# NEVADA CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT TASK FORCE ANNUAL REPORT

SUBMITTED BY THE NEVADA DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTION	2
PRIOR YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT	2
Children's Justice Act Task Force Goals 2018 – 2020	2
Report on Activities from May 2020 through May 2021	3
Activity 1: Maintenance of the Nevada Children's Justice Task Force (ABC)	3
Activity 2: Professional Training (AB)	4
Activity 3: Support use of latest technology (AB)	4
Activity 4: Support Domestic violence training for child welfare staff (AB)	5
Activity 5: Support Implementation of New Legislation and Identify New or Needed Changes to Legislation (	
PRIOR YEAR LINE-ITEM BUDGET EXPENDITURE (MAY 2020 – MAY 2021)	6
APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	7
Children's Justice Act Task Force Goals 2021-2023	7
Proposed Activities for The Next Fiscal Year (May 2021 to May 2022)	7
Proposed Activity 1: Maintenance of the Nevada Children's Justice Task Force (ABC)	7
Proposed Activity 2: Multidisciplinary Professional Training (AB)	8
Proposed Activity 3: Support Implementation of CSEC protocol (ABC)	8
Proposed Activity 4: Support Child advocacy centers (AB)	9
Proposed Activity 5: Support use of latest technology (AB)	9
Proposed Activity 6: Support the parent court process guide (AB)	10
Proposed Activity 7: Support domestic violence training for child protection workers (AB)	10
Proposed Activity 8: Support Implementation of New Legislation and/or policy and Identify New or Needed Changes to Legislation and/or policy (ABC)	
PROPOSED LINE-ITEM BUDGET EXPENDITURE (MAY 2021 – MAY 2022)	12
GOVERNOR'S ASSURANCE LETTER	13
APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SF-424	14
CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING	17
Appendix A: Task Force Members and Designation	18

# TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTION

The Nevada Task Force was established in 1994 by the Administrator of the Nevada Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS). The Task Force and its subcommittees, meets quarterly, or as needed to work on identified projects. The Task Force is facilitated by a DCFS Program Specialist who works with the Chair to identify agenda items and to monitor progress on goals.

The Task Force met four times during the reporting period. The Task Force meets through video conferencing, teleconferencing and on-line conferencing as members are located throughout the State including the two largest cities, Reno and Las Vegas, which are 450 miles apart and multiple rural communities. The Task Force has maintained full membership throughout the year until May 2021, when the criminal court judge membership became vacant. The CJA Coordinator has collaborated with the Court Improvement Program and the Task Force to identify a potential replacement. It is anticipated the individual replacing the retired criminal court judge in July 2021 be nominated to fill the vacancy on the Task Force.

The following information is presented with each member's required professional category, name, title, and brief description of relevant professional experience. The Task Force has additional members at large including all the directors of the Child Advocacy Centers. (See appendix A).

# PRIOR YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT

# CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT TASK FORCE GOALS 2018 – 2020

These goals were developed for the 2018 Three (3) Year Assessment. A new triennial assessment due in May 2021.

**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 Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) and Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (JVTA) Program Improvement Plans, child protection model assessments, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), sexual abuse, reduce trauma for victims, domestic violence, forensic interviewing, trauma-informed practices, 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*)

#### Key: Required categories for use of CJA funds:

A= Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect. B= Experimental, model and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches. C= Reform of state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures.

# **REPORT ON ACTIVITIES FROM MAY 2020 THROUGH MAY 2021**

# ACTIVITY 1: MAINTENANCE OF THE NEVADA CHILDREN'S JUSTICE TASK FORCE (ABC)

**Narrative description of activity:** Support and maintain the full multidisciplinary Task Force through member recruitment and attendance of meetings, including the CJA Annual Grantees meeting. Task Force members monitored the implementation of objectives for training and policy through approved activities. The Task Force completed the CJA Three-Year Assessment during this reporting period. They supported interagency collaboration, implementing the intent of the CJA grant and serving as a feedback loop for the Court Improvement Program (CIP) and Program Improvement Plan (PIP) and can make recommendations in their dual role as a Citizens Review Panel (CRP). The CJA Coordinator also serves as the CAPTA Coordinator and collaborates with the Chair to develop agendas and support the work of the Task Force.

#### Subgrantee implementing the activity: Not Applicable.

#### The current Task Force goals that are addressed by this activity: All Task Force Goals

#### Description of evaluation work related to this activity, including the following (as appropriate):

**Evaluation methods:** Monitoring of membership and activities of the Task Force by the Chair, DCFS Program Specialist / CAPTA Coordinator to ensure the Task Force has members in each of the required categories and that the activities of the Task Force are supporting progress in meeting objectives. To better engage CJA Task Force members, a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), process continues to be implemented which allows sub-grants to be awarded by the Task Force rather than the DCFS.

**Outputs:** The Task Force met quarterly to monitor progress in completing recommended priority activities. The CJA Coordinator attended the virtual annual CJA meeting. The Task Force participated in and completed the Three-Year Assessment. The Task Force continues to successfully implement the CJA NOFO process and actively reviews the process to modify and make improvements. There is crossover membership with multiple CJA Task Force members and the CIP and PIP teams. The CJA and CIP have begun further collaboration, presenting to the Task Force and CIP committee about one another's respective activities and goals.

**Outcomes:** During the report period, monitoring of goals of the Three-Year Assessment was accomplished at regular meetings of the Task Force. The Three-Year Assessment has been completed with new goals established. The CJA NOFO award process continues to be utilized, helping the Task Force work towards the goals of the CJA. The continued review of the NOFO process has increased the participation and understanding of the Task Force when voting for subawards. CJA and

CIP members are aware of one another's purpose and current goals to help facilitate collaboration between the two.

## ACTIVITY 2: PROFESSIONAL TRAINING (AB)

**Narrative description of activity:** Multiple trainings were provided to professionals that are involved with the continuum of child abuse investigation and prosecution. This included training on best practices to improve investigations and prosecutorial outcomes while supporting safety and well-being for all children and forensic interview training.

#### Subgrantee implementing the activity:

- Clark County Department of Family Services (CCDFS)
- Washoe County Human Services Agency (WCHSA)

#### The current Task Force goals that are addressed by this activity: Goals 1 and 3

#### Description of evaluation work related to this activity, including the following (as appropriate):

**Evaluation methods:** Attendance Lists; Ability to conduct forensic interviews; Evaluations were completed by participants.

**Outputs:** The CJA supported the following multidisciplinary trainings:

- WCHSA had local CSEC MDT members, case managers from the local CAC attend and child welfare staff attend:
  - Child Welfare League of America Annual Conference
  - Child Abuse and Family Summit
- CCDFS contracted with National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC) to provide a five-day training on the forensic interviewing of children to 30 participants who primarily work in the investigation, law enforcement and prosecution of suspected child abuse cases.

**Outcomes:** Professionals have ability to conduct forensic interviews in suspected child sexual abuse cases and/or testify to such interviews. Participants who conduct forensic interviews have ability to gain accurate and sufficient information while limiting the trauma of the interview to the child victim. Participants who do not conduct interviews, have a better understanding of the forensic interview process, allowing them to reduce trauma to the child victim and avoid interference that could impede the investigation. Participants in the Child Welfare League of America and Child Abuse and Family Summit can support best practices as well as understand the impact of virtual engagement during the pandemic.

## ACTIVITY 3: SUPPORT USE OF LATEST TECHNOLOGY (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Provided funding for 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.

#### The current Task Force goals that are addressed by this activity: Goals 1 and 4

#### Subgrantee implementing the activity:

• Washoe County Human Services Agency (WCHSA)

#### Description of evaluation work related to this activity, including the following (as appropriate):

Evaluation methods: WCHSA completed a review of investigative report data.

**Outputs:** 22 laptops, MiFi/hotspot for 19 laptops, 4 Avatar licenses (electronic health record manager) and 10 Dragon Professional licenses (dictation/transcription software) to "front end" child welfare staff, which includes staff at the Washoe County Child Advocacy Center.

**Outcomes:** Caseworkers have enhanced access, both in the office and in the field, as well as more streamlined and efficient processes for managing case notes and other documentation critical in the assessment and investigation of child abuse and neglect. WCHSA noted improved timeliness in completing investigations within policy timeframes. Caseworkers have timely access to case history and more timely documentation of case details and outcomes. Case information is documented timelier and more succinctly when caseworkers can speak the information rather than type it, thereby allowing more time to be spent on direct child contacts rather than administrative work. Enabled improved assessment and investigation abilities from the field as well as remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### ACTIVITY 4: SUPPORT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING FOR CHILD WELFARE STAFF (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Domestic violence training addressing risk and protective factors for families developed and provided by the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCESDV). Training has been provided to child welfare staff in two child welfare jurisdictions, with the last jurisdiction scheduled to receive the training in June 2021.

#### Subgrantee implementing the activity:

• Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCESDV)

#### The current Task Force goals that are addressed by this activity: Goal 1

#### Description of evaluation work related to this activity, including the following (as appropriate):

#### **Evaluation methods:** Pre and post testing; written evaluations

**Outputs:** Child welfare staff who often work with families experiencing domestic violence have received training and have more knowledge about the risk and protective factors for families experiencing domestic violence.

**Outcomes:** Caseworkers and supervisors have demonstrated increased knowledge in the protective and risk factors for domestic violence, which improves caseworkers' abilities to intervene with and safety plan with families experiencing domestic violence. Evaluations have provided NCEDSV with information about the quality and content of the training and feedback will be used to develop additional training that will be provided this upcoming year to further increase caseworkers and supervisors skills, knowledge and abilities for investigations involving domestic violence and child abuse or neglect. Around 94% of participants reported the training provided knowledge they will use in their work and it enhanced their skills.

## ACTIVITY 5: SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW LEGISLATION AND IDENTIFY NEW OR NEEDED CHANGES TO LEGISLATION (ABC)

**Narrative description of the activity:** The legislation that governs child protection in Nevada, specifically addressing the "front-end" of the child welfare system (NRS432B) was reviewed and assessed for needed changes. Legislation has been drafted to update NRS 432B and provided necessary clarifications for child welfare staff and stakeholders in Nevada. These changes are currently in the legislative process and are anticipated to be passed.

#### Subgrantee implementing the activity:

• Not Applicable

The current Task Force goals that are addressed by this activity: Goal 1 and 5

#### Description of evaluation work related to this activity, including the following (as appropriate):

Evaluation methods: Review of NRS 432B; follow the legislative process

**Outputs:** Several Task Force members participated in drafting updates to NRS432B that provides necessary clarifications for child welfare staff and stakeholders in Nevada. The changes are currently in the legislative process.

**Outcomes:** The changes to NRS 432B will result in necessary clarifications for "front end" child welfare staff, including the addition of law that guides child welfare staff in obtaining a warrant to take protective custody of a child, clarifying jurisdiction for investigations, and updates to the notice of court hearings process for parents.

#### Key: Required categories for use of CJA funds:

A= Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect. B= Experimental, model and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches. C= Reform of state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures.

# PRIOR YEAR LINE-ITEM BUDGET EXPENDITURE (MAY 2020 - MAY 2021)

Recipient/Subgrantee:	<b>Obligated Amount</b>
Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence	\$ 26,000
Washoe County Human Services Agency Subgrant	\$ 53,950
Clark County Department of Family Services Subgrant	\$ 25,000

# APPLICATION FOR PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

# CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT TASK FORCE GOALS 2021-2023

**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*)

#### Key: Required categories for use of CJA funds:

A= Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect. B= Experimental, model and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches. C= Reform of state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures.

# PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR (MAY 2021 TO MAY 2022)

# PROPOSED ACTIVITY 1: MAINTENANCE OF THE NEVADA CHILDREN'S JUSTICE TASK FORCE (ABC)

**Narrative description of the activity:** To support and maintain the full multidisciplinary Task Force through member recruitment, training and provision of technical assistance/consultation and travel to attend meetings. Task Force members will develop and monitor the implementation of objectives for training and policy through approved activities. The Task Force will support interagency collaboration and Court Improvement Plan (CIP) collaboration implementing the intent of the CJA grant.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable: Not applicable

Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect: The Task Force will meet four times a year to evaluate the child protection system related to investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child abuse and sexual exploitation. The Task Force will make recommendations for training and other activities to improve the "front end" of the system.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: All State Task Force Goals

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** Membership and activities of the Task Force will be monitored by the Chair, DCFS Program Specialist who is also the CAPTA Coordinator to ensure the Task Force has membership in each of the required categories and that the activities of the Task Force are supporting progress in meeting goals. The CJA grantees will provide quarterly reports to the CJA Task Force on the progress of their projects.

# PROPOSED ACTIVITY 2: MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROFESSIONAL TRAINING (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Provide child protection workers and/or stakeholders "front end" specialty, discipline specific and advanced training. Training will be prioritized, but not limited to, CSEC, sexual abuse, and forensic interviewing, all of which will support trauma-informed practice.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable:

- Washoe County Child Advocacy Center
- Great Basin Child Advocacy Center
- Nye County Child Advocacy Center
- Clark County Department of Family Services

**Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect:** This activity improves child protection and other professional stakeholders' skills and abilities to investigate, assess and prosecute cases of child abuse and neglect in a manner that limits additional trauma to victims and their families.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goals 1, 2, and 3

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** Trainings will be provided to multiple disciplines in urban and rural districts throughout Nevada. Evaluations to assess the improvement of abilities to investigate, assess, and prosecute cases of child abuse and neglect and/or pre and post training tests to assess changes in knowledge.

## PROPOSED ACTIVITY 3: SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF CSEC PROTOCOL (ABC)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Support current CSEC efforts in Nevada, including work being completed by the CSEC Coalition subcommittees to further support the implementation of the CSEC Protocol. The CJA Task Force will collaborate with the DCFS CSEC Coordinator to identify ways that the CJA Task Force can support current CSEC efforts.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable: Not applicable

Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect: The CSEC protocol serves as a toolkit for child welfare agencies and stakeholders to develop a coordinated response to the investigation and legal and judicial handling of sexually

exploited children. The CSEC Coalition recently established three subcommittees all of which contribute to the state's handling of cases of CSEC. The subcommittees will be addressing the following:

- external engagement to create public awareness, legislative or regulatory affairs, and other engagement with external partners to create awareness on CSEC;
- assistance to local task forces in developing policies, training, and technical assistances; and
- identification and development of a comprehensive statewide CSEC database, identify methods to collect data in a safe and confidential way, and identify funding streams.

Collaboration will continue between the DCFS CSEC Coordinator and CJA Task Force to identify ways that the CJA Task Force can support these subcommittees in their work.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goals 2, 3 and 4

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** Evaluation efforts will be determined in collaboration with the CSEC Coordinator once opportunities have been identified for the CJA Task Force to help further the current CSEC efforts in Nevada.

#### PROPOSED ACTIVITY 4: SUPPORT CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Forensic interview trainings to be provided to CAC members and stakeholders. A rural CAC intends to develop a "soft interview" room to conduct forensic interviews. CJA Task Force to collaborate with the Nevada State CAC Chapter to discuss opportunities and develop a plan in which the CJA Task Force can further support Nevada's CACs.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable:

- Washoe County Child Advocacy Center
- Great Basin Child Advocacy Center
- Nye County Child Advocacy Center

**Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect:** Through the support of the CJA Task Force, the CACs will receive training for forensic interviewing to increase their abilities in conducting forensic interviews which will improve the investigative and judicial handling of child abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse and exploitation cases, while limiting trauma to the child victims. GBCAC intends to improve their facility to have a "soft interview" room that is more appropriate and friendly for child victims who will be interviewed in these rooms.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goals 1, 2, and 3

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** There will be increased capacity to serve more children in the north east rural counties due to improved facilities. There will be increased skills and ability for CAC staff to conduct forensic interviews for children.

## PROPOSED ACTIVITY 5: SUPPORT USE OF LATEST TECHNOLOGY (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Provide funding for laptops and docking stations to rural "front end" child welfare workers to improve the investigation, assessment and prosecution of child abuse and neglect.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable:

• Division of Child and Family Services – Rural Region

Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect: This activity improves child protection workers skills and abilities to investigate, assess and prosecute cases of child abuse and neglect in a manner that allows staff to spend more time with victims and their families and document interviews in a timely manner.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goal 4

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** An evaluation to collect information and data will be developed and distributed to staff who receive a laptop. The DCFS Rural Region intends to supply laptops and docking stations for "front end" staff which will replace their desktop computers. This technology allows for staff to spend more time with the victims and families during the investigation. Staff will have ability to streamline their documentation of interviews and contacts quickly which will assist in the investigation, assessment, and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases.

# PROPOSED ACTIVITY 6: SUPPORT THE PARENT COURT PROCESS GUIDE (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Provide funding for printing of the Child Welfare Court Process Guide for Families Handbook and Quick Guide Roadmap. These materials were created as part of Nevada's Program Improvement Plan (PIP). These guides are provided to parents by the child welfare agencies, and sometimes by the courts, when a child welfare agency has taken legal custody of a child. Each child welfare agency will be developing a process for distribution of these guides.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable:

- Clark County Department of Family Services (CCDFS)
- Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) Rural Region
- Washoe County Human Services Agency (WCHSA)

**Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect:** This activity seeks to ensure parents, relatives, and caregivers who are parties on legal cases receive a copy of the guides and to increase the knowledge of parties on legal cases of the laws that govern child welfare cases and the legal process of the court system in Nevada.

## The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goals 1 and 5

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** Agencies will provide the number of printed materials, the number of materials distributed, the process developed for distribution by child welfare staff and if available, feedback from stakeholders, parents, or child welfare staff about the guides and process for distribution.

# PROPOSED ACTIVITY 7: SUPPORT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING FOR CHILD PROTECTION WORKERS (AB)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Provide child protection workers "front end" specialty, discipline specific and advanced training to expand basic understanding of the risk and protective factors for children living in homes with domestic violence. The subgrantee provided trainings to child protection workers in two of three child welfare jurisdictions in March and April 2021, with the final jurisdiction scheduled for training in June 2021. Once the final training is provided, the subgrantee intends to continue to provide this training, while making enhancements based on feedback from child protection workers that have taken the training. The training will be provided again to child protection workers throughout Nevada.

#### Proposed subgrantee, if applicable:

• Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence (NCESDV)

**Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect:** This activity improves child protection and other professional stakeholders' skills and abilities to investigate and address domestic violence in the context of child abuse and neglect cases in a manner that limits additional trauma to victims and their families.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goal 1

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** Trainings will be updated based on feedback from previous attendees. The updated training will be provided to child welfare staff throughout Nevada. Pre and post training tests will be administered to assess changes in knowledge. Written evaluations will also be completed to evaluate the quality and content of instruction and issues staff hope will be addressed by additional training to further increase their skills, knowledge and abilities for investigations involving domestic violence and child abuse or neglect.

#### PROPOSED ACTIVITY 8: SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW LEGISLATION AND/OR POLICY AND IDENTIFY NEW OR NEEDED CHANGES TO LEGISLATION AND/OR POLICY (ABC)

**Narrative description of the activity:** Review and assess needed changes to legislation and/or policy that governs child protection, specifically addressing the "front-end" of the child welfare system. Assess policy and training needs of newly enacted laws and/or Program Improvement Plan (PIP) activities impacting the "front end" of the child welfare system.

#### Proposed sub-grantee, if applicable: Not applicable

**Explanation of the extent to which this activity contributes to the reform of State systems handling of cases of child abuse and neglect:** The law that governs Nevada's child welfare (NRS432B) is currently in the legislative process with several updates that will improve the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases in Nevada. The CJA Task Force will ensure needed policy are written and/or trainings delivered related to newly enacted laws that contribute to the reform of State systems handling of cases of abuse and neglect. Additionally, by utilizing the Task Force as a Citizens Review Panel for feedback and collaboration, changes can be evaluated and recommendations for improvement made.

#### The current Task Force goals that would be addressed by this activity: Goal 5

**Description of proposed evaluation methods related to this activity, including desired outputs and/or outcomes:** Child welfare staff and other affected parties receive training and/or assistance in developing new policies to be in compliance with new or updated policies and/or laws.

# PROPOSED LINE-ITEM BUDGET EXPENDITURE (MAY 2021 - MAY 2022)

Type of Expense:	Amount
Task Force Maintenance	\$5,000
Clark County Department of Family Services Subgrant	\$27,000
Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence Subgrant	\$30,000
Washoe County Child Advocacy Center Subgrant	\$19,207
Nye County Child Advocacy Center Subgrant	\$23,977
Great Basin Child Advocacy Center Subgrant	\$19,448
CSEC Protocol Support	\$20,000
Technology Support for DCFS – Rural Region	\$54,240
Parent Court Process Handbooks	\$5,000