

**New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect  
Protection Committee  
Donna Younkin, Acting Chair  
Liza Kirschenbaum, Esq, Vice-Chair  
November 18, 2015  
1:00 P.M.**

**Minutes**

**In Attendance:**

Greta Anderson	DCF – Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit (IAIU)
Joyce Applegate	Catholic Charities
Daren Brantley	DCF-Child Protection and Permanency
Eileen Caraker	Gloucester County Forensic Nurse Coordinator
John Esmerado	Union County Prosecutor’s Office
Liza Kirschenbaum	Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of New Jersey
Patricia Lynch	Atlantic Health System
Clinton Page	DCF-Office of Legal Affairs
Donna Pincavage	Barnabas Health
Susan Rekedal	Monmouth County Child Advocacy Center
Debbie Riveros	MCPO-Victim Advocate
Judy Spinney	Therapist
Sylvie Snyder	DBH RDTC
Donna Younkin	DCF-Director of Special Initiatives

**Staff:**

Ifeanyi Pole	DCF-NJTFCAN
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**Introduction and Welcome**

Introductions were made.

The September 2015 minutes were approved with noted edit.

**Data Project**

John Esmerado presented the final draft of his data report entitled, “What’s In a Number: Understanding Data Disparity in the Context of Differing Investigative Methodologies for New Jersey County Prosecutor’s Criminal Child Abuse Charging Data and Department of Child and Protection and Permanency Substantiation Rates of Child Maltreatment, 2009-2012.” The Committee received the report via email to review in advance of the meeting and it was also disseminated at the meeting. During his presentation, John referenced data on page 3 of his report under the section entitled, “Prosecution Charging Data.” He indicated that this data is based on charged offenders. John informed the Committee that the prosecution and court data from Promos Gavel, the state’s official data system, is outdated. According to the report’s data, John informed the Committee that child endangerment was the most common form of child abuse from 2009-2012 in New Jersey at a proportion of 7 to 1.

John informed the Committee that he is confident that the report’s data is one hundred percent accurate. John said that he will proof the report’s findings one more time and forward the report to the Committee for its recommendation to the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Donna Younkin asked John if he could add an additional column of data on page three of his report under the County Prosecutor Criminal Warrants or Summons Charging Data for Sexual and Physical Abuse Charges table that represent the arrests per 1,000. John stated that he will reference the 2010 Census data and amend the report with this requested information.

Liza Kirschenbaum recommended that the report's Conclusions and Recommendations sections noted on pages 3 through 7 be reformatted as bullets for ease of reading its content. John stated that he would amend the format of the report's content in this section based on Liza's recommendation.

### **Child Advocacy Centers/Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT) Funding Bill (8/18/2015 Draft)**

Per John's request, copies of the drafted CAC/MDT August 18, 2015 funding bill were distributed to the Committee at the November 18, 2015 meeting. Prior to any discussion about this bill, Donna informed the Committee that the New Jersey Department of Children and Families' (DCF) staff could not comment on this bill and the Department does not have a position.

John led the discussion on this bill and stated that it was introduced on October 19, 2015 and it asks for \$10 million to build or expand new CAC's in the counties and improve the MDT system. The Committee discussed the bill's drafted content. John stated that this bill will be up for a hearing in December and he would like to see a data output from the counties to assist in structuring how these funds are distributed.

### **Sexually Exploitive Images and Child Protection - 2016 New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect (NJTFCAN) Skill Building Conference**

As a follow up to the Committee's July 2015 meeting, Donna continued to discuss the topic of Sexually Exploitive Images stating that the Committee needs to learn more about this.

Donna informed the Committee of the NJTFCAN's Skill Building Conference will be held in 2016:

- The Conference will be all-day event with one or two speakers and no workshops.
- Assistant U.S. Attorney, Kevin Matthews will be speaking about the difference between sextortion, sexting and what is happening nationally, internationally and statewide.
- The Conference will be tailored for front line staff (i.e. therapists, social workers, counselors, etc.).
- There will also be a speaker from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC).
- Dr. Sharon Cooper from UNC is willing to come and speak at the Conference. Dr. Cooper is a forensic and developmental pediatrician. Donna encouraged the Committee to view some of Dr. Cooper's work on the YouTube channel. Dr. Cooper has a 75 minute documentary coming out called "Not Just Pictures" that focuses on survivors, their families and experts in the field throughout the world.

- The Conference will close with a panel of speakers discussing prevention and technology.
- Dr. Cathy McCanns from Cooper Hospital was mentioned as a potential speaker. Dr. McCanns is very knowledgeable on human trafficking. Donna encouraged the Committee to forward her any prospective speakers for the Conference.

Susan Rekedal informed the Committee of the program instituted by Red Bank Regional Schools on cyber security and how to keep safe on the internet; every student is required to participate in this program. Susan provided Donna a copy of the contact information for this program to share with the Committee via email.

The Committee discussed the Educational Diversion Program for minors involved in first time sexting. John Esmerado stated that he will obtain more information on the statute for this program, which varies from school to school. Also, John stated that he will research the statute regarding juvenile on juvenile sexting. Ifeanyi Pole will contact a representative from the Department of Education (DOE) to obtain additional information on this program. Ifeanyi will also confirm if there is a member of the NJTFCAN from Juvenile Justice.

### **Human Trafficking County Guidelines**

Donna informed the Committee that the Human Trafficking County Guidelines have been distributed and they were shared with the Commission on Human Trafficking. A PDF version of the Guidelines is posted on NJTFCAN's page of DCF's website. Donna encouraged the Committee to share and distribute the Guidelines. Sue stated that the Guidelines will be added to the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Coordinators Association agenda for future discussions. Sue also stated that MDT's 2016 skill building conference would be a great platform to showcase the human trafficking guidelines.

Donna informed the Committee that she presented at the Child Abduction Response Team (CART) and encouraged CART to work more closely with the New Jersey Statewide Central Registry (SCR) on missing children.

Donna informed the Committee that she will be presenting the Guidelines at the NJTFCAN Retreat on November 20, 2015 at the DCF-Professional Center. Donna stated that Dawn Roane will be tracking the children as well as working in the areas of practice and policy with regard to domestic violence, missing children and human trafficking.

### **Other**

#### Announcements

Donna informed the Committee that the Human Trafficking conference scheduled for November 20, 2015 at the Robert Wood Johnson has been postponed until 2016.

John informed the Committee that the Monmouth County Child Advocacy Center (CAC) had their ribbon cutting ceremony on October 27, 2015 at and their accreditation site visit on August 11, 2015; mental health and domestic violence services will be provided onsite at this CAC.

Donna Pincavage informed the Committee that the Executive Director of Wynona's House is leaving and that information on the job description and how to apply for the position can be found on their website. Donna also stated that the Wynona's House annual summit will not take place in April 2016.

Rutgers will be hosting a conference at the Professional Center on March 16, 2016 focusing on forensic evaluation treatment; more information will be sent out to the Committee on this Conference when it becomes available.

The Attorney Generals' Office, Human Trafficking Awareness event will be held on Friday, January 29, 2016 in Trenton, New Jersey. The information will be posted on the Division of Criminal Justice website as the date gets closer.

**Review and Confirm 2016 Meeting Dates, Time and Location**

The Committee discussed the proposed dates and location for 2016 and agreed to continue to meet at PerformCare from 1:00pm until 3:00pm. The March meeting has been changed to March 23, 2016. The 2016 meeting dates will be sent out the Committee.

The Committee will discuss the goals for 2016 at the January 20, 2016 meeting.

**Next Meeting Date – January 20, 2016 at PerformCare in Robbinsville, NJ**