Present: Janine Williams, Roseann St. Clair, Michelle Mahon

### **MEETING MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 10:28 a.m., by Task Force Chair Harry Elias

II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 25, 2015 MEETING

Motion to approve minutes for September 25, 2015 CJA Task Force Meeting, as presented

Motion: (Leigh) David Casey

Second: Catherine Stephenson

Discussion: None

Motion passed: 13-0-0 (*Susan Torrence was absent during vote*)

III. Cal OES UPDATES

A. Cal OES updates

Janine Williams provided Cal OES agency updates

1. Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Program Grant funding increase federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015 of \$232 million

a. \$232 million allocation for California

b. Up to 1% of VOCA Victim Assistance grant can be used training

c. Recommended allocation plan is still pending legislative review and approval

d. Once plan is formally approved, Cal OES can release formal announcements for VOCA-funded programs and subgrant funding

2. Cal OES also received a separate one-time VOCA Training grant for FFY 2015. Funding is \$2.7 million

B. Cal OES Victim Services Division updates

Janine Williams provided updates regarding the Cal OES Victim Services Division

1. Human Trafficking Victim Assistance Program

a. One-time State funding of \$10,000,000 for this program

b. Will fund ten recipients at up to \$1,000,000 each

c. Cal OES previously released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for this program, and received 24 proposals. Currently in the reading and rating process

2. Child Abuse Treatment Program
  - a. Program went competitive this fiscal year (FY). Last time this program went competitive was in FY 2004
  - b. Cal OES received 64 proposals
  - c. 46 projects to be funded
3. New employee hiring
  - a. Recent hiring of permanent staff in the Victim Services Division: Two staff in the Victim Witness Unit, and one in the Children's Unit
  - b. Victim Services Divisions will also be hiring limited term positions to implement the new or increased VOCA-funded programs
4. Cal OES is still determining their needs and processes for developing a strategic plan for statewide victim services funding

#### IV. CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE PRESENTATIONS

A. Michael Newman from the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), Bureau on Children's Justice, provide an overview OAG's Bureau on Children's Justice, and OAG efforts regarding the federal Defending Childhood Initiative

1. Bureau on Children's Justice (BCJ)
  - a. The Bureau is almost a year old
  - b. Focuses on multidisciplinary collaboration on handling of civil and criminal investigation of children's issues
  - c. Includes a team of prosecutors and policy development staff
2. Defending Childhood Initiative (DCI)
  - a. California is one of three states funded to implement goals and priorities of the federal DCI
  - b. California's goal for implementing DCI is to align, integrate and mobilize multi-sectoral resources to prevent, identify and heal the impacts of violence and trauma on children. Some of the State and non-government agencies collaborating with BCJ as part of the state DCI team include
    - 1) CA Department of Education
    - 2) CA Department of Health and Human Services
    - 3) CA Department of Health Care Services
    - 4) CA Department of Social Services
    - 5) CA Department of Public Health
    - 6) CA Department of Finance
    - 7) CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
    - 8) Cal OES
    - 9) First 5 California
    - 10) CA Department of Mental Health (CA Mental Health Services Act)
    - 11) California State Association of Counties
    - 12) City of San Jose
    - 13) City of Salinas
  - c. Strategies of the State DCI team include
    - 1) Identify and promote funding sources for prevention and support services for children and youth exposed to violence
    - 2) Utilize data to identify and evaluate gaps in funding and services
    - 3) Provide training to improve workforce capacity for child-serving systems to address trauma
    - 4) Early intervention through improving early identification and screening of children exposed to violence and trauma
    - 5) Engage local and community stakeholders to obtain input and develop a plan that is responsive to children's needs in diverse communities across the state

B. Maggy Krell, Deputy Attorney General, provided an overview of OAG initiatives to address human trafficking of minors

1. Ms. Krell works with the state prosecution of sex and labor trafficking of children

2. Their office has a prosecution and investigation manual, which includes some best practices for victim contact and investigation
3. Working with the state plan on Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)
4. The OAG and the CA Department of Education are collaborating with other statewide government and non-governmental agencies on an initiative to develop and implement efforts to protect children from human trafficking through educating teachers and students on this issue
5. Would like to identify possible projects to support educational and training efforts to educators and students on child human trafficking which could be supported with CJA funding

V. Cal OES CJA-FUNDED PROGRAMS UPDATES

- A. Child Abduction Training (AC) Program
  1. FY 2014-15 project is ending on December 31, 2015
  2. Program has met all of its objectives
  3. Program will continue, funded with VOCA funds. Split funded for FY15-16
  4. \$35,000 of 2014 CJA funds allocated to this program for the Child Abduction Simulation Training pilot project, will be incorporated in a FY 2015-16 grant. Project anticipates completing the Child Abduction Simulation project by Spring 2016
- B. Native American Children Training Forum (CF) Program
  1. FY 2014-15 grant ended on September 30, 2015
  2. Project met all objectives despite delays in training updates due to changes in laws affecting tribes
  3. All FY 2014-15 project funds were expended in a timely manner
  4. Program is entering into its 5<sup>th</sup> and final year of funding for FY 2015-16. Current year grant has not yet been put into award
- C. CJA Evaluator (CJ) Program
  1. Project is working with subcontractor on developing the web-based database to be utilized by Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (EV) program recipients
  2. There was a conference call on December 10, 2015, between program recipient Northwest Professional Consultants (NPC), Cal OES and CJA Task Force subcommittee took place to identify security levels and costs for the database program. Items discussed included:
    - a. Accessibility and usage of database program by prior EV recipients, as well as new or prospective CEDV projects
    - b. Where/how the database (web-based software) would be hosted
    - c. Security levels for the host server. The group opted for more secure system, a dedicated server with a cost of about \$2,000 per year
    - d. Whether there could be an additional cost to use or maintain this program by past and present recipients to continue to use database
  3. NPC anticipates completion of software and implementation of database to current EV recipients during FY 2015-16.
- D. Children Exposed to Domestic Violence (EV) Program
  1. Both projects---Citrus Heights Police Department and Napa Police Department---are meeting their objectives for the FY 2014-15 grant period
  2. Citrus Heights Police Department is reverting \$749 in 2013 CJA funds which expired on September 30, 2015
  3. Grant award period ends on December 31, 2015
  4. Projects will enter into 4<sup>th</sup> of 5-year funding cycle during FY 2015-16
- E. Child Abuse Identification Health Care Provider Training (IT) Program
  1. Project met all objectives for FY 2014-15
  2. Going into second year of three-year funding cycle in FY 2015-16
  3. Anticipates more trainings to be completed by medical professionals during FY 2015-16 grant period
- F. Human Trafficking of Minors: Law Enforcement Training (HM) Program
  1. Completing its final year of funding during FY 2014-15

2. Grant award period was given time-only extension to a November 30, 2015 end date in order to allow for additional trainings to be held
3. Law Enforcement training DVD, "Response to Human Trafficking of Minors," was provided to CJA Task Force to view during this meeting
- G. Child Advocacy Studies Training & Mock House (IV) Program
  1. Completed its one year funded project on September 30, 2015
  2. Project expended all of its grant award funds
  3. Recipient is looking for additional funding to continue and/or expand training its Mock House trainings
- H. Statewide Multidisciplinary Interview Centers Coordinator (MD) Program
  1. Project met all of its objectives for FY 2014-15
  2. Continues to working closely with the state association Children's Advocacy Centers of California (CACC) and Calico, the accredited agency overseeing the administration and work done by CACC statewide
  3. Project is entering into its 4<sup>th</sup> and final year of funding in FY 2015-16. Project is funded \$100,000 and split funded with 2014 and 2015 CJA funds to enable appropriate (12-month) grant period to expend funds
- I. Training on Prosecution of Physical & Sexual Abuse of Children (PX) Program
  1. The project's FY 2014-15 grant ended on September 30, 2015. Project reverted \$7,064 in 2013 CJA funds under its due to salary savings
  2. Project completed its trainings and objectives for FY 2014-15
  3. Going into 5<sup>th</sup> and final year of funding in FY 2015-16. Grant has not yet been put into award

#### VI. CJA FUNDING STATUS

- A. 2013 CJA Closeout
  4. \$7,613 in 2013 CJA funds to be reverted
    - a. \$7,064 from FY 2014-15 PX project
    - b. \$549 from City of Citrus Heights from FY 2014-15 EV project
- B. 2014 Children's Justice Act (CJA) funds
  1. Funds expire on September 30, 2016
  2. Only reversion of allocated 2014 CJA funds to date will be by City of Citrus Heights of \$15,275 from their FY 2014-15 project
- C. 2015 CJA funds
  1. \$1,798,301 award for FFY 2015
  2. Funds expire September 30, 2017
  3. Approximately \$13,000 less than 2014 allocation
  4. 2015 CJA funds should allocated soon in order to allow for timely expenditure of funds before the funds expiration date

#### VII. PROPOSED PROGRAMS FOR CJA FUNDING

- A. Discussion of program concept proposals submitted for CJA funding consideration
  1. Evaluation of Policy and Legal Barriers to Child Advocacy Centers (CACs) and Best Practices – submitted by Calico
    - a. Child Advocacy Centers are nonprofit agencies that serve Law Enforcement, Child Protective Service and District Attorney offices with investigations and interviews related to child abuse cases
    - b. Primary components of this proposed project appears to be an effort to gather data to support funding CACs with government funding. CJA funds cannot be used for lobbying or legislation.
    - c. Discussion confirmed that CJA funds can be allocated to gather data and conduct evaluations related to investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases
    - d. The statewide coordinator for CACs should already be doing much of the proposed project components
    - e. CJA Task Force declined to fund this proposed project
  2. Improving Response to Child Maltreatment – submitted by Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute

- a. Proposed project components include conducting trainings for multidisciplinary teams on interviewing, investigation and collaboration on child maltreatment cases, including a Mock House training module
  - b. The proposed project appears to be an continuation or extension for funding the Mock House Training project by the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT) at Alliant University, whose CJA project funding ended on September 30, 2016
  - c. CJA Task Force recommended one-time funding to assist IVAT with the funding needed to complete the development of Child Advocacy Studies and Mock House training modules. The funding allocated did enable IVAT to meet their objectives, which is why the recommended funding was for a one-time only
  - d. CJA Task Force declined to fund this proposed project
3. Other previously submitted and discussed project proposals  
The CJA Task Force declined to fund all other project proposals that had been previously submitted and discussed, but not funded at the time of initial discussion. The following projects declined for funding included:
- a. Child Abduction First Responder Video Series
  - b. Child ID Kit Distribution
  - c. Child Abduction Regional Summits and Task Forces
  - d. Advanced Training on the Human Trafficking of Minors

- B. Status on development of programs recommended for CJA funding
- 1. Electronic Suspected Child Abuse Reporting System (ESCARS)
    - a. Amount of funding for projects still needs to be determined, specifically the costs of project management, and integration and maintenance of ESCARS program
    - b. Because costs for counties to administer this project will vary, the idea of this program funding projects at varying funding levels based on population was discussed. Cal OES has previously administered grant programs which have funded projects based on population and size. Will make this determination at subsequent CJA Task Force when amount of available funds and other variables for this program are determined.
    - c. Cal OES will arrange to meet and confer with Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services to confirm costs and feasibility of sharing and integration of ESCARS with counties funded under this potential CJA-funded program
  - 2. Family Court Evaluator Program is being
    - a. Request for Proposal (RFP) developed by Cal OES staff is in the process of being reviewed and approved by Cal OES Administration
    - b. Hope to release the RFP in early January, with a proposed start date of March 1, 2016
    - c. The RFP will be shared with CJA Task Force upon release

## VIII. CHILDREN'S BUREAU UPDATES AND ACTIVITIES

- A. Federal Children's Bureau updates
  - 1. Children's Bureau is looking finalize dates and details for the national meeting of State Liaison Officers and representatives. Meeting will scheduled later in the summer, in coordination with the national conference on Child Abuse and Neglect
  - 2. Last conference call by the Children's Bureau focused on the release of the online technical assistance and training resources by the National Child Advocacy Centers (NCAC) association
- B. Children's Bureau Region IX updates
  - 1. No regional conference call held this quarter. Has not been a regional conference call in at least six months
  - 2. Cal OES will try and reach out to District IX about regional conference calls

- IX. STATEWIDE COLLABORATION
  - A. CA Department of Social Services (DSS)
    - Kelly Winston from DSS provided the following Department updates:
    - 1. DSS will conducting self-assessment on state Child Family Services Plan in late March
    - 2. Department has new practice for conducting site reviews with counties
    - 3. A Request for Proposal for their Case Management System (CMS) updated to be released sometime in December 2015. Overall the CMS updates are being done in phases
    - 4. DSS will present at March CJA Task Force Meeting to provide an overview of the current state Children Family Services Plan/Report
  - B. California Victim's Compensation Program (CalVCP)
    - 1. AB 1140 (Bonta) was signed into law in October 2015. New laws goes into effect January 1, 2016
    - 2. The bill made major changes to the existing victims' compensation requirements. Some of these changes include:
      - a. Expanding the guidelines for "authorized representative" for victims' claims
      - b. Removing the 30-day requirements for claims related to child abduction
    - 3. CalVCP working to provide training and outreach related to the changes resulting from AB 1140
  - C. Office of the Attorney General
    - 1. Commission on Human Trafficking, headed by Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley, is conducting regional meetings to put together a statewide report on Human Trafficking. Multiple government and nongovernmental agencies are participating in the regional meetings
    - 2. Working on collaborative event with CA Department of Education regarding human trafficking on minors
  
- X. MISCELLANEOUS
  - A. CJA Task Force vacancies
    - 1. Three vacant representative seats currently vacant
      - a. Law Enforcement (Northern/Central California)
      - b. Child Protective Services agency(ies)
      - c. Individual experienced in working with children with disabilities
    - 2. Cal OES and CJA Task Force to continue to outreach for potential candidates for vacancies
  - B. Three-year assessment for California CJA Task Force will be due with FFY 2017 CJA program grant application. Plan for CJA Task Force to work on and finalize the report during meetings in latter 2016
  
- XI. ACTION ITEMS
  - A. Cal OES to share Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for new or continuing VOCA-funded programs when released by Cal OES
  - B. Cal OES to work on securing lodging option for upcoming March 2016 meeting San Diego
  
- XII. ADJOURNMENT
  - Meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.