

**New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect  
Staffing and Oversight Review Subcommittee (SORS)**

**Marygrace Billek= Chair**

**Mary Coogan = Vice-Chair**

**Tuesday November 12, 2019: 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M**

**Embrella**

**101 College Rd East 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**

**Princeton, NJ 08540**

**In Attendance- In Person**

Marygrace Billek	Mercer County DHS
Mary Coogan	ACNJ
Amy Fischer	Administrative Office of the Courts
Corinne LeBaron	Embrella
Robyn Veasey	Office of Parental Representation

**In Attendance- Conference Line**

Tosca Blandford-Bynoe	Office of Attorney General
Lisa Chapland	Kinship Resource Parent
Mary Hallahan	Resource Parent
Lori Morris	Lifeties
Linda Porcaro	Somerset Co. OYS
Jeyanthi Rajaramam	Legal Services of NJ

**SORS Staff Support**

Dawn Marlow	DCF
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**Review of Minutes:**

Introductions were made to include the Open Public Meeting Announcement. The September 2019 minutes were reviewed by the members and approved.

***New Business:***

- ***2020 SORS meeting dates***

Dawn Marlow reported to the subcommittee that the Task Force has moved to a quarterly meeting structure and opened the discussion to the group regarding making a similar change. Marygrace proposed to the group to make two of the six meetings conference call meetings and if those meetings are not needed they can be cancelled at the chair's discretion. The group identified the two meetings for conference calls as January 14, 2020 and November 10, 2020.

Mary Coogan suggested starting the meetings earlier at 9:30am for meetings where there is a large agenda. It was decided by the group to keep the meeting start time

at 10am however if warranted/needed the length of the meeting can be extended past 12pm.

The 2020 meeting dates with those edits were approved.

- ***2018 Resource Family Survey Summary***

Mary Coogan would like to see a county breakdown of the percentage of response rate to the survey in addition to the total number of completed surveys by county.

The group discussed having the response rate to each question broken out either by county or region. Lisa Chapland discussed that while the 60-65% satisfaction rate noted for the question for resource families regarding medical care, daycare and mental/behavioral health care seems good however in the southern part of the state where these resources are limited the response rate may look different.

After much discussion the group identified positive outcomes like the 76% satisfaction rate for DCF customer service however the group would like to see the response percentage rate broken out by county. The group would also be interested in seeing the response rate for each question either broken out by county or area to identify trends or gaps in certain parts of the state. This request will be made to the Assistant Commissioner of CP&P.

Discussion also centered around suggesting to CP&P to hold focus groups of resource caregivers to drill down more into the questions to gain a better understanding as some results appear to be contradictory. This will be a suggestion also made to the Assistant Commissioner of CP&P.

- ***SORS 2019 & 2020 Workplans***

The group began with reviewing the 2019 workplan to close it out. Mary Coogan suggested that goal one should be changed to getting updates from DCF on the DCF priorities and reform efforts as opposed to the implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act given the complications with all states are experiencing with FFA. This suggestion was agreed upon by the members and will be integrated into the 2020 workplan.

The group agreed for goal two to restructure and focus on review of the 2020-2024 Child and Family Service Plan (CFSP) which incorporates the DCF strategies of kinship care and service excellence. Dawn Marlow reported to the group that DCF very recently received notification that the CFSP was approved and it will be posted on the DCF website for public view. Marygrace suggested that once the plan is posted, the subcommittee members review it for discussion at the January meeting.

There was lengthy discussion regarding goal 3 to include gaps in treatment services, issues with data collection for addiction for juveniles, working with education and

juvenile justice, etc... Mary Coogan reported that she is aware that there is a workgroup in progress that is looking at CSOC services and Mary believes that something may come out of that workgroup in January/February. Marygrace suggested then to have the Assistant Commissioner of CSOC come to the May meeting to provide an update. Dawn Marlow reminded the group to keep in mind the charge of the SORS and how to tie it back to staffing needs.

For goal four, Mary Coogan suggested to review the CFSP and adjust this goal as needed after that review. Marygrace suggested putting a place holder on this goal and Dawn Marlow reported that all of the goals in the 2019 workplan have been transposed to the 2020 workplan and this goal will reflect a hold.

In terms of goals 5 & 7 (combined) Marygrace identified that the SORS did not get a presentation from the Office of Training and Professional Development (OTPD) despite numerous scheduled attempts. Dawn Marlow informed the members that the OTPD executive director is no longer with DCF however a request has been made to the OTPD Administrator, Suzanne Alvino to determine availability for the March 2020 meeting. Dawn also identified that this goal is now goal five on the 2020 workplan and reflects what the SORS identified in the Annual Report as priorities for 2020.

Marygrace suggested that goal six in the 2019 workplan can come off as the members can receive updates from Carmen during meetings on Solution Based Casework (SBC).

Review of the 2020 SORS workplan. Changes were made to goal one and two as noted above. It was agreed that goal 3 regarding CSOC would be changed to request a presentation from the Office of Staff Health and Wellness for the September meeting and move to get an update on the integration of CSOC to goal one.

For goal 4 of the 2020 workplan, Mary Coogan suggested an update from CP&P on the resource family pilot that is occurring in Ocean/Monmouth area. The members agreed and proposed that Carmen may be able to accomplish this at the next meeting and edits to the goal can be made at that time if needed.

Goal five was addressed earlier and approved and goal six will be the Annual Report.

The members approved the changes to the 2020 workplan.

**Next Meeting:**

Date: January 14, 2020  
Time: 10am-12pm  
Location: Conference call meeting

**Announcements & Closure:**

Dawn Marlow announced that the coordinator for the Task Force (Daniel Yale) and the other subcommittees will be taking over the coordination of the SORS subcommittee beginning in 2020. Dawn thanked the members for their support and dedication over the years. Dawn reported that she will work with Dan to make a smooth transition. The members thanked Dawn for her support to the subcommittee.