

**ADVISORY BOARD
OF THE
SALT LAKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER**

Meeting minutes

Prepared by: Michelle Grahame, CJC Victim Services Coordinator

DATE OF MEETING: Monday November 2, 2020

LOCATION: WebEx

PRESENT: Susanne Mitchell, Blake Nakamura, Carola Verdoia, Rosie Rivera, Scott Morgous, Karen Crompton, Brooks Keeshin, Tracy Mills, Ryan Woodmansee, Josh Jones, Annette Jan, Sandy Grove, Alissa Black, Joseph Osmond, Carol Anderson

GUESTS: Lorianne Szendre, Lizet Torres, Dusty Schumacher

EXOFFICIO: Michelle Grahame

EXCUSED: Travis Rees, Ted Harris, Rich Mauro

1. Carol Verdoia called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.
 - A. Judge Annette Jan is the designee for Judge Mark May
 - B. Ryan Woodmansee, Child Welfare Administrator as designee for Ray Harris, Salt Lake Valley Region Director
2. Roll Call- Michelle Grahame
Excused: Travis Rees, Ted Harris, Rich Mauro
3. Approval of the September minutes- Carol Verdoia
 - A. Carol Verdoia asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Blake Nakamura made the motion, Carol Anderson second, all in favor. September minutes approved.
4. Public Comment- Carol Verdoia
 - A. Open for public comment- No public in attendance
5. Business Items- Susanne Mitchell
 - A. Terms ending- Judge Mark May completed a full term, and rather than renewing for a second term, he is now a member of the Judicial Council and cannot serve on other boards or committees. He recommended Judge Annette Jan as his replacement. Annette has worked closely with the CJC previously as an Assistant Attorney General. This nominee would be taken to the Nominating Committee to review and make it under full consideration. Joseph Osmond served two terms on the board in the community member slot and is still serving on the board at the Utah County CJC. Joseph was very involved with the program, and instrumental in connecting the CJC with the LDS Church to set up trainings and facilitate gifts from the LDS Foundation. Susanne thanked them for their time serving on the board.
 - B. Granicus- Application forms will be emailed out to board members requesting information to be loaded into Granicus, the County Boards Management system database. This database helps to monitor diversity of boards, demographics, region in county, council district, and document attendance. All applications should be sent back to Susanne once completed.
5. CJC Program Update- Susanne Mitchell

- A. Update from Statewide CJC Advisory Board on legislation regarding local Advisory Boards. This past session, House Bill 10 was looking at the boards and commissions amendments. Line 76 repealed local advisory boards for Children's Justice Centers. This would remove 76-5b-105 and triggers the sunset review of the local board to determine eligibility to remain in statute. There was an overload of boards and commissions, and they were being evaluated to determine which ones should be mandatory and which ones should not be part of the statute. On October 21, the Judiciary Interim Committee met. Tracey Tabet with the Attorney General's Office and Rebecca Martell from the Utah County CJC attended to let them know the CJC talked about it at the Statewide Advisory Board and agreed the CJC local advisory boards could lapse in the statute. AG's office said it should be maintained via state contract requirements and is key to the program and emphasized the NCA Accreditation Standards. It is unsure when this will go into effect, and if the CJC Advisory Board will still fall under the Utah Open Meeting Act.
- B. CJC caseload decline since COVID-19. Susanne provided a PowerPoint with graphs to show the impacts of cases served, witness interviews, and staffings since COVID-19.
- Cases for the last five years have been steady. Over the past few years, the number of cases served and staffings have been increasing.
 - The number of interviews in March and April of 2020 experienced a rapid drop due to the March earthquake and COVID-19.
 - Susanne noted witness interviews have been lower than in 2019 and were already declining prior to COVID-19. Susanne emphasized MDT members bringing witness interviews to the CJC, as this often comes up in team staffings. Brooks Keeshin noted there was a significant drop in witness interviews in the summer of 2019 and wondered the cause. Susanne was unsure of any major law enforcement administrative changes during that time. Dusty Schumacher commented the FI team does discuss with MDT if a witness is identified in the case and bringing the witness to the CJC. Michelle Grahame suggested it could be due to the way witness interviews were previously documented in the CJC case management system. CJC was previously recording pre parent meetings as requested by law enforcement, but after consultation with the DA's office, those were not proper witness interviews and the CJC stopped recording those meetings.
 - Team staffings seem to fluctuate from month-to-month but have seen a steady increase the past few months. Time slots were lessened from 30 minutes to 20 minutes to allow more cases to be staffed. Staffings have been occurring over WebEx, led by Jenny Pringle, and have seen more engagement and great teamwork amongst MDT.
- C. Forensic Services enhancements- Dusty Schumacher
- The interview mentoring process is meant for new detectives to help ease them into the interview process, increase skill building, assist in answering technical questions about the NICHHD guidelines, inform about logistics associated with the interview appointment, and build strong teamwork relationships.
 - How it works: summary of FIT interview methods, reinforcing the NICHHD guidelines, assisting with the first experience in the interview sessions. The detective's first interview will be conducted by a CJC Forensic Interviewer and the detective will observe, the second interview the detective will conduct the interview and a CJC FI will observe.
 - New Components: CJC FI will have discussions with new detectives and caseworkers regarding coordination at the start of the case, pre and post meetings with parents, the forensic interview process and skills reminders, special considerations regarding the child, and discussing language interpreters if needed.
 - The FI team is always available for MDT to ask questions prior to interviews, offering consultation and mentoring, and still providing a formal peer review two times per year.
 - Virtual solutions to enhance services: Started with a courtesy assist case from an out of state agency. Using WebEx technology to ensure secure participation, the out of state agency can observe the interview in real time and participate in the pre and post meetings with parents. There are many benefits to using virtual technology such as increased communication between parents and out of area

investigators, flexibility during COVID-19 conditions, all while improving the delivery of services to victim, family, and team members.

D. Status report on No Access cases and agency adjustments- Lizet Torres

- No Access cases from DCFS started on October 6, 2020 in response to budget cuts. DCFS intake is looking at if the child has access to the perpetrator and is the parent willing and able to protect the child.
- Law enforcement are now having to do the initial contact with the family where there is no DCFS involvement. Law enforcement will send completed report to DCFS to make a finding in their database.
- The CJC has received 47 CANRs from the Attorney General's office that are "no-access". Of those 47, 17 have come to the CJC. The CJC FI team has supported all those interviews, through observing and mentoring or conducting the interview.
- If a case is not accepted by DCFS as no-access, the person who makes the report is receiving an email with a list of resources. The CJC is included on that list for families to call if they need additional resources, referrals to therapy, or other community outreach. The CJC has had no community calls that fall under a no-access case.
- The CJC is tracking no-access cases to see if they evolve and if there are any trends, as well as continuing coordination with all agency partners.
- Salt Lake City PD and Unified PD have received most of the no access cases so far, based off the CANRs the CJC has received.
- There are breakdowns currently being worked on. Not all CANR's were being forwarded to the AG's office for courtesy coordination efforts. Sergeants are receiving a large volume of emails from DCFS intake, and there has not been consistency in the way CANR's are being sent out. Salt Lake City PD is receiving the cases that in the body of the CANR include it "happened in Utah" when there is an unknown location.
- The CJC is committed to continue track and coordinate these cases, collaborate with sergeants and offer CJC and FI services, collaborate with partners to enhance processes, follow-up with law enforcement for case status updates monthly, and are currently working out a process to screen and assess for suicide.
- Carol Verdoia mentioned a correction to the statue that was listed in the PowerPoint presentation. The correct statue citation for the DCFS no access cases is 62A-4A-409. Carol also wanted to clarify that the Children's Justice Unit at the Attorney General's office are the ones receiving the CANR's, not the Child Protection Division.

6. CJC Facilities- Susanne Mitchell

A. Avenues Windstorm damage- all repairs have been completed on the building and the Avenues CJC will be opening for services this week.

B. CJC relocation project- Relocation is currently in progress but has had some delays. The CJC will be relocating to the first floor at the DA's office, and therefore those currently in that space are being displaced and are trying to find new spaces within the DA's office.

7. Friends Nonprofit- Joshua Jones

There is nothing to report from the Friends.

8. Other Business- Carol Verdoia

A. Carol Verdoia- this was briefly mentioned at the end of the last meeting and wanted to revisit to give more information. The new Supreme Court ruling recently involving children not needing to testify at preliminary hearings. Defendants do not have the right to compel a victim witness to testify at a preliminary hearing.

B. Susanne asked Brooks Keeshin to collaborate on Care Process Model and requested setting up a meeting.

C. Proposed meetings for 2021- via WebEx.

- January 1, April 5, August 2, November 1 or 8.

8. Motion to adjourn meeting at 1:05pm- Jones made the motion to adjourn, Rosie Rivera second, all in favor.
Motion passed.