Davis County CJC

Mission Statement

To provide a safe, comfortable, neutral and child-friendly atmosphere for children to receive coordinated services during the child abuse investigation process.

2020 Inputs/Outputs

Number of FTEs (2020): 2

Part Time Employees: 2 (2 @ 19 hours per week 1 @ 29 hrs per week)

In 2020 the CJC served 420 child victims and 1,527 adults. Onsite medical services were provided to 123 child victims. These numbers exhibit a slight decrease from 2019 due to COVID 19 restrictions that were in place at the start of the pandemic.

VOCA funding was used to pay for the registration costs for 1 FT employee to attend the Crimes Against Children Conference in Dallas and 1 FT employee to attend the Leadership conference in DC. All conferences were virtual due to Covid 19. The CJC Symposium was canceled in 2020.

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Core Functions & Services

- **Function 1:** The Children's Justice Center (CJC) provides a comfortable, neutral, child friendly place for children to be interviewed regarding child abuse allegations. The CJC also provides a sensitive setting where children can receive medical services by a Primary Children's specialized pediatric nurse practitioner. CJC staff provide crisis intervention, information and referral, assistance with crime victim reparations and other resources to caregivers of the children who visit the Center. The County hired an experienced onsite forensic interviewer (Jill Bell) in May of 2020. Jill conducts approximately 80-85% of all CJC forensic interviews. She has interviewed approx 560 children since her hire date on May 4, 2020.
- **Function 2**: The Davis County CJC provides comprehensive case coordination/case tracking, and facilitates a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach for professionals that are involved in the investigation, and prosecution of child abuse cases .
- **Function 3:** CJC staff ensure that training opportunities are made available to all Davis County professionals on the MDT at no cost or low cost. CJC staff also attend a variety of trainings to stay current with the latest research and trends, in order to best serve children and families in Davis County who are experiencing abuse. CJC staff also make public awareness presentations to community partners, as well as University students, and civic and church groups.

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2022 Projected Outcomes

The state allocation for the 2019/2020 fiscal year was 195,798. We received a very slight increase in funding for FY 21/22. The new allocation amount is 196,122 which began on 7/1/21 and will end 6/30/22. The CJC was approved and awarded a VOCA grant in the amount of 27,674.79 for FY 21/22. The breakdown for the VOCA funds are as follows: 16,755.88 is allocated for a portion of the Victim's Services Coordinator salary and 7,000 covers a portion of the fringe benefits. 1,947.75 pays for parent packet supplies and DVDs for recorded interviews and 1,971.16 is allocated for costs associated with attending conferences and training. It is important to note that the NCA sub-award that the CJC has been awarded in the past to pay a portion of the director's salary will no longer be available after 2021. We will be short 7,000 in our personnel category due to this funding source being eliminated. The Friend's Fund raising board covered over 21,000 in costs in 2020. This included counseling costs for child victims who had no other ability to pay, food and paper supplies for Advisory board meetings, snacks and drinks for families that visit the center, and monthly aquarium maintenance costs. The Friend's board also approved funds for new artwork and new toys for the waiting room in 2021 and 3,000 for the cost to be re-accredited with The National Children's Alliance in 2021. The Friends Board members raised approximately 20,000 in 2021 and they continue to be committed to assisting the CJC in 2022.

2021 Budget Initiatives

The Children's Justice Center does not charge the public for any services rendered at the Center. Families are eligible for crime victim reparations to assist with some counseling costs. In 2017 a linkage agreement was put in place between the CJC and Grandview Family Counseling to provide off site low cost treatment to eligible families and this funding will continue in 2022 as well. The CJC Friend's fundraising board has also approved funds to assist families with mental health treatment costs when other options are not available to them. They are committed to continue this funding in 2022. DBH is the mental health provider for CJC clients on Medicaid.

Intermountain health care and the AG's office have a linkage agreement in place so that the CJC/county does not have to pay the salaries and benefits for the three members of the Primary Children's Medical staff who provide medical services to Davis County children onsite at the CJC. This will continue to be the case in 2022 and beyond.

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2021 Budget Requests & Planned Projects

The CJC has been experiencing a higher volume of cases in 2021 than in past years. The Davis CJC forensic interviewer is considered a top performer of all forensic interviewers in the state of Utah. I have been advised that our forensic interviewer is conducting more interviews per day than is recommended by the state authority on this subject. Discussions are in the works at the state level to apply for funding to cover the cost of an additional part time forensic interviewer to share the increased case load. To date Jill Bell has interviewed 555 children since her hire date on May 4th 2020.

Challenges and concerns: When we ended the **fiscal** year on June 30th 2021 our total expenditures exceeded what we were allocated from all combined revenue sources for that time period. At that time the state CJC chapter contributed one-time funds in the amount of $30,000 that helped reduce the overage to 3,700. Without these one-time funds we would have been short a total of $33,709. With the costs of most goods and services rising and the loss of our 7,000 NCA grant, and factoring in salary increases, we have significant concerns that that we will exceed our revenue sources again by approximately 40,000. This should be considered a conservative amount that could easily be surpassed when we end our fiscal year on June 30th, 2022. Davis County funds are used to pay 100% of the forensic Interviewer's personnel and benefits, 25% of all other employee' personnel and benefits, and a percentage of the departmental maintenance allocation fee between 26,000 and 27,000.