



**Protection Committee
Richard Stagliano, Chair
Liza Kirschenbaum, Esq, Vice-Chair
May 9, 2018
1:00 P.M. Meeting**

Minutes

In Attendance:

Greta Anderson
Joyce Applegate
Kathy Haggerty
Joanne Hatt
Martin Krupnick
Lisa Landsman
Nydia Monagas
Sonia Moticha
Clinton Page
Donna Pincavage
Jane Reynolds
Debbie Riveros
Richard Stagliano
Jennifer Underwood
Lorene Wilkerson

DCF – Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit (IAIU)
Catholic Charities – Diocese of Metuchen
Administrative Office of the Courts
NJ
IEP Youth Services
Attorney/Trainer
New Jersey Children’s Alliance
Department of Education
Department of Children and Families
Metro Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Mercer County Forensic Nurse Coordinator
Monmouth County Child Advocacy Center
Center for Family Services
Department of Community Affairs
Child Placement Advisory Council

Staff:

-Daniel Yale DCF-NJTFCAN

Introduction and Welcome

A brief welcome was provided by Richard Stagliano and each attendee briefly introduced themselves.

Review and Approve November 15, 2017 Conference Call Minutes

The November 15, 2017 minutes were approved without edit.

New Business

Discussion regarding NJ Assembly Bill A4442 (NJ Senate Bill S414)

Richard reminded the committee that, at a previous meeting, Rush Russell spoke about this bill in hopes of gaining support from the Protection Committee. The Bill would require further background checks on teachers who are leaving districts due to abuse incidents and being hired in other districts. The Bill was passed by the Legislature and was signed by Governor Murphy on April 11, 2018.

2018 Committee Initiatives

The Digital Realm of Child Abuse Workgroup



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Jennifer Underwood informed the committee that the survey developed by the workgroup was sent by the Department of Education to 693 recipients in school districts across the state. This number does not include whether the survey was forwarded to others. However, for the purposes of this data, there were 693 recipients, with a 37% response rate. Jennifer provided the committee with a packet of answers that respondents provided. Jennifer explained that there was an option for "other" on questions 6, 7 and 18. The responses to these questions were recorded and the results were provided. Lorene Wilkerson informed the committee that the workgroup will hold a meeting to determine the next steps regarding the information received. Lorene reminded the committee that they discussed speaking with the PTA to collaborate on a conference for parents. It is very important that the parents know and understand the information. According to the information received through the survey, many of the programs provided by the schools did not include parents. Lorene also discussed providing the results of the survey to the Department of Education to see if they have any recommendations. Lorene and Jennifer also discussed sending the survey to private schools. Charter schools were included in the initial email blast.

The committee reviewed the information contained in the packet of responses provided and noted that most of the respondents were administrators and teachers. The teachers may not be aware of programs that are offered in certain classes, which may account for the lower response rate. If you are not instructing on that topic, you may not know that the topic is provided. The survey may need to be focused on the health teacher, nurse, guidance counselor, etc.

The data indicated that 37% of respondents replied that their school provides curriculum dealing with internet safety, 29% said they are unsure if there are programs for internet safety, and 14.5% said there were no school hours dedicated to this issue. Community groups may provide presentations to schools, but teachers or administrators may not know the subject matter. Overall respondents felt that there was some level of education, but it is not known whether they felt there was enough.

Nydia Monagas informed the committee that there is currently a bill in the Senate Education Committee that would require schools to instruct on the consequences of "sexting". There is also prevention legislation that has passed the assembly, "Erin's Law" type legislation. New Jersey Children's Alliance (NJCA) is working with the Senate Majority Office to draft more comprehensive legislation around child abuse prevention. NJCA is hoping that the legislation will include a task force within the Department of Education that will look further into these issues and inform what the curriculum should contain. The hope is that it will be comprehensive prevention legislation that protects kids, but also informs adults. The committee discussed what the next steps should be regarding the data that was received from the survey. A question was raised regarding whether it would be possible to send a smaller survey, one that concentrates on certain aspects, to a more focused group of individuals. The committee discussed that the outcome of such a survey may assist in determining where education and training are necessary. The committee also discussed sending the survey to specific grade levels, i.e. elementary schools, middle schools, or high schools.



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Richard posed a question as to how the committee can use the data that was received and develop an executive summary about what the data means. The committee discussed the necessity of interpreting the data. Jacquelynn Duron agreed to assist with the research and data aspect of the project.

Juveniles with Sexually Inappropriate Behavior Workgroup

Dr. Krupnick informed the committee that members of the Juveniles with Sexually Inappropriate Behavior workgroup met just prior to the meeting to discuss next steps. Dr. Krupnick brought the latest Supreme Court decision in the case of C.K., which says that juveniles cannot be on Megan's Law for life. Dr. Krupnick explained that, if a juvenile is charged with certain sexual offenses, aggravated sexual assault being among them, that juvenile is prohibited from ever applying to be removed from the Megan's Law registry. The unanimous Supreme Court decision in the case of C.K. states that placing a lifelong requirement on child offenders is a violation of due process rights under the NJ State Constitution. Lifetime notification and registration requirements may impede juvenile's rehabilitative efforts and stunt their ability to become a healthy and integrated adult member of society. Dr. Krupnick stated that he believes this to be a major step in the right direction. Dr. Krupnick opined that the next step is for the Supreme Court review the J.G. motion and extend it to all juveniles through the age of 18, rather than the current age of 14 years old. This punishment is essentially a type of branding because, effective last month, under Federal Law, anyone on the Megan's Law registry will have a "scarlet letter" on their passport that tells other countries that the individual was a sexual offender. For the majority of juveniles, we don't need this "life-long" sentence.

Dr. Krupnick then discussed the Juvenile Treatment Program (JTP). Dr. Krupnick stated that he spoke with three attorneys from the NJ State Bar Association who are on the legislative committee about the JTP and how the Probation Offenders Program (POP) is run in Monmouth County. Lisa, Donna and Nora will travel to different counties to meet with juvenile prosecutors. They will meet first regarding what will be discussed at these meetings and about what counties they will be visiting. The hope is for the workgroup to obtain an inventory of how the counties are handling these cases, what the Multidisciplinary Team's (MDT) role is in these cases, and what resources are available. The committee discussed that each county handles cases differently. Nydia suggested surveying the MDTs to see how they manage those cases. NJCA is the membership organization for the county-based MDTs and Child Advocacy Centers in NJ. Nydia agreed to assist with collecting this data from MDTs.

Donna Pincavage informed the committee that she attended two trainings in the previous month. The first training, held on April 26, 2018, was provided by the CARES Institute and featured the center's Co-Director, Esther Deblinger. The training was intended for individuals who have been trained in Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT). The training topic was implementing TF-CBT for preschool and school age children with problematic sexual behavior. Donna informed the committee that 100 therapists attend this training and the thought is that there should be a list of those therapists across the state that are trained in TF-CBT, so that counties are aware of their location. The second training was also provided by the CARES Institute and featured Dr. David Finkelhor as the keynote



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speaker. Donna explained that in both trainings, the discussion focused on the idea that once a child is identified and enters treatment, the recidivism rate is very low. The earlier the child enters treatment, the better.

Nydia informed the committee the NJCA is attempting to bring Jane Silvosky to NJ to train therapists in the use of PSB-CBT. They will have people trained in the collaborative, they will be going through the two-day training, the consultation call and then there will be additional advanced training similar to TF-CBT. Currently there are only two people in the state that are trained in PSB-CBT.

Announcements

On June 7, 2018, New Jersey Children's Alliance and the Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator's Association is hosting a conference at Montclair State University. Topics will include drug and alcohol facilitated sexual assault in teens, plenary on music therapy for healing trauma victims, and a session on vicarious trauma in everyday work.

On June 8, 2018, the New Jersey Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (NJATSA) will hold a half day program at the Burlington County Emergency Services Center. The topic of this program is people on the autism spectrum and sex. The program will address the need to help prevent sexual inappropriateness and allow for healthy sexual life. The event will cost \$5.00 and further information can be found at www.NJATSA.org.

On September 14, 2018, the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect and DCF will hold a Skill Building Conference at the Pines Manor in Edison. The conference, titled "Hidden Danger: Keeping Kids Safe on the Internet", will feature Dr. David Finkelhor as the keynote speaker and will cover topics including sextortion, solicitation of sex from minors over the internet, cyberbullying, and technology addiction.

Also on September 14, 2018, there will be a full day conference held at the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office regarding technology and sexuality. The event will include two national speakers, Dr. David Delmonico and Elizabeth Griffin.

Daniel Yale informed the committee that DCF just completed the development of a website that provides training to teachers and administrators regarding mandatory child abuse reporting. The address for the website is www.reportingchildabuse.nj.org.

Meeting adjourned

The next meeting is scheduled on July 18, 2018 at 1:00pm at PerformCare.