

Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect
Friday August 21st, 2015, 12:00 p.m.
Hall of Justice
925 Ottawa Street, Lansing, Michigan 48909

MINUTES- SPECIAL MEETING

Members Present: Chair Kenneth Tacoma, Robin Eagleson, Julie Nakfoor Pratt, Lani Forbes, Carol Hackett Garagiola. DHHS: Sheldon Mayer.

Members Present via Conference Call: Jennifer Pintar, Danita Echols, Robert Sykes, Jr., Fred Gruber, Shannon Lowder, Susan Hull, Lori Budnik, Betsy Boggs, Kelly Ramsey.

Members Absent: Linda Hallmark, Gary Anderson.

1. Welcome

Judge Tacoma called the meeting to order and due to telephone participation, roll call was taken by Sheldon Mayer. Thirteen members were present constituting a quorum.

2. Public Comment

No persons from the public were present, so there was no public comment presented.

3. Purpose of Meeting – Kenneth Tacoma

The Project Funding Evaluation Committee received four applications for funding that would utilize the remaining funds from the FY 14 Children's Justice Fund grant. Approximately \$ 60,000.00 was still available to be encumbered for projects. The committee has met and made a recommendations to the full Task Force to fund 3 of the 4 projects to the extent of the funds available, in the order of priority indicated.

Lani Forbes, chair of the Project Funding Evaluation Committee, provided descriptions, recommendations, and reasons for the committee recommendation. Three of the members of the committee were present and the fourth member was on the conference line to also answer questions and provide comment. It is necessary to allocate and encumber the funds no later than September 30th, 2015 and liquidation of the approved expenditures must be completed by December 31st, 2015. If this does not take place, the funds must be returned to the Federal Government. The committee recommended funding the following proposals in the indicated amounts, subject to the funds available:

- Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan \$11,528.00
- Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center \$24,999.00
- CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region \$23,450.00

Questions were raised regarding the lack of a recommendation to fund the Michigan's Children/Michigan Statewide Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Parent Coalition proposal. Committee member's explanations included: the funds available were not sufficient to fund all proposals, so it was necessary to prioritize the proposals; the three proposals

recommended were most closely aligned with the goals of the Task Force and the guidelines of the Children's Justice Act grant; the approved proposals were meeting targeted needs that were currently unmet; and all committee members had placed the three proposals in higher priority over the Michigan's Children application. It was acknowledged that two of the recommended proposals did not have statewide benefit, but that was only one factor to consider, and not a requirement of the CJA grant or the committee's decision.

It was noted that although the Michigan's Children proposal was not recommended for funding at this time, it did not prevent them from reapplying in the next fiscal year

It was also noted that Task Force members Betsy Boggs and Gary Anderson were recused from the voting on the proposal because Ms. Boggs submitted the application on behalf of Michigan's Children, and Dr. Anderson had authored a letter submitted in support of the proposal. The latter point was moot, because Dr. Anderson did not participate in this special meeting.

Task Force Chair Kenneth Tacoma received the committee recommendations as a motion to be considered by the full Task Force, and only required a second to be brought to a vote. Motion 2nd by Jennifer Pintar. Vote was taken by role call. Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

4. Adjourn

Motion by Julie Nakfoor Pratt to adjourn the meeting.
Motion 2nd by Robin Eagleson Full Task Force motion carried unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned.