



Protection Committee
Richard Stagliano, Chair
Liza Kirschenbaum, Esq, Vice-Chair
November 16, 2016
1:00 P.M. Meeting

Minutes

In Attendance:

Greta Anderson
Joyce Applegate
Doug Behan
Eileen Caraker
John Esmerado
Martin Finkel
Marilyn Gorney-Daley
LaTasha Holmes
Liza Kirschenbaum

Patricia Lynch
Nydia Monagas
Sonia Moticha
Clinton Page
Nora Pearce
Donna Pincavage
Megan Price
Debbie Riveros
Judy Spinney
Richard Stagliano
Sylvia Snyder
Jennifer Underwood

DCF – Institutional Abuse Investigation Unit (IAIU)
Catholic Charities – Diocese of Metuchen
Rutgers School of Social Work
Gloucester County Forensic Nurse Coordinator
Union County Prosecutor’s Office
CARES Institute
Department of Health
Department of Children and Families
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of
New Jersey
Sussex County Forensic Nurse Coordinator
New Jersey Children’s Alliance
Department of Education
Department of Children and Families
Attorney/Trainer
Metro Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Acting MDT Coordinator-Camden County
Monmouth County Child Advocacy Center
Therapist
Center for Family Services
Dorothy B. Hersh Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center
Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

Staff:

Ifeanyi Pole DCF-NJTFCAN

Introduction and Welcome

Introductions were made.

Review and Approve January 2016 Minutes

The July 27, 2016 Minutes were approved.



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2016 Skill Building Conference Debrief

The Committee discussed the 2016 Skill Building Conference. Liza Kirschenbaum led the discussion regarding potential future goals for the Committee. The discussion centered on:

- The importance of the cyber tip hotline and the reporting of sexual exploitative images of children.
- Liza suggested obtaining a copy of the movie “Not Just Pictures” shown by Dr. Sharon Cooper to be utilized as a training tool for the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) staff, stakeholders and to incorporate into the Department of Education curriculum.
- The importance of educating parents and children at an early age regarding internet safety and understanding the risks associated with the internet.
- Sonia Moticha agreed to address the Committee’s concerns around internet safety with staff at the Department of Education (DOE) in an effort to tackle this issue through parent education.
- Conducting a survey with the Prosecutor’s office, NJ CASA and DOE on what is happening throughout the State on prevention efforts to raise awareness on internet safety.

The Committee agreed to assemble a workgroup. Ifeanyi Pole will email the Committee with regards to their participation in serving on the Digital Realm of Child Abuse workgroup. Once confirmed, the workgroup will convene to gather information for further discussion at the full Committee meetings.

New Business

Discuss the Criminalization of Youth for Minor Inappropriate Sexual Behaviors

Dr. Martin Finkel discussed the increase of child on child sexual abuse and the lack of literature. Dr. Finkel informed the Committee that he and his colleagues are submitting three papers for publication that look at past cases of child on child sexual abuse and provided statistics on sexual reactive behaviors. The Committee discussed ways in educating law enforcement regarding older children who act out as well as ideas toward the use of a therapeutic approach rather than criminal charges. It was also noted that there is a shortage of skilled clinicians who are able to evaluate kids with sexual reactive behavior in order to provide appropriate assessment and treatment.



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The Committee was informed that the Metro Regional Diagnostic Treatment Center (RDTC) and the Children's Aid and Family Services (CAFS) received a federal grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice. They are working with Barbara Bonner, a national expert in juvenile sex crimes. Research is being conducted and the Metro RDTC is treating the child victim and CAFS is treating the juvenile with sexual behavior issues. It was noted that research has proved this to be a great diversionary program.

The Committee agreed that someone from the County Prosecutor's Office and Juvenile Justice Commission should be at the table to help address some of these issues regarding child on child sexual abuse. John Esmerado will reach out to Fletcher Duffy at the Public Defender's Office to extend an invitation to attend a Protection Committee meeting as well as someone from the county Prosecutor's Office. Clinton Page has agreed to reach out to the Juvenile Justice Commission to identify a staff person that would be willing to engage the Committee in discussion at addressing the issue of juvenile sex offenders.

John Esmerado will provide the Committee with the New Jersey Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (NJATSA) directory, that provides a list of mental health clinicians for juveniles and adults with sexual impulse control issues.

The Committee agreed to assemble a workgroup. Ifeanyi Pole will email the Committee with regards to their participation in serving on the Juvenile Sexual Offenders workgroup and/or Chair of the workgroup. Once confirmed, the workgroup will convene to gather information for further discussion at the full Committee meetings.

Discuss Goals for 2016 - 2017

The Committee discussed its 2016 - 2017 goals which include:

- Diversionary programs for children involved in sexting and sexually exploitative images. The Committee will focus on the "digital realm of child abuse."
- Juvenile Sexual Offenders and the ramification and issues connected with being a juvenile sex offender.
- Racial Disproportionality – Clinton Page agreed to provide the Committee with updates to what the Court Improvement Committee (CIC) is doing to tackle this issue. This will allow the Committee to explore ways in which the Committee can have an impact.



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- Clinton also informed the Committee that as part of a federal grant, CIC and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) will be working together on making the two databases work better together in order to share data on racial disproportionality.
- Batterers' Accountability and Child Victims of Domestic Violence (DV) - The Committee agreed to table this goal.

John Esmerado informed the Committee that the data project is in the final stage of completion and should be available within the next two weeks.

The Committee agreed to discuss additional goals as they become relevant.

Discuss 2017 Committee Meeting Dates

The Protection Committee approved the meeting dates and location (PerformCare) for 2017.

- January 18, 2017
- March 15, 2017
- May 17, 2017
- July 19, 2017
- September 13, 2017
- November 15, 2017

Announcements

Ifeanyi Pole announced that she has taken a new position with DCF's Office of Adolescent Services. In the interim, LaTasha Holmes will assist the Protection Committee until a new Executive Coordinator has transitioned into the role. Ifeanyi will email the Chair and Vice Chair LaTasha's contact information.

Dr. Martin Finkel announced the next Experts in Child Abuse and Neglect Lecture Series that is being held on January 24, 2017 @ 9:30am at The Conference Center at Mercer. The topic is Moving Beyond "Just Say No": Supporting Healthy Sexuality for Children and Youth with Developmental Disabilities as a Necessary Component of Sexual Abuse Prevention. The lecture is free. Dr. Finkel will email the Committee the announcement with the full details.

Dr. Finkel also announced that his book published by the American Academy of Pediatrics is now available in Pakistan. Martin received assistance from the Pakistani Pediatrics Association. The book



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is also published in Chinese, Japanese, and Spanish and will soon be available in Arabic and Portuguese. The 4th edition is currently being worked on.

Next Meeting Date – Scheduled for January 18, 2017