



Allison Blake, Ph.D., L.S.W., Co-Chair  
Martin A. Finkel, DO, FACOP, FAAP, Co-Chair

## Minutes

**July 22, 2016**

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Professional Center at DCF  
30 Van Dyke Avenue  
Room 103  
New Brunswick, NJ

### In Attendance

Lt. Louis Andrinopolous  
Christian Arnold  
Paulina Banasiak  
Marygrace Billek  
Allison Blake  
Anna Diaz-White  
Esther East

Martin A. Finkel  
Marilyn Gorney-Daley  
Rita Gulden  
Natasha Johnson  
Elizabeth Manley  
Sonia Moticha  
Sara Munson  
Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz  
Joseph Ribsam  
Brian Ross  
Matthew Schwartz  
Maura Somers Dughi  
Richard Stagliano  
Wendi White

New Jersey State Police  
Department of Law and Public Safety  
Legislative District 37  
Mercer County Department of Human Services  
Department of Children and Families  
180 Turning Lives Around Inc.  
Jewish Family Services & Children’s Center  
of Clifton/Passaic  
CARES Institute  
Department of Health  
Court Appointed Special Advocates of NJ  
Department of Human Services  
Department of Children and Families  
Department of Education  
Rutgers University  
Legislative District 21  
Department of Children and Families  
Department of Children and Families  
Youth Representative  
Child and Family Advocacy  
Center for Family Services  
Department of Corrections

### DCF Staff:

Ifeanyi Pole

DCF – Office of the Commissioner

### Review of Minutes

The May 20, 2016 Minutes were approved without edits.



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## **Updates from Commissioner Allison Blake**

Commissioner Allison Blake informed that she invited Assistant Commissioner Elizabeth Manley to give a presentation on the New Jersey Department of Children and Families' (DCF) Children's System of Care (CSOC) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant.

Commissioner Blake also reminded NJTF CAN members to join DCF for DCF's 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary celebration beginning at 2:00 pm that afternoon.

## **DCF's SAMHSA Grant Presentation – Elizabeth Manley, Assistant Commissioner DCF - CSOC**

Elizabeth Manley presented the "Promising Path to Success" initiative, which is CSOC's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The \$12 million dollar grant is focused around training and support for staff over a four-year period. A copy of the SAMHSA grant PowerPoint presentation and handouts on "Six Core Strategies for Reducing Seclusion and Restraint Use" and "A Snapshot of the Nurtured Heart Approach" were emailed to NJTF CAN in advance of the meeting; copies of these documents were also printed and disseminated to NJTF CAN at the meeting. Elizabeth highlighted the following information during her presentation:

- CSOC is celebrating 15 years in New Jersey (NJ) accessing care for children with complex behavioral health challenges. In the beginning, the majority of the children in NJ were receiving services in out-of-state residential care. Services are now available in NJ and CSOC has worked to bring all of NJ's children back in State along with transitioning youth with intellectual/developmental disability and substance abuse to CSOC.
- Nurses and wellness coaches have been added to the child family team to coordinate care for youth with behavioral health and/or medical challenges.
- Language is important - the following terms are used: children, youth, young adult, parents, caregivers, treatment, engagement, transition, mission and therapeutic leave. Terms that are not the language of CSOC are: clients, cases, consumer, mom and dad, placement not motivated closed, terminated, runaway, and home visits.
- The highlights of the grant are the Six Core Strategies (6CS) and the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA). These evidence-based practices are being utilized to eliminate the use of restraints and seclusions and coercion for organizations caring for youth with intellectual/developmental disability and substance abuse. The purpose of the grant is all children that enter CSOC are



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able to get to a place where they feel better when they transition from care. Developers are on hand to assist CSOC with implementing the 6CS.

- The NHA allows youth to have a voice at the table and resources have been dedicated to building the youth voice in out-of-home treatment programs. Child Family Teams (CFTs) and Care Management Organizations (CMOs) are fully engaged in the conversation when a youth is in out-of-home placement.
- CSOC is working on reducing the length of stay on the at home treatment side from 11.6 months to less than 9 months, reducing the number of times youth enter into out-of-home treatment and reoccurrence of treatment after being discharged.
- The kickoff event was with hundreds of service providers to announce that CSOC was moving away from restraints and seclusions. The next round of the 6CS training will be held in September 2016 and will accommodate 200 people. DCF Office of Licensing and the Office of Contracting staff will be in attendance and some of other CSOC partners.
- In the pilot projects, the 6CS are being implemented. Staff attended the two-day training on the 6CS. Two staff members were trained on the NHA so that they could become certified instructors. The first phase of the three pilot counties (Morris, Sussex, and Middlesex) is almost complete. In phase 1, over 1,100 people have been trained in the NHA and 200 in the 6CS.
- Each residential treatment programs will receive a coach to work with their core team on the NHA and the 6CS.
- Super user groups are being developed to discuss the challenges, ideals and innovations as CSOC move forward.
- CSOC is working with Rutgers University on Return on Investment (ROI) to demonstrate that CSOC has been successful with the initiative. The ROI will be looking at CSOC, Medicaid and some of the commercial insurance data. This allows for the support that is needed to move to the next level in future resource allocation.
- Training is available throughout the State and available to the public.

NJTFCAN thanked Assistant Commissioner Manley for her presentation.



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## **NJTFCAN Business – Action Items**

### Legal Advice for NJTFCAN:

Deputy Commissioner Joseph E. Ribsam attended this meeting to assist in facilitating the discussion of a recent legal inquiry from its Prevention Committee. NJTFCAN discussed the following two questions submitted by the Prevention Committee for the legal advice:

- Authorship attribution for the Curriculum Guide for Higher Education

The Prevention Committee is developing a Curriculum Guide on Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect for Higher Education. This guide will contain approximately ten modules on topics integral to a comprehensive curriculum on the prevention of child maltreatment. Each module will be a compendium of topics, concepts, resources, references and citations. We have many experts in NJ who are members of the Prevention Committee who have volunteered to work on this. We also have interest from a group of Ph.D. level professionals who are graduates of the Doris Duke Fellowship. Prior to formally inviting their participation we are requesting advice on any guidelines, requirements, restrictions or limitations on acknowledging the non-New Jersey, non-Prevention Committee members, for their respective work. We, of course, want to acknowledge their authorship and credit for their work. As in the past, we assume that the copyright to documents developed by the Prevention Committee will be held by the Department of Children and Families. We may be raising an issue here that does not exist, but we want to be sure there are no obstacles in the attribution of credit for their work before we engage the expertise from our colleagues outside New Jersey.

- Possibility of developing a revenue stream from the Standards for Prevention

The Prevention Committee of NJTFCAN wrote Standards for Prevention Programs: Building Success through Family Support. The copyright is held by DCF. The original Standards have been revised and are in their second iteration. All of the content was developed by members of the Prevention Committee. These Standards are highly regarded throughout the United States. They are applicable to many disciplines. They are often used to teach Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and to train practitioners and programs. The Standards are required to be part of any funding received from the Division of Family and Community Partnerships. There are periodic trainings in New Jersey. We receive many requests for the Standards from other states. The Prevention Committee would like to know if we can develop a process to market and create a revenue stream for Prevention from the sale of the Standards for Prevention.



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NJTFCAN discussed whether or not to submit a formal request to the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General (AG) for legal advice on the above noted Prevention Committee inquiries. NJTFCAN members were reminded that Christian Arnold is a member of NJTFCAN and he cannot provide legal advice to NJTFCAN. Due to this conflict of interest, the AG's office would assign another member from their office counsel to advise NJTFCAN.

NJTFCAN voted in favor of submitting the Prevention Committee's "Authorship attribution for the Curriculum Guide for Higher Education" question to the AG's office for its legal counsel; Christian Arnold abstained from this vote.

NJTFCAN voted in favor of submitting the Prevention Committee's "Possibility of developing a revenue stream from the Standards for Prevention" question to the AG's office for its legal counsel; Christian Arnold, Commissioner Blake, Sonia Moticha and Sara Munson abstained from this vote.

Commissioner Blake and Dr. Martin Finkel will be moving forward to request the aforementioned legal advice. The Prevention Committee will wait to seek guidance on whether or not to continue devoting any more time in developing the curriculum and the sale of the Standards for Prevention.

NJTFCAN also briefly discussed how revenue from the possible sale of the Standards for Prevention would be structured; this discussion was tabled pending the AG's legal advice on the matter.

#### New Jersey Children's Trust Fund (NJ CTF)

NJTFCAN continued their discussion of the New Jersey Children's Trust Fund (NJ CTF) process on how funds are disseminated through the Request for Proposal (RFP) along with the recusal process. Members were provided a detailed summary that outlined the history of NJ CTF and the process to determine how funds are utilized in target communities to prevent child abuse and neglect consistent with the current New Jersey Prevention Plan

NJTFCAN members received a two-page ethics and recusal memorandum as it pertains to their roles as Special State Officers and procurement/grant making activities. DCF's Ethics Liaison Officer, Brian Ross, presented and discussed this memo with NJTFCAN. Brian informed NJTFCAN that the memo will serve as a guide to provide clarity to NJTFCAN regarding the following State ethics rules on the recusal process:

- Members are special state officers and are subject to the same State Uniform Ethics Code.
- Members should recuse themselves if they or anyone they are in contact with may potentially be bidding on funds. This includes any business, personal or professional relationships. Documentation of the conflict of interest must be submitted to NJTFCAN, Brian Ross and the



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State Ethics Commissioner. Brian will provide NJTF CAN information to include in the recusal letter.

- Once recused, members are not allowed to participate in any meetings on the matter from which they have recused as well as any meeting materials. Members were informed, when in doubt, they should leave the meeting to protect themselves from being subject to disciplinary action.
- DCF is authorized to develop the Request for Proposal (RFP). The proposals are submitted to the review committee assembled by the Task Force. The review committee consists of NJTF CAN members that are free from conflict. The review committee will score the proposals and make recommendations to the Task Force for a final vote for funding.
- Brian Ross encouraged NJTF CAN to email him at [Brian.Ross@dcf.state.nj.us](mailto:Brian.Ross@dcf.state.nj.us) if they have any further ethics questions or concerns.

NJTF CAN thanked Mr. Ross for outlining the ethics and recusal process. Maura Somers Dughi requested that Ifeanyi email the NJ CTF summary document that was disseminated and discussed at the meeting.

### **Subcommittee/Committee Election**

#### Prevention – Vice Chair

Maura Somers Dughi informed NJTF CAN that Diana Autin resigned as Vice Chair of the Prevention Committee due to her new responsibilities as the Co-Executive Director of Statewide Parent Advocacy Network. Maura thanked Commissioner Allison Blake and Martin Finkel for their thank you letter acknowledging Diana's accomplishments and contributions to the Prevention Committee. She further informed NJTF CAN that this letter was read and presented to Diana at the Committee's last meeting.

Maura nominated Niurca Louis to become the new Vice Chair of the Prevention Committee. She informed NJTF CAN that Niurca is the Director of Community Engagement at Robins' Nest, Inc. and an expert in the area of the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Maura also stated that Niurca has been involved in developing the prevention curriculum for higher education. NJTF CAN voted to approve Niurca Louis as the new Vice Chair of the Prevention Committee.

#### Protection – Chair

NJTF CAN voted and approved Richard Stagliano as the new Chair of the Protection Committee.



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## **Subcommittee/Committee Application**

NJFCAN voted and approved the Prevention Committee applications for Suzanne Conrad, Jeanne McMahon and Michelle Rupe.

## **Subcommittee/Committee Updates**

### Communication Committee – Martin Finkel

Dr. Finkel informed NJTFCAN that Seetha Holmes was not able to attend the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting due to a medical issue. NJTFCAN extended its well wishes to Seetha. In Seetha's absence, Dr. Finkel informed NJTFCAN that the Communication Committee has no report due to the cancellation of its June 2016 meeting.

### Prevention Committee – Maura Somers Dughi

Maura Somers Dughi informed NJTFCAN that the Prevention Committee and the Communication Committee are working together on a campaign to increase the NJ CTF dollars.

### Staffing and Oversight Review Subcommittee (SORS) – Rita Gulden

Rita Gulden informed NJTFCAN that SORS was working on their 10<sup>th</sup> annual report. They also continue to work on the survey.

## **Announcements**

Ifeanyi reminded NJTFCAN that the 2016 Skill Building Conference: The Digital Realm of Child Abuse is being held on September 9, 2016 at Pines Manor in Edison, New Jersey. Ifeanyi requested that any NJTFCAN member who is interested in attending the conference, please email her their contact information by July 29, 2016 to complete his/her registration.

Dr. Finkel informed NJTFCAN that CARES Institute will host its next Experts in Child Abuse and Neglect Lecture Series: Back to the Basics on July 27, 2016 featuring speaker, Dr. Lori Frasier. Dr. Finkel stated that Dr. Frasier is a child abuse pediatrician and the new Director of Child Abuse Pediatrics at Penn State College of Medicine. Dr. Finkel encouraged NJTFCAN to register for this no-cost lecture by visiting [www.caresinstitute.org](http://www.caresinstitute.org) and clicking under the events tab.

Wendi White announced to NJTFCAN that she is expecting her second child and will be out on maternity leave until March 2017; NJTFCAN congratulated Wendi and wished her the best of luck.

**Next Meeting – September 23, 2016 in Trenton, Commissioner's Large Conference Room**