

Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

The Children's Justice Act Task Force

Division of Child and Family Services- Family Programs Office

Dylan Nall

April 2, 2024



Department of Health and Human Services

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Welcome

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll call**



Initial Public Comment

3. Initial 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.)

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For Information

4. For Information- Review the Children's Justice Act Task Force Goals-Dylan Nall, DCFS

- Review the Children's Justice Act Task Force goals as a reminder to the Task Force of its focus.



Goals of the CJA Task Force

4. Goals of the CJA Task Force

Goal 1: Provide child protection workers and stakeholders “front end” specialty, discipline specific and advanced training. Training should be prioritized, but not limited to, training requirements of CARA and JVTA Program Improvement Plans, child protection model assessments, ICWA, sexual abuse, domestic violence, forensic interviewing, trauma-informed practices, substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders and training needs identified in collaboration with Court Improvement Program. *(ABC)*

Goal 2: Support the implementation of the Commercially Sexually Exploited Child (CSEC) Model Coordinated Response Protocol and provide training and support for the formation of Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT) and Task Forces. *(ABC)*

Goal 3: Support the establishment of new Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs) or other multidisciplinary team approaches and improve the capacity of existing CACs to provide a multidisciplinary response for victims of child sex abuse and exploitation, physical abuse, and child victims with disabilities. Activities may include the development of a strategic action plan for project implementation, identification of rural health care providers, investigation of funding opportunities for infrastructure and operating costs, and the use of telehealth and telemedicine statewide. *(AB)*

Goal 4: Fund technology requests to improve the investigation, assessment and prosecution of child abuse and neglect through use of latest technology and to support use of new and existing training technologies. *(AB)*

Goal 5: Identify new or needed changes to policy, regulation and/or legislation to meet requirements of federal program improvements plans and other federal and state initiatives. Support training and policy needs related to new or revised policy, regulation, and legislation. *(C)*



For Possible Action

5. Approval of previous meeting minutes– Salli Kerr, Chair

- Consideration, discussion, and possible action to approve January 9, 2024, meeting minutes. (Please see supporting materials)



For Possible Action

6. Notice of Funding Opportunity Subcommittee's recommendations for subawards of Children's Justice Act funding for state fiscal year 2025 – Jane Saint, Vice-Chair

- Consideration, discussion, and possible action to approve the Notice of Funding Opportunity Subcommittee's recommendations for subawards of Children's Justice Act funding for state fiscal year 2025.



Clark County Department of Family Services

- CCDFS will contract with NCAC to provide three (3) 4-Day Forensic Interview Trainings to be tentatively held in July 2024, November 2024, and March 2025. Each training session can accommodate 30 professionals, for a total of 90 professionals trained during the grant period.
- \$60,000
- Goals 1



Nevada Institute of Forensic Nursing (NVIFN)

- The Nevada Institute of Forensic Nursing has requested \$30,000 to purchase the Cortexflo machine and necessary technology (computers) for adolescent exams. The Cortexflo is a portable forensic photography unit that captures images and videos of evidence required for physical and sexual examination.
- \$30,000
- Goals 3 & 4



Nye County

- Nye County intends to send 14 people from the NCCAC MDT to the San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment in January 2025.
- \$38,299
- Goals 1



Washoe County Health and Human Services

- Washoe County Human Services Agency has requested \$61,369.00 to provide Child Advocacy Center Assessment staff with advance training for WCHSA staff members at the CAC and members of the CAC multi-disciplinary.
 - 45 child welfare staff will attend the Cornerhouse Training center for child interview training.
 - 25 assessment staff and MDT members will attend TriTech Forensic Child Fatality Training.
 - 7 child welfare staff will attend the Child Welfare League of America Conference.
 - 7 child welfare staff will attend International Symposium on Child Abuse Conference.
 - 5 child welfare staff will attend San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment.
- The funds will also go towards purchasing technology (6 tablets)
- \$61,369
- Goals 1, 3 & 4



Subcommittee Recommendations

1. Clark County Department of Family Services (Current Grantee)
 1. Last year funding: \$48,500
 2. Requested: \$60,000
 3. Increase: \$11,500
 4. RECC: 40,000 2/3 trainings
2. Nevada Institute of Forensic Nursing (Current Grantee)
 1. Last year funding: \$14,362
 2. Requested: \$30,000
 3. Increase: \$15,638
 4. RECC: 30,000 tech
3. Nye County (New Agency)
 1. Requested: Requested: \$38,299
 2. RECC: 15,000 training
4. Washoe County Health and Human Services (Current Grantee)
 1. Last year funding: \$40,684
 2. Requested: \$61,369
 3. Increase: \$20,685
 4. RECC: 15,000. tech first then balance for training.

Having the agency pull out per diem and the agency provide per diem



For Possible Action

7. Recommended changes of the Children's Justice Act Task Force Bylaws made by the Bylaws Subcommittee-

Rachell Ekross-Subcommittee Chair

- Consideration, discussion, and possible action to approve recommended changes to the Children's Justice Act Task Force bylaws that were drafted by the Bylaws subcommittee in March 2024.



For Information

8. Ideas for a Statewide Training for Nevada's Child Welfare Staff-Salli Kerr, Chair

- Reminder to provide ideas for a Statewide Training for Nevada's Child Welfare Staff.



For Information

9. Current grantees activities and spending of Children's Justice Act funding update

- Updates to the Task Force on activities and spending of Children's Justice Act funds by current
 - I. Clark County
 - II. Great Basin Children's Advocacy Center
 - III. Nevada Institute of Forensic Nursing
 - IV. No to Abuse- Nevada Outreach Training Organization
 - V. Washoe County Health and Human Services



For Information

10. Announcements-Salli Kerr, Chair

- Task Force members to discuss any important announcements regarding their agencies.



Final Public Comment

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Adjournment

12. Adjournment- Salli Kerr, Chair

- Thank you for your time and commitment to improving services for children and youth in Nevada.

MINUTES

Nevada Children’s Justice Act (CJA) Task Force

January 9, 2024

9:00am

1. Call to Order – Salli Kerr, Chair

Salli Kerr called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

Members Present:

Name	Organization
LT. Desiree Mattice	Department of Public Safety
Magistrate Michelle Rodriguez	Elko County Family County Magistrate
Christine Sullivan	Washoe County
Massey Mayo	Humboldt County
Janice Wolfe	Legal Aide of Southern Nevada
Rachell Ekross	Nevada HealthRight
Jaime Wong	Division of Child and Family Services
Jane Saint	Boys Town
Salli Kerr	WRCAC
Jessica Goicoechea-Parise	Washoe County HSA
Betsey Crumrine	Division of Child and Family Services
Wonswayla Mackey	Clark County DFS
Chris Goodman	Nye County CAC

Members Absent:

Name	Organization
Britt Young	NV PEP
Cheryl Cooley	Clark County
Racheal Berg	Great Basin CAC (Elko)
Fran Maldonado	Division of Child and Family Services
Jennifer Spencer	Deputy Attorney-General
Judge Margaret Pickard	Clark County
Melanie McCormick	Carson City CASA
Wendy Maddox	Humboldt County
Laurie Jackson	Division of Child and Family Services

Guests:

Name	Organization
Chris Goodman	NOTO
Elyse Monroy-Marsak	
Tammi Williamson	Washoe County HSA
Kristy Mills	NOTO

Staff Support:

Name	Organization
Beverly Brown	Division of Child and Family Services
Bruce Cole (recorder)	Division of Child and Family Services
Dylan Nall	Division of Child and Family Services
Jimesian Sanders	Division of Child and Family Services
April Stahl	Division of Child and Family Services

2. For Information: Roll Call – Salli Kerr, Chair

Dylan Nall called the roll. There was a quorum. Tammi Williamson announced she would be handing over her role to Jessica Goicoehea-Parise.

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) – Salli Kerr, Chair

There was no comment.

4. For Information: Review CJA Task Force Goals – Dylan Nall, DCFS

Dylan Nall said we will be updating our three-year goals later in the meeting. These are our goals through the end of this fiscal year:

1. support our CPS workers and stakeholders who are front-and specialty- discipline-specific with advanced training; this should be prioritized;
2. support the implementation of our Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Coordinator Response Protocol and provide training and support for the formation of the multidisciplinary teams (MDTs);
3. is to support the establishment of new CACs (the children's advocacy centers), or other multidisciplinary team approaches and improve the capacity of existing CACs to provide a multi-disciplinary response for victims of child sex abuse and exploitation, physical abuse, and child victims with disabilities;
4. is to fund technology requests to improve the investigation, assessment, and prosecution of child abuse and neglect through the use of the latest technology and support the new and existing training technologies;
5. is to identify new or needed changes to policy regulation and or legislation

to meet the requirements of federal program improvement plans and other federal and state initiatives, and support training and policy needs related to new and revised policy regulation and legislation.

There were no questions or comments.

5. For Possible Action: Approve the last meeting's minutes – Salli Kerr, Chair

Michelle Rodriguez moved that the minutes be approved. Rachell Ekroos seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. For Possible Action: Approve Training Funds for Statewide Training for Nevada's Child Welfare Staff – Salli Kerr, Chair

Dylan Nall said that in the Evaluation subcommittee, which meets a month after our large committee, it was discussed that we use some funding to fund some child welfare organizations. That would be Washoe County, the Rural Region and then Clark County to train their frontline workers. Salli Kerr came up with some ideas about using our funding specifically for this training, using, say, The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children; or 532 Consulting (led by a retired police officer, Jim Sears, who brings his experience and voice to MDT trainings that might otherwise not be attractive to law enforcement, prosecutors and staff and other officers of the court); or Western Regional CAC, working with teams, facilitators, and leadership to help build cohesive teams. Dylan asked if anyone had any further ideas but added that this motion must pass to figure out how and on whom we would be spending.

Tammi Williamson asked if there was a set amount of money for this. Dylan replied that she hasn't gotten our program instructions for the 2025 fiscal year yet. She assumes they're probably going to be relatively the same. Our NOFO every year is roughly 100,000 dollars. That leaves us some money here and there.

Betsey Crumrine said she would encourage people not to think about the money and rather find a training that you think is going to be super meaningful and then let FPO worry about the money. Some trainers are \$1000 a day, some are \$4000 a day. She added, and know people have heard her say this before, if we're doing statewide training, you have to remember that where one or two trainings might work for Washoe and Clark, the Rurals need about five because people cannot travel, especially if it's an MDT training involving judicial or law enforcement. They don't have the funds, the time, or the people. So that tends to drive up the cost a little bit.

Betsey then asked about Jim Sears and his training. Salli Kerr said she asked for some audio settings and sent Dylan his contact information. He spoke at a conference in Idaho and did a two day training. They were talking in particular about multidisciplinary responses and getting the disciplines together. His trainings do meet POST (Peace Officers Training and Standards) requirements and so

law enforcement are happy if they get credit for attending. It certainly was well received, and he got great comments.

Michelle Rodriguez asked if this was just for DCFS. She thought when we talked about it in the subcommittee, we agreed that it would be multidisciplinary for the stakeholders. Salli Kerr answered that the reason that these trainers came to mind was because we were speaking more broadly than just the division. We really wanted to do some training for our teams to really start building that consensus within teams.

Desiree Mattice said she knew our main point is prosecution, making sure that the children are safe, court systems, law enforcement, that side of things. But she was curious about us expanding, especially to the people who have access to the children every single day. Which would be the education system and potentially providing either the social workers and/or the personnel who are coming in contact with the youth who are potentially at risk with opportunities to also attend the training. Salli Kerr said every community decides whether that educational support is brought into their team. If they're working together in conjunction with the MDT or CAC, they would be considered a stakeholder in her mind. It's probably a whole different training if we were going to talk to just educators. Desiree said she wanted to see if we were also putting them as an included party as opposed to the way that we have it where it says law enforcement, prosecutors, and staff and officers of the court, just as in that first statement that we also put that out there, so that they know that the scope is not limited if they are part of that MDT. As we know, Washoe and Clark do have many, many resources and they do include those parties because those resources are enormous and sometimes in our Rurals they kind of get missed because they're in dual role and not really paying attention on the educational side as opposed to more of the social worker that's out in the community. Her thought is putting the language in to include them as well. Salli Kerr said that is a great idea and that the language came from his bio and so doesn't speak directly to the training we would put out. We are not limited; these are just some examples of training we could bring. She knows the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children works very closely with child welfare, but also has some really good team trainers that we could probably access as well. However, when we put the training out, that's a great point to make it far more broad than what's covered in this bio.

Desiree Mattice also asked if there is a potential training that is within the same realm of Train the Trainer? We would have easier access for those people that are not able to attend instead of having to constantly try to schedule with this individual and so potentially have people who are also easily accessible within their communities. Salli Kerr said the three trainers mentioned would not have this, but this could be asked for when putting out the call for other trainings.

Rachell Ekroos reinforced what Betsy was bringing up about the Rurals. She could speak to that because in 2014 the trainings they provided to support the Rurals was a week going into the rural areas in the south of the state and another week going into the rural areas in the northern part of the state and that was herself, someone from Polaris, and someone from the Battered Women's Justice Project. Each week they made three or four stops in each section of the state just to address the needs of the Rurals. A lot of times we can do a hybrid; it may be hosted by Washoe and they can log in, but it's very different being there in person and having those blunt conversations about the challenges they're having and providing specific solutions for those challenges. Those conversations often do not happen when they're online or they're in a group of much more established or

experienced organizations, such as when they come to Washoe or to Vegas or something like that. As to the last question about Jim Sears' training: typically, when a program brings Jim in, they're doing it for one of two reasons. They're doing it to focus on that law enforcement/prosecutorial side of it, or he's one of the few trainers who could come in and handle that part and then Rachell would come in and connect that to the medical and the clinical, then someone else would come in and connect it to the other disciplines. So that's one thing to also keep in mind when we're looking at the trainers, they may be a very specialized area, but what other expertise can we use to offset that and cover other aspects of the MDT?

Salli Kerr added that there are benefits to bringing teams from near areas together, like anytime that we could get into a rural area. Oftentimes it's really good for them to hear what other teams are doing as opposed to the way they've always done things. When we do this kind of training regionally, we try and bring six or eight teams together. On a smaller scale, even if it's a couple of communities together, say, you know, go into the Great Basin area and pull in three or four counties worth of people. Travel isn't all day and they could come in from an hour away.

Tammi Williamson thought we should throw in the Reed Institute training as an option in here. They provide it across all disciplines. They brought it to Washoe County last year. It was around \$6000 and about 30 people were able to go. It was more cost effective to bring them to the area than it was to send people and so that it was a really, really good training. Salli Kerr asked her to send a link about the Reed Institute.

Massey Mayo asked "a bigger picture question." Do we have any understanding of how many rural communities actually have MDTs in place meeting on a regular basis? Because if that's not a common concept, then perhaps the goal of the training would be to more of how an MDT could benefit your system and how that would look like and who needs to have buy in as opposed to maybe a training where we presume that those systems are already in place. She guessed she knows anecdotally that there are "MDTs" out there. For example, she thinks there's one in her community, but she doesn't know that it operates in the same context that we would want it to in terms of the ultimate goal. She is curious if we have any information about who does have MDTs, who doesn't, and would we be indicating to people why they should have them and if they do have them, maybe why they're not operating in the best practices of MDT?

Salli Kerr said that did come up at the subcommittee level about places that don't really have a well-functioning MDT, and how do we bring something to them that's still valuable for them to learn the benefit of that kind of response. Whomever we would talk about with training, we would want them to be able to cover that information as well, the benefits of that MDT response and how they build it in their community. We would want to also spend some time in research, about where we are sending people and what their functioning level is and what kind of team they have in place, then address some of those that do not have really either high functioning or skilled teams or maybe haven't even started the process yet.

Wonswayla Mackey said that a lot of times when we offer trainings or invite our community partners to the training, one of the first questions we get is are there any CEU's (Continuing Education Units) being offered? That might entice them to say yes. Salli Kerr said we can certainly request the CEU's. Sometimes that's kind of an expensive process, but for us internally in Nevada, it's not super

expensive and because we're doing it statewide, we only have to get one approval. As with POST, it does draw people. The other thing is, we can always encourage people with the proper agendas and content material to be able to use it to apply individually to their ongoing education. Typically, trainers will know what to offer to us to get those approved.

Jane Saint moved that we move forward with approval for using the state funds for the training of statewide child welfare staff. Desiree Mattice seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Salli Kerr asked if, procedurally, do we want the evaluation subcommittee to be the committee for this or do we want to maintain this in the large group as we're considering cost and trainers? Dylan Nall said there would have to be motion, so she will put that on the agenda for April. Dylan also asked if anyone has any training recommendations, please send them to her and then in the April meeting, she will put a PowerPoint together and we can decide then what we're going to do.

Jane Saint asked, do we want to establish an ad hoc committee to work on this? Dylan said that would have to be an agenda item. Jane asked if that would be an April agenda item. Salli Kerr said that would be included in April. One of the things we'll do is approve a subcommittee and Dylan can collect everything between now and then, and then we can go over as a large group and then establish a subcommittee to do the detailed work and bring back to the large group.

7. For Possible Action: Approve 2024 Annual Citizen's Review Panel (CRP) recommendations to DCFS – Rachell Ekroos, Subcommittee chair

Rachell Ekroos said the Subcommittee met to review and make edits and bring back recommendations to this meeting. They met in November, and spent quite a bit of time on this last year really wordsmithing it and making sure it was inclusive and appropriate language. So due to all the work that was done on that last year it was actually much more straightforward this year. One of the primary changes was making sure that it was family and interpersonal violence as opposed to limiting it to the more the more limited scope of intimate partner violence, and so that way we don't get narrowed on the focus and end up not being inclusive on how these recommendations are being applied and can be interpreted.

So, recommendation #1 reads that the Children's Justice Act Task Force recommends the division of Child and Family Services continue to prioritize training for all child welfare staff and stakeholders in the state of Nevada to improve the investigation and handling of child abuse, neglect or cases involving both particularly child abuse and exploitation. This training recommendation includes, but is not limited to child protection, assessment and system of care models, family and interpersonal violence, mandatory reporting, medical, forensic interventions, trauma, informed practices, and cultural responsiveness.

Recommendation #2: the Children's Justice Act Task Force recommends the Division of Child and Family Services support efforts to translate best practices and support community specific needs to coordinate the multidisciplinary response to child abuse, neglect or cases involving both particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation. The multidisciplinary team MDT support recommendation includes introducing, maintaining, and establishing children's advocacy centers in conjunction with

Nevada State CAC chapter as appropriate.

The conjunction with the chapter as appropriate was also that we learned a lesson from other states that have rural and frontier communities so that we don't run into silos developing.

Jane Saint moved the approval of the recommendations. Desiree Mattice seconded. Approved unanimously.

8. For Possible Action: Approve updated 3-year Task Force Assessment Goals – Salli Kerr, Chair

Dylan Nall put up a slide showing goals, with changes in red (bold in minutes).

Everything in goal #1 is the same except for adding **interpersonal** violence. Goal #2 is unchanged. Goal #3 added **witnesses to interpersonal violence**. Goal #4 is unchanged. Goal #5 reflects language found from California which they liked. It reads: **This task force will monitor policy, regulation and/or legislation regarding child abuse and neglect trends and when appropriate collaborate with other parties and/or entities to support new and/or revised policy, regulation, and legislation.**

Rachell Ekroos asked how the task force was going to monitor. Dylan answered that on the next agenda item, Beverly Brown would be going over legislation from the legislative session. Jane Saint said the Court Improvement Project has a subcommittee dedicated to legislation. Should CJA consider doing the same? Dylan said that could be an agenda item. She suggested forming in, say, October 2024 and meeting throughout the next year's session. Jane Saint said the CIP group gets to work even before the session starts. We could get some feedback on how they operate. Dylan said this will be an April agenda item.

Salli Kerr added that often when we approach the legislative session we try and coordinate the things like the child who's coming to the child's day, things like that. The subcommittee can also be helpful for not just monitoring and having input, but just even to coordinate efforts to be there and to get some of our members actually into the halls of the legislative process.

Rachell Ekroos apologized for having to go off line for a few minutes, and reiterated her support for the work of monitoring legislation. Jane Saint and Rachell both volunteered for the new subcommittee.

Jane Saint moved for approval of the new 3-year goals. Rachell Ekroos seconded. Approved unanimously.

9. For Information: A presentation regarding new legislation from Nevada's 82nd legislative session – Beverly Brown, DCFS

Beverly Brown started with AB 148. This bill added sections into NRS 432B outlining procedures for a court to determine whether or not to assign Guardian ad litem to a parent or other person responsible for the welfare of a child in certain situations. That's when the parent or the person responsible for the welfare of the child is less than 18 years old and not emancipated. The court can also hold a hearing to determine if a parent or other person is incapacitated. The bill also touches on qualified residential treatment programs, which are called also called QTP's. It's a non-foster care resource family home setting that's intended for children and youth with behavioral health challenges, and it meets the federal definition of a childcare institution. NRS 432B now has procedures for the child welfare agency and the courts to follow when a child is placed in a QTP and then this bill also added sections to NRS 432B describing procedures for the child welfare agency, courts and facilities to follow when a child who is in the custody of the child welfare agency has either an emergency admission or a non-emergency admission to a mental health facility.

AB 183 B183 is a bill that was passed that requires child welfare and certain entities in the juvenile justice system and child welfare to screen children for commercial sexual exploitation. If the juvenile justice entity screens the child, and the result indicates that they are a victim of CSE, they have to report it to the child welfare agency and then child welfare is also required to screen all children in the custody of the agency. The caveat to that is that the tool must be reliable and valid, and currently there are no tools available for children under the age of 10 years old. So it's only children 10 years and older being screened that are in the custody of the agency.

We also have AB444. This establishes a law in Nevada, similar to that of the Indian Child Welfare Act. There was a Supreme Court ruling last year that upheld ICWA, but for a while, while that hearing was pending, there was concern about ICWA being overturned. This bill also includes provisions governing court proceedings, adoption or protection of Indian children, or the termination of parental rights. It also requires DCFS to adopt regulations and do additional reporting. If anyone would like to know more about this bill, I would encourage that you read AB444 or contact Fran Maldonado, who is on our task force, and is also the DCFS tribal liaison. She's in charge of implementation for that.

The last bill is SB389, requiring multiple entities to submit trafficking data to the Center for Analysis of Crime Statistics at UNLV. Some of these entities include the DCFS SCEC coalition, DCFS Human Trafficking Coalition, the Nevada Policy Council of Human Trafficking, local Human Trafficking task forces, and each law enforcement agency. There's a new requirement that these entities submit data to this crime center and then they have to develop a report which will go back to the legislature.

10. For Information: To Review the Notice of Funding Opportunity for FY 2025 (NOFO) timeframes - Dylan Nall, DCFS

Dylan Nall confirmed that our NOFO was posted on Friday, January 5, on our website and on the Grants Management Unit website. The deadline for this submission is February 16th, 2024. The evaluation period, which is March 2024 through April 2024, and that's next on our agenda

list, is to talk about the subcommittee and then our announcements of the awards will be in June of 2024. The program start date will be July 1st and the program end date will be June 30th, 2025. Every year we do our notice of funding opportunity and award roughly around \$100,000.

11. For Information: NOFO Subcommittee Reminder – Salli Kerr, Chair

Salli Kerr and Dylan Nall reminded the meeting the people are needed to serve on the subcommittee, and anyone wishing to should contact Dylan. Dylan also said she would be sending out a Doodle Poll for the best meeting time.

12. For Information: To Review and Discuss Out-of-the-Shadows Index Document – Salli Kerr, Chair

Salli Kerr wanted to bring this to the committee so that people are aware that it is out there. The Out-of-the-Shadows Index was a joint effort between states to do a pilot project that that looked at basically the child friendliness and trauma informed systems within a state, and Nevada was one of the pilot states that that was completed in. So, in the backup documentation you will see that Dylan included that report. Salli thought it would be a really good place for this committee to be aware of that information having been created in Nevada. We can look to this report for how we're scoring either against other states or frankly within our own state and places where within this report, this committee may want to look at as a focus. It may give us ideas of where as a committee we're working on things like the training or the evaluation or other things like where we could bring in the places where we're lacking in the state or shore things up in places that we see in this report.

Desiree Mattice says the report rated Nevada "0" for "training of relevant authorities," so she is glad we discussed training so much in this meeting.

Salli said matters in this report will recur as future agenda items.

13. For Information: Grantee Updates for FY 2024 – Salli Kerr, Chair

Great Basin CAC was not present.

For Washoe County, Tammi Williamson said they have pretty much exhausted all of their grants. The last thing is the staff that are going to attend the Child Welfare League conference in Washington, DC in April. They look forward to applying again.

Betsey Crumrine asked about the technology Washoe had purchased. Tammi said it was mostly at the CAC. They were able to get some updated devices for each of the CAC workers. Now, for forensic or law enforcement interviews, they are able to take a disk and they can review it in the privacy of their own office. There were some larger monitors. They were also able to get a better copier, it could print out bruises and different things better for their medical unit at the CAC.

For Clark County, Wonswayla Mackey thought that Cheryl Cooley had already updated about remodeling of the CAC. One of the great outcomes that they had this quarter is with law enforcement. They have worked with law enforcement and their At Risk Youth Team with Formula One and the Super Bowl coming in, to be available to screen any children who were suspected as sexually exploited, so that they were right there on the on the spot. They were able to locate fourte runaway youth from the child welfare system.

No one from NVIFN was present.

Kristy Mills form NOTO said they were excited to have hired a new Advocate supervisor so that she can step down and be a child advocate again. His name is Chris Goodman, and he's on this call as well. He will be coming to the CJA Task Force meeting from now on. They are also working with Joyce at Western Regional to start our MDT again. They have had one meeting with our entire MDT to kind of give them an understanding of what they are looking for and then they are also sending 13 of the MDT members to the Chadwick International Conference in San Diego.

Jane Saint wanted to express for the record some concern for the grantees who have not submitted a written report and or were not on the call to give a verbal report today. That was one of the things that they were addressing during the last OFO committee, that they wanted to hear from people and or see their report.

14. For Information: Announcements – Salli Kerr, Chair

No announcements.

15. Final 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) – Salli Kerr, Chair

No comments.

16. Adjournment – Salli Kerr, Chair

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 AM.

DRAFT



State of Nevada
Children's Justice Act Task Force

Bylaws

**STATE OF NEVADA - CHILDREN’S JUSTICE ACT TASK FORCE
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- 11.1 Amendments to Bylaws
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- 11.4 Governance

Article I – Name

- 1.1 Name.** This advisory body shall be known as the State of Nevada Children’s Justice Act Task Force (hereinafter “Task Force”).

Article II – Authorization

- 2.1 Authorization.** The Children’s Justice Act (CJA) Task Force is authorized by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (hereinafter “CAPTA”) Section 107, 42 USC 5106c.

Article III – Mission Statement

- 3.1 Mission Statement.** The Task Force is a multi-disciplinary body of public and private agencies and individuals, committed to the protection of children to address child abuse and neglect as a statewide and community problem requiring community solutions. Our mission is to provide systems improvement through interdisciplinary and interagency collaboration by reforming state processes for responding to child abuse and neglect.

The Task Force is also responsible for completing a State Study at three-year intervals and developing policy and training recommendations to the State in specific categories outlined in CAPTA Section 107 and Section 3.1 herein.

Article IV – Purpose, Duties and Responsibilities

- 4.1 Purpose.** The Task Force shall work with the State of Nevada to support policy changes, training, and reform regarding abuse and neglect cases as well as direct grant funding to develop, establish, and operate programs designed to improve:
 - 4.1.1** The assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child and the child’s family.
 - 4.1.2** The assessment and investigation of cases of suspected child abuse-related fatalities and suspected child neglect-related fatalities.
 - 4.1.3** The investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation.

4.1.4 The assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are suspected victims of abuse or neglect.

4.2 Advisory Role. The Task Force shall make policy and training recommendations to organizations, offices, or entities on the issues of child maltreatment as needed.

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4.3 Task Force Responsibilities. The Task Force's responsibilities are as follows:

- 4.3.1** Participate in the three-year assessment process to comprehensively evaluate the State's investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse, as well as cases involving suspected child maltreatment-related fatalities and cases involving a potential combination of jurisdictions. Based on its assessment, the Task Force must make policy and training recommendations to improve the child protection system. The development of the three-year assessment will be a strategic process. Efforts will be made to include internal and external stakeholders of the Task Force, and opportunities will be available for input from administrators, field workers, and consumers.
- 4.3.2** Determine the priorities that will guide the subgrant award process and inform CJA's purpose.
- 4.3.3** Make recommendations regarding policy issues. The Task force may submit to policymakers proposed improvements consistent with its mission or recommendations, in order to make a recommendation on a policy issue the matter must be presented to and approved by the Task Force.
- 4.3.4** Ensure effective planning. The Task Force must actively participate in periodic planning processes and assist in implementing and monitoring resulting recommendations as detailed in section 4.4.
- 4.3.5** Monitor and strengthen programs and services. The Task Force's responsibility is to determine which programs are consistent with Task Force recommendations and monitor the effectiveness of those programs as detailed in Article V.
- 4.3.6** Build a competent Task Force. The Task Force is responsible for articulating candidate prerequisites, orientation for new members, and periodically and comprehensively evaluating its performance.
- 4.3.7** Ensure ethical integrity. The Task Force is ultimately responsible for adherence to grant conditions and ethical norms of conduct. Task Force members should recognize and disclose conflicts of interest. Task Force members shall not communicate with potential grantees regarding pending applications nor communicate with existing grantees in manners related to grant administration.
- 4.3.8** Enhance the organization's public standing. The Task Force should clearly articulate CJA's mission, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garner support from the community.

4.3.9 Participate in Task Force meetings. All Task Force members must attend quarterly Task Force meetings regularly and attempt to exercise proxy options as appropriate for known absences.

4.3.10 Actively contribute skills, expertise, and knowledge to the Task Force. Members must serve on committees and working groups as needed. Members should attend professional development programs relevant to the Task Force purpose and goals.

4.3.11 Review the annual federal application and other required reports as requested.

4.3.14 Approve CJA funding for sub-grant awards.

4.4 Task Force Serves as a Citizens Review Panel. The CJA Task Force also serves as one of the three required Citizens Review Panels (CRP) authorized by CAPTA Section 106(c)(4)(A)(i) and NRS 342B.396. The purpose of CRPs is to contribute to improving child protective services at the state and local levels. CRPs may function as a part of other committees already in existence. Also, CRPs can determine how to proceed, identifying projects or activities that interest and best support each CRP's areas of expertise.

The CRPs assist the DCFS and local county agencies to continually assess the services provided to Nevada children and families by:

4.4.1 Examining the policies, procedures, and practices of State and local child protection agencies.

4.4.2 Reviewing specific cases, where appropriate and consistent with section 106(c)(4)(A)(iii) of CAPTA.

4.4.3 Examine other criteria that it considers important to ensure the protection of children, including the extent to which the State and local CPS system is coordinated with the title IV-E foster care and adoption assistance programs of the Social Security Act.

4.4.4 This provision also authorizes the CRPs to review the child fatalities and near fatalities in the State.

Article V – Required Areas for Use of CJA Grant Funds

5.1 Recommendation Categories. The purpose of CJA funding is to implement Task Force recommendations in the following three categories subject to the limitations in subsection 5.1.4:

5.1.1 Assessment and Investigation of cases of child abuse and neglect. Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as cases involving suspected child-maltreatment-related fatalities and cases involving a potential combination of jurisdictions, such as interstate, federal-state, and state-tribal, in a manner which reduces the additional trauma to the child victim and the victim's family and which also ensures procedural fairness to the accused.

- 5.1.2 Innovative approaches.** Experimental, model, and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques that may improve the prompt and successful resolution of civil and criminal court proceedings or enhance the effectiveness of judicial and administrative action in child abuse and neglect cases, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation cases and cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems, including the enhancement of performance of court-appointed attorneys and guardians ad litem for children, and which also ensure procedural fairness to the accused.
- 5.1.3 Process improvement.** Reform of state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children from abuse, including sexual abuse and exploitation, while ensuring fairness to all affected persons.
- 5.1.4 Limitations.** Supporting child abuse prevention programs or treatment services is not an appropriate use of CJA funds.

Article VI - Membership

6.1 Mandatory Membership. The Task Force shall be composed of individuals with knowledge and experience relating to the criminal justice system and issues of child physical abuse, child neglect, child sexual abuse and exploitation, and child maltreatment-related fatalities. By the federal program instructions, the Task Force shall include members representing the following disciplines:

- 6.1.1** Law Enforcement Community
- 6.1.2** Criminal Court Judge
- 6.1.3** Civil Court Judge
- 6.1.4** Prosecuting Attorney(s)
- 6.1.5** Defense Attorney(s)
- 6.1.6** Child Advocate(s) (Attorneys for Children)
- 6.1.7** Court Appointed Special Advocate Representative(s)
- 6.1.8** Health Professional(s)
- 6.1.9** Mental Health Professional(s)
- 6.1.10** Child Protective Service Agencies
- 6.1.11** Individual(s) experienced in working with children with disabilities
- 6.1.12** Parents and Representative(s) of Parent Groups
- 6.1.13** Adult survivor of child abuse or neglect*; and
- 6.1.14** Individual(s) experienced in working with homeless children and youth (as defined in section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a)).

**While the language in CAPTA describes this category of Task Force members as “adult former victims of child abuse and neglect,” the Task Force has consulted with the individual representing this category and*

determined a designation that provides a more meaningful and empowering way to describe their experience and role on the Task Force, particularly for use in public events or public-facing documents.

6.2 Advisory or Collaborative Membership. The Task Force shall have the discretion also to seek to include non-voting advisory or collaborative members representing the following disciplines:

- 6.2.1** Children’s Advocacy Centers
- 6.2.2** Indian Child Welfare
- 6.2.3** CJA Alumni
- 6.2.4** Juvenile Services
- 6.2.5** Education
- 6.2.6** Court Improvement Program
- 6.2.7** Court Improvement Councils
- 6.2.8** Rural Multidisciplinary Teams
- 6.2.9** Victim Advocates
- 6.2.10** Other Individuals Deemed Appropriate by Task Force

6.3 Member Diversity. So far as may be possible, the Task Force should strive to attain members who bring diverse perspectives and reflect varied ethnicities and genders, as well as the various geographic communities located in Nevada. The Task Force should also strive to include members who are broadly representative of the community, including members who have expertise in the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect.

6.4 Member Recruitment and Selection. The Chair, Task Force members, DCFS staff, or a combination thereof will identify potential new members. The CJA Task Force Coordinator or Chair will initially vet candidates. The Chair or DCFS Task Force Coordinator will then officially recommend them to the DCFS Administrator, who will make the final appointment of new members.

This process applies to all membership categories except for individuals representing child protective service agencies and the Deputy Attorney General (DAG) assigned to DCFS. Child protective service agencies from the three child welfare jurisdictions shall determine participating Task Force representation and assign staff accordingly. Likewise, the Attorney General (AG)’s Office shall determine the DAG assignment to DCFS, and this representative shall fill the prosecuting attorney position.

6.5 Provision for Remote Participation. Task Force members may participate in meetings by teleconference or webinar at the discretion of DCFS, especially when individuals reside in rural areas and cannot feasibly attend an in-person meeting.

6.6 Vacancies. Vacancies in membership shall be filled as soon as practical if necessary to maintain statutorily required representation as set out in Section 7.1 using the nominating process described in Section 7.5. The same procedures will be followed for other vacancies, as determined necessary by the Membership Committee.

6.7 Proxies. A member may designate a proxy from the same membership category for any meeting. If a voting member cannot attend a meeting, the member is strongly encouraged to designate a proxy for that meeting. Advance notice must be given in writing to the Chairs and/or staff for

the CJA Task Force. Electronic mail is acceptable. Proxies may not represent CJA Task Force members for more than 50% of meetings held within a calendar year. Proxies may vote on behalf of the CJA Task Force member they represent. A voting member is not required to use the same proxy at each meeting.

- 6.8 Non-Discrimination.** The CJA Task Force shall not discriminate in any regard with respect to age, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, parenthood, custody of a minor child, physical disability, or mental disability.

Article VII – Officers and Elections

- 7.1 Officers.** The Task Force officers shall consist of one (1) Chair and one (1) Vice-Chair.
- 7.2 Duties.** The Duties of the Chair and Vice-chair include the following:
- 7.2.1** Guiding and leading the Task Force toward its goals.
 - 7.2.2** Presiding at Task Force meetings.
 - 7.2.3** Approving the written agenda for meetings of the Task Force.
 - 7.2.4** Appointing committees and committee chairs as provided by these bylaws.
 - 7.2.5** Overseeing federally required assessments.
 - 7.2.6** **The Chair and CJA Coordinator or designees will participate in at least one Federally initiated CJA meeting each year that the grant is in effect and are authorized to use grant funds to cover travel and per diem expenses to attend the meeting when held in person.**
- 7.3 Vice Chair.** The Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings in the absence of the Chair and perform other duties as may be assigned by the Chair or be necessary in the absence of the Chair.
- 7.4 Term and Election.** Officers are elected for a three (3) year term of office. Each officer serves until the election of a successor. Elections shall be held at the first regularly scheduled meeting falling on or after October 1 at the end of the current officer’s three (3) year term. Election shall be upon a majority vote of Task Force members present. Officers may be re-elected.
- 7.5 Qualifications/Limitations.** To the extent possible, officers should represent different disciplines from the mandatory representation (7.1) to ensure Task Force leadership reflects a multidisciplinary perspective. Employees of the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) shall not serve as officers to prevent a conflict of interest in the leadership of the Task Force.
- 7.6 Vacancies.** Any vacancies in office during an unexpired term shall be filled by election of the Task Force and the person elected shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- 7.7 Nominating Subcommittee.** A Nominating Subcommittee established by the Task Force may nominate candidates for open office positions, or Task Force members may make nominations from the floor. Each office shall be voted upon separately. If more than two nominees are selected for a single office, the lowest vote recipient shall be eliminated during each round of voting

necessary until only two nominees remain. Nominees for offices who receive a majority vote for the office available shall be declared elected to that office, effective within 30 days of the meeting at which the election occurred.

Article VIII- Committees and Subcommittees

- 8.1 General.** The Task Force may establish standing committees and subcommittees if determined to be necessary to meet the duties and responsibilities of the Task Force.
- 8.2 Appointment.** The Chair and Vice-Chair shall designate and appoint committees or subcommittees of the Task Force as deemed necessary. Non-Task Force members may be appointed to any committee or sub-committee at the discretion of the Task Force. Task Force members are expected to serve on committees as needed.
- 8.3 Standing Committees.** The Task Force may maintain standing committees as needed.
- 8.4 Powers.** Committee or subcommittee members appointed by the Chair shall have the power and authority to make decisions only as specifically assigned by a majority of a quorum of the Task Force at any regular or special meeting. Committee or subcommittee chairs or support staff shall be responsible for keeping minutes of meetings and reporting on activities to the Task Force as a whole.
- 8.5 Removal.** Committee or subcommittee chair or members may be removed at the direction of the Task Force Chair, with agreement by DCFS or by a majority of a quorum of the Task Force at any regular or special meeting of the CJA Task Force.
- 8.6 Term of Office.** Each committee or subcommittee member shall serve a term of one year unless the committee or subcommittee is terminated sooner or if a member is removed from such committee or subcommittee.
- 8.7 Vacancies.** Vacancies in the membership of any committee or subcommittee may be filled by appointment in the same manner as provided for the original appointments.

Article IX- Meetings

- 9.1 Frequency of Meetings.** The Task Force shall schedule at least four (4) meetings annually, with additional meetings called by the Chair, as necessary. A meeting schedule with at least three (3) future meeting dates set shall be established at the beginning of each federal fiscal year. The Chair shall establish meeting dates in consultation with the Task Force. DCFS may cancel meetings in consultation with the Task Force Chair. Any member may call special meetings of the Task Force by notifying the State staff, and such meetings shall be scheduled within 45 working days of the request being made.
- 9.2 Open Meetings.** All meetings of the CJA Task Force shall comply with the requirements of the State of Nevada Open Meeting Law which is contained in NRS Chapter 241. A Public Comment item shall be included on each agenda to allow members of the public to address the Committee.

- 9.3 Agendas.** Support staff shall develop agendas in cooperation with the Chair. The notification of action items, public comments, and agenda postings shall comply with the State of Nevada's Open Meeting Law requirements in NRS Chapter 241.
- 9.4 Meeting Records and Minutes.** State staff shall perform the functions of Secretary to the Task Force, including keeping a record (minutes) of the Task Force proceedings, keeping the organization's official membership roll, and maintaining records based upon federal and State record retention requirements.
- 9.5 Quorum.** A simple majority of voting Task Force members shall constitute a quorum as defined in NRS 241.015. Action shall occur only when a quorum is present. A majority vote of the present members or their designees is required to carry a motion or take action.
- 9.6 Conflict of Interest.** Members shall abstain from voting on issues related to a possible conflict of interest, e.g., funding to a program in which they are a salaried employee or a governing or advisory board member. The minutes will include a record of abstentions. Members shall not use their position on the Task Force to influence other members, or the Task Force as a whole, to award funding or give privileges, preferences, exemptions, or advantages to specific agencies or programs with which they are directly employed or affiliated. Members must disclose their employment or affiliation with particular agencies or programs when business related to such agencies or programs is before the Task Force for deliberation.
- 9.7 Attendance.** Meeting attendance is required for each member of the Task Force for at least 50% of the meetings scheduled within a calendar year. If any member or designee does not attend three (3) consecutive, regularly scheduled meetings of the Task Force, without good cause shown, the unexcused absences may constitute ground for removal from membership. The Task Force may then fill the resulting vacancy.

Article X – Confidentiality

- 10.1** Task Force members shall not disclose sensitive information obtained due to the grant award and monitoring process or the content of Task Force deliberations regarding grant approval. CJA staff shall act as sole contact with grantees and prospective sub-grantees regarding pending applications and approved grant activities.

Article XI – Miscellaneous

11.1 Amendments to Bylaws. These bylaws may be amended upon a majority vote of the Task Force membership at a duly announced meeting at which a quorum is present, provided that proposed amendments are distributed to members at least ten (10) days before the meeting.

11.2 Removal from Membership. When a member has a third unexcused absence within a calendar year, the CJA Coordinator will send a notification letter to the member that the CJA Task Force intends to take action to request the removal and replacement of the member at the next regularly scheduled meeting. At that meeting, the member will have

Children's Justice Act Task Force Bylaws (Rev. April 2024)

an opportunity to refute the action, or the CJA Task Force will proceed with a simple majority vote to recommend the member's removal and request that the DCFS Administrator make a replacement based on CAPTA Section 107 membership requirements.

- 11.1 Travel and Per Diem.** Reimbursement for travel and per diem costs at State rates shall be processed by support staff to the CJA Task Force for each eligible member and drawn from the travel funds budgeted as part of the CJA Task Force's biennial budget.
- 11.2 Governance.** Task Force meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise specified by these bylaws.

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CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

As a CJA Grant funds recipient, it is mandatory that a thorough and complete report be provided to the CJA coordinator each quarter during the grant funded year. Failure to provide these reports may result in a withdrawal of grant funds. If you have any questions about the reporting requirements, please contact the CJA Coordinator, Dylan Nall, dnall@dcfs.nv.gov

Grantee Information

Name: Megan Cox	Date: 3/11/2024
Agency: Great Basin Children's Advocacy Center (GBCAC)	
FFY2023 Grant Funds Received: \$6,300	
Funds expended to date: \$0	

Part One: Activities Funded and Evaluation Work

Per Grant Application, funded activities:

1. The GBCAC requests funding for two Forensic Interviewers seeking advanced child forensic interview training, Advanced Forensic Interviewing (AF): Beyond the Basics, through the National Child Advocacy Center.

Describe all work related to the funded activities above. This includes objectives, activities completed, results of the activities and any barriers your agency incurred during this quarter:

1. The GBCAC requests funding for two Forensic Interviewers seeking advanced child forensic interview training, Advanced Forensic Interviewing (AF): Beyond the Basics, through the National Child Advocacy Center.

Objectives: Schedule advanced forensic training and travel

Activities Planned: Select training, register, plan travel

Activity Completed: Requested and received extension through Sept 30th, 2024, allowing us to register for the training class needed.

Results of Activities: We are registered for our primary need in advanced forensic interview training.

Any Barriers: No, just awaiting for other participants to register and arrange travel.

PART TWO: NARRATIVE

Please provide complete answers to the following questions.

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

1. If any materials were produced with grant funds, please provide a copy (copies) electronically with this report.
 - a. N/A
2. Please provide a brief success story with the use of this CJA funding during the current quarter.
 - a. GBCAC was able to secure the advanced forensic interviewer training slot we needed for September, allowing us to determine final costs and facilitate sending 1.5 additional persons to in-person advanced forensic training.

If assistance is needed regarding your grant, please email, **Dylan Nall**, dnall@dcfs.nv.gov.

The Quarterly Updates are due to the CJA Coordinator, Dylan Nall, **3 weeks** before the quarterly CJA Meeting. If your agency does not have any current updates, please email Dylan Nall stating, "No quarterly update."

2023/2024 Meeting Dates:

October 10, 2023

January 9, 2024

April 2, 2024

July 2, 2024

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

As a CJA Grant funds recipient, it is mandatory that a thorough and complete report be provided to the CJA coordinator each quarter during the grant funded year. Failure to provide these reports may result in a withdrawal of grant funds. If you have any questions about the reporting requirements, please contact the CJA Coordinator, Dylan Nall, dnall@dcfs.nv.gov

Grantee Information

Name: Kathie McKenna	Date: 3/12/2024
Agency: No To Abuse- Nevada Outreach Training Organization (NOTO)	
FFY2023 Grant Funds Received: \$19,849	
Funds expended to date: \$19,849	

Part One: Activities Funded and Evaluation Work

Per Grant Application, funded activities:

1. NOTO intends to send 14 people from the NCCAC MDT to the San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment in January 2024. This would include 2 staff from each discipline including child advocacy, forensic interviewers, law enforcement, prosecution, medical, mental health, and child protective services.

Describe all work related to the funded activities above. This includes objectives, activities completed, results of the activities and any barriers your agency incurred during this quarter:

1. NOTO intends to send 14 people from the NCCAC MDT to the San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment in January 2024. This would include 2 staff from each discipline including child advocacy, forensic interviewers, law enforcement, prosecution, medical, mental health, and child protective services.

Objectives: Train MDT members at Chadwick Conference

Activities Planned: Training at Chadwick Conference

Activity Completed: Sent through training 11 MDT members

Results of Activities: Increased knowledge and awareness in child maltreatment in each area of discipline

Any Barriers: Had last minute cancellations due to illness and job change

PART TWO: NARRATIVE

Please provide complete answers to the following questions.

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

1. If any materials were produced with grant funds, please provide a copy (copies) electronically with this report. N/A
2. Please provide a brief success story with the use of this CJA funding during the current quarter.

We heard from several of the members, but a quote from one of them:

“Thank you so much for sending me to the conference. I so appreciate the opportunity. It is amazing the training I received and how it relates to my position in the MDT and the growth I have experienced. From what I learned, I would love to attend another one in the future!”

If assistance is needed regarding your grant, please email, **Dylan Nall**, dnall@dcs.nv.gov.

The Quarterly Updates are due to the CJA Coordinator, Dylan Nall, **3 weeks** before the quarterly CJA Meeting. If your agency does not have any current updates, please email Dylan Nall stating, “No quarterly update.”

2023/2024 Meeting Dates:

October 3, 2023 (pending)

January 9, 2024 (pending)

April 2, 2024 (pending)

July 2, 2024 (pending)

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

As a CJA Grant funds recipient, it is mandatory that a thorough and complete report be provided to the CJA coordinator each quarter during the grant funded year. Failure to provide these reports may result in a withdrawal of grant funds. If you have any questions about the reporting requirements, please contact the CJA Coordinator, Dylan Nall, dnall@dcfs.nv.gov

Grantee Information

Name: Ida Peeks	Date: 3/5/2024
Agency: Washoe County Health and Human Services	
FFY2023 Grant Funds Received: \$40,684	
Funds expended to date: \$34,213.37	

Part One: Activities Funded and Evaluation Work

Per Grant Application, funded activities:

1. WCHSA requested travel/training to provide a range of specialized trainings for workers and partners of the Child Advocacy Center (CAC).
2. WCHSA requested operating to equip caseworkers at the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) with enhanced technology to improve the investigation and assessment of child abuse and neglect.

Describe all work related to the funded activities above. This includes objectives, activities completed, results of the activities and any barriers your agency incurred during this quarter:

1. WCHSA will provide a range of discipline specific and advanced trainings for the CAC team to enhance services and stay current with emerging trends and best practices.

The trainings requested under this grant are specific to forensic interviewing for five (5) CAC child protection workers, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Advocacy Course for ten (10) child welfare staff, Child Welfare League Annual Conference for five (5) assessment staff, and Shared Hope Juvenile Sex Trafficking Annual Conference for three (3) assessment staff.

Objectives: To ensure that the CAC investigation unit is trained properly to interact with victims and children who have experienced extreme abuse or sexual abuse.

Activities Planned: One more person will attend the training in May.

Activity Completed: Five people have received and completed training

Results of Activities: Increase in effectiveness in interactions with victims.

Any Barriers: None

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

2. WCHSA will purchase of two multi-function printers needed for the medical unit office and the assessment workers' office within the CAC to increase efficiency and accessibility and seven large monitors for intake/assessment workers to increase intake efficiency.

Objectives: Equip the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) with enhanced technology.

Activities Planned: None, activities completed

Activity Completed: 2 printers were purchased and are fully functional

A budget modification was completed moving travel funds to equipment funds as a result of reduced staff costs were due to virtual attendance. As such we were able to purchase Remarkable2 Tablets to equip the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) with additional enhanced technology.

Results of Activities: Increased production in the CAC unit.

Any Barriers: None

PART TWO: NARRATIVE

Please provide complete answers to the following questions.

1. If any materials were produced with grant funds, please provide a copy (copies) electronically with this report.
2. Please provide a brief success story with the use of this CJA funding during the current quarter.

In FY24, WCHSA workers have interviewed over 120 victims for sexual abuse fact finding or physical abuse. The training provided by CJA funds through Cornerhouse has increased the competency and effectiveness of these interviews and led to several criminal arrests and the ongoing protection of victims. By increasing the competency of the assessment staff in this area, we have seen an increased dependency and confidence from the MDT, increase of engagement in the MDT process, and better outcomes and results for victims. Additionally, when detectives are not on scene, the increase of training puts experts directly in the field to help guide patrol and other professionals who do not have the extensive training.

If assistance is needed regarding your grant, please email, **Dylan Nall**, dnall@dcfs.nv.gov.

The Quarterly Updates are due to the CJA Coordinator, Dylan Nall, **3 weeks** before the quarterly CJA Meeting. If your agency does not have any current updates, please email Dylan Nall stating, "No quarterly update."

2023/2024 Meeting Dates:

October 10, 2023

January 9, 2024

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

April 2, 2024

July 2, 2024

CJA Grantee Quarterly Update

As a CJA Grant funds recipient, it is mandatory that a thorough and complete report be provided to the CJA coordinator each quarter during the grant fund year. Failure to provide these reports may result in a withdrawal of grant funds. If you have any questions about the reporting requirements, please contact the CJA Coordinator.

Grantee Information

Name: Cheryl Cooley	Date: 3/5/2024
Agency: Southern Nevada Children's Advocacy Center	
FFY2020 Grant Funds Received:	
Funds expended:	

Activities Funded and Evaluation Work

Describe the activity funded:
We completed our February 2024 training. We had 18 attendees. Metro's copier is here and Law Enforcement is very grateful for the upgrade!
Describe any evaluation work related to this activity including evaluation methods, outputs, and outcomes of the activity. (Please include or attach supporting data, statistics or other relevant documentation when available):
The virtual trainings were evaluated by an evaluation given to the students through NCAC. The eval results have been submitted to Dylan. This training has been able to increase the number of professionals who are knowledgeable in the field of forensic interviewing. The NCAC protocol is used by 3 out of the 4 CAC's here in NV, so we have been able to offer the training to our sister centers.