



Protection Committee
Richard Stagliano, Chair
Liza Kirschenbaum, Esq, Vice-Chair
January 18, 2017
1:00 P.M. Meeting

Minutes

In Attendance:

Greta Anderson
Lorene Wilkerson
Lt. Louis Andrinopoulos
Joyce Applegate
Doug Behan
Daren Brantley
Eileen Caraker
Esther East

Martin Finkel
LaTasha Holmes
Liza Kirschenbaum

Martin Krupnick
Clinton Page
Nora Pearce
Donna Pincavage
Judy Spinney
Richard Stagliano
Sylvia Snyder
Elizabeth A. Taylor
Stephanie Ullman
Jennifer Underwood

DCF – Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit (IAIU)
NJ Child Placement Advisory Council (NJ CPAC)
New Jersey State Police
Catholic Charities – Diocese of Metuchen
Rutgers School of Social Work
Department of Children and Families
Gloucester County Forensic Nurse Coordinator
Jewish Family Service and Children’s Center of
Clifton/Passaic
CARES Institute
Department of Children and Families
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of
New Jersey
IEP Youth Services, Inc.
Department of Children and Families
Attorney/Trainer
Metro Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Therapist
Center for Family Services
Dorothy B. Hersh Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS)
Administrative Office of the Courts
Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

Staff:

Daniel Yale DCF-NJTFCAN

The Pledge of Allegiance

The Protection Committee was informed that there is pending legislation that will mandate that all boards, task forces, councils, committees, etc. add the Pledge of Allegiance to their meeting agendas. In anticipation, this item was added to this meeting agenda. However, at this time the legislation had not been finalized. As a result, an update will be provided at the next meeting.

Introduction and Welcome

Richard Stagliano and the Committee welcomed Daniel Yale in his new role as the Executive Coordinator of the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect (NJTF CAN). Daniel is the Committee’s contact person to assist with all things related to the NJTF CAN and its Committees.



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Review and Approve January 2016 Minutes

The November 16, 2016 Minutes were approved with noted edit:

Lorene Wilkerson was not in attendance at the November 2016 meeting.

New Business

Richard Stagliano, with concurrence from Liza Kirschenbaum redirected this agenda item to follow the special presentation as it ties to the Committee's goals for 2017.

Juvenile Sexual Offenders Presentation – Martin Krupnick, Psy.D., President & CEO, IEP Youth Services, Inc

As an introduction to the presentation, Dr. Martin Finkel recapped the Committee's November 2016 discussion regarding the treatment of juvenile sexual offenders who enter the juvenile justice system. Dr. Finkel emphasized that not all cases should be treated the same. It was noted that the internet is affecting children in many ways especially being exposed to pornography at an early age as well as sexting, sextortion, bullying and human trafficking. The discussion focused on educating parents on the risks of the internet and prevention initiatives.

Dr. Martin Krupnick presented to the Protection Committee on the "Alternative Dispositions for Juveniles with Sexually Inappropriate Behaviors" created by Dr. Krupnick and Laurie B. Gerhardt, Esquire:

- Firstly, Dr. Krupnick requested that the reference to juvenile sexual offenders terminology be abandoned for the use of more person first terminology: juveniles with sexually inappropriate behaviors.
- Juveniles are over represented in legal system. Every county does not put the juveniles through the juvenile justice system and many counties refer them to a diversionary program.
- Crimes that require registration includes aggravated sexual assault, child luring, kidnapping, criminal restraint, endangering the welfare of a child (sexual conduct or creating child pornography) and promoting prostitution of a child.
- Removal from registration for juvenile offenders under the age of fourteen at the time of offense can apply to the court when they turn eighteen years old.
- For the juvenile population overall, the brain continues to develop up until around the age of 23 years old, there are high rates of mental disorders and trauma, youth are open to developing new life skills and individualized treatment.



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- The consequences for adjudicated youth in New Jersey may hinder employment or license in certain profession, public disclosure, driver's license may be suspended, record expungement depending on the nature of the offenses, unable to carry a firearm and some adjudications can lead to ineligibility for immigrant status or deportation.
- The old way of thinking was juveniles had to be removed from the community for safety, juvenile sex offenders become adult sex offenders, deviant patterns were fixed in youth and treatment is a waste of resources.
- The modern approaches are juveniles who engage in inappropriate behaviors are unlikely to continue the behavior into adulthood, most youth can be treated safely in their community, and treatment is usually helpful in modification of offensive behaviors.
- The protective factors include positive families with reasonable supervision, strong parent support, positive peer social groups from the community, school and church and education.
- Treatment is based on risk, needs, individualized assessment, and mandated family involvement, close collaboration with legal supervision.
- A sex offense on a child's record hinders a child's ability to be successful.
- Registration and Notification – 27 States have mandatory registration and notification for juveniles; in 11 States certain juveniles are eligible which is usually determined by the judge and 3 States have hybrid systems and 10 States and Washington D.C. have no juvenile registration.
- Public Registry Posting – 16 States mandate public posting of information to their registry, 15 States register juveniles but do not post the information on public registry website and 9 States have discretion based on the risk assessment or the judge.
- Juveniles are eligible for the Monmouth County Probation Offender Program (POP) based on the following: youth charged with a sexual offense and adjudicated as a juvenile, the youth resides in a safe environment, youth does not pose a safety risk to others, youth and family are opened to treatment and prosecutor agrees with admission to the POP program. The treatment includes weekly participation in sex specific groups, probation check in, mandatory attendance and youth signs confidentiality disclaimer, youth acknowledges responsibility for the offense, youth is required to attend anger management and substance use prevention groups and individual sessions with therapist, mandatory monthly parent education meetings and family sessions.
- Juvenile Probation Treatment Program is the alternative to adjudication for a sex offense and Megan's Law with the option to participate in a community based treatment program that is part of the term of the probation.

Dr. Krupnick discussed meeting with the Children System of Care (CSOC) a year ago around this statewide issue. From the meeting, three subcommittees were created: Treatment Subcommittee, Evaluation Subcommittee and the Transition Subcommittee. The Transition Subcommittee will present the outcome of their work to DCF later this year.



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It was suggested that the Protection Committee begin to advocate for a more a uniform system for juveniles throughout the State, educate prosecutors and judges, and begin to look at the treatment services throughout the State.

A copy of the presentation will be sent out to the Committee members via email. Members were encouraged to visit the <http://www.njatsa.org> website to obtain documents, handouts and links related to the treatment of sexual abusers.

New Business

2017 Committee Goals/Initiatives - Richard Stagliano and Liza Kirschenbaum

Juvenile Sexual Offenders Workgroup

The call went out to the Committee to see if anyone would be interested in being the Chair and Co-Chair for the workgroup.

The Digital Realm of Child Abuse Workgroup

The Committee discussed the primary focus of educating parents and children on the digital realm of child abuse and working with Department of Education (DOE) to begin educating children in lower grades on how to protect themselves on the internet. The call went out to the Committee to see if anyone would be interested in being the Chair and Co-Chair for the workgroup.

Racial Disproportionality

Clinton Page provided the Committee with an update on the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) joint data project to link New Jersey Statewide Protective Investigation, Reporting and Information Tool (NJ SPIRIT) and FACTS. This will allow both systems to sync together regarding racial disproportionality and race. The Children in Court Improvement Committee (CICIC) Subcommittee is focused on looking into racial disproportionality. The focus data will be for 2015 (youth in foster care) which indicates the number of days in placement between different races. Once the data has been analyzed, the subcommittee will be submitting a report to AOC's Acting Administrative Director Glenn A. Grant.

Announcements

On January 18, 2017 at 7:00pm, New Jersey 101.5 and NJ1015.com will be hosting a town hall meeting featuring State Police on the dangers children face online.

The New Jersey Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (NJATSA) will be hosting a meeting on February 24, 2017 on Immigration and Related Legal Issues with Offenders.



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There was a brief discussion regarding the workgroups meeting on the alternate months of the Committee meeting to begin to lay out plans on how to tackle the Committee's current goals.

The March 15, 2017 meeting will be rescheduled for another date in March 2017. An email will be sent out to the Committee with the new meeting date and location.

Meeting adjourned.