

MINUTES

Nevada Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force Subcommittee Evaluation of Grantees

February 7, 2024

1:00 PM

1. Call to Order – Janice Wolfe, Spokesperson

Meeting called to order at 1:01 PM by Janice Wolfe.

2. For information: Roll Call – Janice Wolfe, Spokesperson, and Dylan Nall, DCFS

Dylan Nall called the roll.

Attendees:

Name	Organization
Beverly Brown	Nevada DCFS
Desiree Mattice	Lieutenant – Dept. of Public Safety
Dylan Nall	Nevada DCFS
Fran Maldonado	Nevada DCFS
Jane Saint	Boys Town Nevada
Janice Wolfe	LACSN
Jimesian Sanders	Nevada DCFS
Nancy Jurad	
Salli Kerr	Western Regional CAC
Bruce Cole (recorder)	Nevada DCFS

Absent:

Name	Organization
Betsey Crumrine	Nevada DCFS
Michelle Rodriguez	Family Court Master

3. Initial Public Comment (Discussion only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled for action at a later meeting). To provide public comment, please unmute your microphone before speaking, or you can call into the meeting by using number 775-321-6111, with passcode number 92996580# – Janie Wolfe, Spokesperson

No comments.

4. For Possible Action: Approve November Minutes – Janice Wolfe, Spokesperson

Desiree Mattice and Salli Kerr notice some spelling errors on pp. 10-12, which Dylan corrected. Desiree moved the minutes be accepted, as amended. Fran Maldonado seconded. Motion approved, with Jane Saint abstaining as she was not at the last meeting.

5. For Information: To discuss 3-year CJA Assessment – Dylan Nall, DCFS

Dylan Nall said the last assessment was done in 2021. There's nothing that we need to approve. The next Evaluation meeting that we will have will be in May when this is due. So, she just wanted to give everyone a short presentation. She did get an email from the Children's Bureau about a webinar that they did in 2021, but they just sent it to all of the people that have three-year assessments, so she wanted to go over that a little bit with everyone just so we can have a discussion. There's no action that needs to be voted on or anything, just so we can really understand what the three-year assessment is.

The initial application is for three years for funding for CJA. We submit an assessment documenting a comprehensive review of the State's child welfare work. And then it's a similar review that is required every three years, to ensure the work is responsive to the states' respective child welfare needs. We do get feedback from the Feds.

So, the background for the three-year assessment is the findings provide increased understanding of the current child welfare system; and will guide CJA programming. This is an opportunity for the task force to take a step back and look at the system as a whole.

Dylan has been in conversation with multiple different CJA task forces and read their three-year assessments and their annual reports, to add changes and make ours a little bit more updated.

Per CJA regulations, states must provide documentation that the task force has reviewed and evaluated State investigative, administrative, and civil and criminal judicial handling of child abuse and neglect and make recommendations. The first of our CJA goals fits into this.

For assessment/review strategies the Feds want surveys, secondary data analysis, focus groups, Task Force member and partner interviews, retreats, third-party facilitation. Our strategy is that Dylan gets task force opinions, members help her with drafts. The smaller evaluation group brings it to the larger committee.

Janice Wolfe said that since the 2021 evaluation there have been some significant changes in the law relevant to what this committee is charged with doing specifically about the CSEC population. The legislature last time created a new category under 432. There's now 432 C, which deals with the decriminalization of child sex trafficking victims. She wondered whether the categories that we have now are sufficient to specifically look and identify this population, which is a bit different.

Dylan Nall said that goal #2 says we support the implementation of the CSEC Model Coordinated Response Protocol and provide training and support for the formation of the MDT and Task Force. We also did, though, change goal #5, which does talk about monitoring policy, regulation and legislation regarding child abuse and neglect trends and when appropriate, collaborate with other parties and or entities to support new and revised policy regulation and legislation. With the new CSEC and laws that have come into place, and with 432C and 432B, we are covered.

Finally, Dylan said that the report is submitted to the Children's Bureau, including highlights of progress made over the last three years related to goals and recommendations from the previous three-year assessment.

6. For Information: Announcements – Janice Wolfe, Spokesperson

Janice Wolfe said that at the Legal Aid Center for Southern Nevada they have been working with the Las Vegas Resiliency and Justice Center and been partnering with Department of Family Services to provide services to families, providing legal representation and services, including counseling and support CSEC victims and their families. This is a really important collaboration and just an effort where agencies can work together to, to reach a population that is underserved.

- 7. Final Public Comment: (Discussion only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting) To provide public comment, please unmute your microphone before speaking, or you can call into the meeting by using number 775-321-6111, with passcode number 92996580 – Janice Wolfe, Spokesperson**

No comments.

- 8. Adjournment – Janice Wolfe, Spokesperson**

Meeting adjourned at 1:22 PM.