



## Children's Justice Project

A PROJECT OF THE WYOMING SUPREME COURT

### CJP Advisory Council Meeting

**Meeting Date/Time:** Friday, March 28, 2014, 10:00 am – 11:35 pm

In attendance were: Honorable William U. Hill, Joann Odendahl, Eydie Trautwein, Dan Wilde, Bill Stanton, Senator Esquibel, Kristie Langley, Deb Dugan-Doty, Debra Hibbard, Carol Tullio, Steven Dreher, Jill Kucera, Sheryl Bunting (phone), Honorable Michael Golden (phone), Honorable Cranfill (phone), Laura Steele (phone), Chad Shaver (phone), Dona Playton (phone), Whitney Agopian, Stacey Obrecht

The agenda discussions were as follows:

Agenda Item: <i>Leader</i>	Discussion Synopsis	Decisions Reached/ Action Items
<b>Call to Order</b> <i>Justice Hill</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions</li> <li>• Review of Minutes from January 31, 2014. Motion to approve (Senator Esquibel), seconded (Dan Wilde).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes approved – all in favor, none opposed.</li> </ul>
<b>Grant Activity Update</b> <i>Eydie Trautwein</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full grant awards for FFY2015, same as past years (Basic = \$95,705, Data = \$93,811, and Training = \$93,811)</li> <li>• Annual required CJP meeting in New Orleans in April, Dan Wilde and Eydie Trautwein will attend paid for by CJP money; DFS representatives will be there as well (Lauri Lamm, Ed Heimer, Debra Hibbard, Elizabeth Forslund)</li> <li>• Eydie Trautwein to receive the ACF Commissioners Award, for a significant contribution in Child Welfare, in New Orleans</li> <li>• Grant Deadlines/Reports: Strategic Plan Update in August, Reassessment Report in September</li> </ul>	
<b>GAL Handbook and Online Training Modules</b> <i>Dan Wilde/</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handbook is completed and has been assembled</li> <li>• Dan will be distributing most of the handbooks in person to the GALs, and handbook will be put online as well</li> <li>• GAL Training Modules (based on Handbook) planned to be completed June 1<sup>st</sup> (Align and Linden), had meeting yesterday and are on track, will have a prototype in the next few weeks</li> </ul>	

# MINUTES

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<b>Eydie Trautwein/ Stacey Obrecht</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planning a lunch at the 2014 Children’s Justice Conference (in Casper) on Thursday (June, 26<sup>th</sup>), attendees could come in and have a boxed lunch and watch a sample of the GAL training videos and take the quiz</li><li>• Contract is in place for the re-purposed money left in the GAL Handbook contract to update the CJP Publications (\$25,000); set to begin updates on abuse/neglect hearing checklists next month, materials were prioritized based on age (working to update oldest publications first), updated publications will be shared with Council as they are completed.</li></ul>	
<b>Parent Legal Representation Committee</b> <b>Anne Reiniger</b> <b>(Eydie Trautwein and Justice Golden gave update)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Committee continues to work on Council approved recommendations from the 2011 ABA report: 1) improving training for parents attorneys, 2) improving compensation, 3) consider adopting an administrative structure (now working on this), 4) develop standards (Practice Guidelines) (done), 5) survey current practices, 6) standard orders to ensure discovery is taking place; and 7) evaluate effect of improved representation on case outcomes over time.</li><li>• Committee is working on recommendation for a proposed administrative structure, but are re-surveying the counties since a lot has changed since 2011; before the committee makes their formal recommendations want to have updated information; 10 counties have been contacted so far (Eydie shared the sample survey questions and answers: how many attorneys in your county are representing parents in juvenile court, how are attorneys selected, any attorneys on contract, what are the qualifications, are attorneys evaluated, criteria for removal, billing questions on rates and itemization by time and activity and more). Preliminary survey results indicate inconsistencies in practice and payment.</li><li>• Formal recommendations for a proposed administrative structure will come to the council when the committee has completed counties surveys and analyzed results.</li><li>• Committee is also working on updating the Practice Guidelines to include a section on reasonable billing for parents’ attorneys; based on the two Supreme Court decisions</li></ul>	
<b>Training Committee</b> <b>Eydie Trautwein/ Dan Wilde/ Stacey Obrecht</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2014 Children’s Justice Conference Agenda has been finalized</li><li>• June 25-27<sup>th</sup> in Casper (Best Western Ramkota); copy of current agenda in handouts; quite a few national speakers coming in this year; Judge Lowenbach is a family court judge from Greeley, CO and does a lot of work with the CO GAL Program; Kevin Ryan will be the closing speaker, from Covenant House; Leslie Heimov or another staff will be the opening speaker for the conference, from the LA Office for</li></ul>	

# MINUTES

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	<p>GALs; Dr. Hilt, Margaret Burt, and Diane Baird are the other out-of-town speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalizing agenda now; we are well under budget due to facility costs and food costs, speaker costs and number of attendees</li> <li>Registration opens April 1<sup>st</sup>; will receive registration by e-mail to forward to your stakeholders; conference info is on the CJP website</li> <li>6 people have signed up for exhibitor booths</li> <li>Excellence Award Nomination Form is on the CJP Website, will also be sent with the minutes; review committee will decide who gets the award from the nominations</li> <li>Blog Talk Radio – have had three since last meeting (Permanency Roundtables, Permanency Hearings, and Children in Court); April will be from Shawna Herron (AG’s Office) on Guardianships; averaging between 40-50 live attendees and accessing archived version are even higher</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Data Committee</b> <i>Eydie Trautwein</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WyUSER – all counties on system, working on reporting and calendaring capabilities now</li> <li>CQI presentation from Eydie Trautwein (see power point) – what is CQI, why is it important, why does CJP need to do it, what was the methodology, what were the results, and the future of CQI</li> <li>Highlights from CQI presentation – unable to gather permanent placement data when December report to feds was due, but received good info from DFS later; reviewed 52 cases; used median values for baseline data</li> <li>2013 Data Report includes the “timeliness” baseline data; taking 358 days (median) to first permanency hearing; 283 days to second permanency hearing; 523 days to filing of TPR; 688 days to order terminating parental rights</li> <li>Quality Indicators: averaging less than 1 continuance in the cases; average of 1.62 judges per abuse and neglect and TPR case</li> <li>Information pulled from WYCAPS: time to adoption is 884 days, time to guardianship is 445 days, time to reunification is 185 days, and total time to permanency placement is 288 (this was just the children that exited during the time period evaluated)</li> <li>Overall baseline data was good/ discussed list of current interventions in presentation</li> <li>Next Steps: timeline presented for future CQI activities, working on canned reports from WyUSER to lessen the manual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next steps for CQI approved – all in favor, none opposed.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Need to distribute the CQI data information to Judges, Prosecutors, DFS Offices, and GALs;</li> <li>2) Make available to the Judges the option to see this data information by county, without being invasive;</li> <li>3) Report to Joint Judiciary or send to Legislators;</li> <li>4) Look at CQI data by county and/or judicial district, and</li> <li>5) Find ways to distribute more extensively</li> </ol>

# MINUTES

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	<p>case review, working on getting DFS and CJP Data Sharing Agreement in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion and Decisions on Next Steps: 1) we need to distribute this data information to the Judges, Prosecutors, DFS Offices, and GALs; 2) make available to the Judges the option to see this data information by county, without being invasive; 3) report to Joint Judiciary or send to Legislators; 4) look at this data by county or judicial district, and 5) find ways to distribute more extensively</li><li>• Next steps Decisions by Council – Motion to approve (Jill Kucera), seconded (Senator Esquibel).</li><li>• Discussion of what additional timeliness or quality measures we want to add in 2014: may want to look at jury trials, regular trials, and appeals and how they affect the permanency timelines (this may be why our adoption and other permanency timelines are so long), we should look at the subset of cases and compare those with jury trials, trials, and appeals, and those without; interested in new measures and the data committee should look at what those should be and recommend them to the Council; Casey Family has looked at Wyoming AFCARS (Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System) data and Wyoming has high numbers for kids in placement; Bill and Casey Family can help the Data Committee look at the AFCARS data, Bill volunteered to be a part of the data committee</li></ul>	
<b>Education Committee</b> <i>Eydie Trautwein</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Still on hold.</li><li>• Eydie presented to teachers and staff at iCivics Workshop (February 2014) on Juvenile Courts</li></ul>	
<b>Miscellaneous</b> <i>Eydie Trautwein</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Legislative Updates – Joint Judiciary will be focusing on juvenile court issues in the interim (CHINS (#1) and Juvenile Data Collection (#3)); meetings are May 12-13<sup>th</sup> in Rawlins, July 17-18<sup>th</sup> in Newcastle, and September 11-12<sup>th</sup> in Laramie; Should try and find out who will replace Representative Gingery on the Committee</li><li>• Scholarships – two District Court Judges are interested in Chicago NCJFCJ Conference and one District court Judge interested in Denver NACC Conference; no applications made yet for the attorney scholarships</li><li>• Rules Revisions – draft to Council before June 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting</li><li>• DFS 5 Year Plan – survey went out to District Judges in March (12 responded), surveyed other stakeholders as well; the Judge survey responses will be taken to the Data Committee</li></ul>	

# MINUTES

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	to be considered as part of future CQI activities/interventions	
<b>Upcoming Meetings</b> <i>Eydie Trautwein</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Judicial Relations Efforts – Eydie and Justice Golden are still working on this</li><li>Friday, June 27, 2014 (12:00 – 2:00 pm) after the Conference in Casper. This meeting will focus on Strategic Plan, rules, and targeted interventions (based on CQI data) in the next year. Also, will set the meetings for 2015, so everyone has enough notice.</li><li>Thursday, August 28, 2014 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm) in line with the timeline for federal submission of the strategic plan.</li><li>Thursday, December 18, 2014 (10:00 am – 12:00 pm) in line with next federal submission date.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Next Meeting: Friday, June 27, 2014 (12:00 – 2:00 pm) Lunch Meeting after the Conference in Casper.</li></ul>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Meeting adjourned by Justice Hill at 11:35 am.</li></ul>	