



## **Governor's Task force on Child Abuse and Neglect**

**Thursday, February 24, 2022**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

### **Proposed Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Chairperson Annie Harrison, Vice Chairperson Joseph Merritt, Alex Brace, Kimberly Clemons, Jackie Igafo-Teo, Egypt Otis, and Demetrius Starling

**Members Absent:** Dr. Alane Laws-Barker

**Agency Representation:** Mary Lou Mahoney, MDHHS; Veronica Flores, MDHHS; Ann LaHaine, MDHHS; Erin House, SCAO; Kate McPherson, SCAO; Julie Knop, PAAM

#### **Call to Order and Welcome**

- Chairperson Harrison welcomed task force members.
- Attendance was taken by roll call.
- Meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m.
- Veronica Flores reviewed web-based meeting procedures.

#### **Consideration of Minutes from GTFCAN Meeting on October 29, 2021**

- Chairperson Harrison asked for consideration of minutes from October 29, 2021.
- A **MOTION** was made by Jackie Igafo-Teo to approval the minutes from October 29, 2021, as presented, without a reading, seconded by Alex Brace.
- The motion carried unanimously by verbal vote.

#### **Public Comment**

- Public comment was received.

**Chairperson Report:** Chairperson Harrison reported the following:

1. Strategic Planning to be held at conclusion of today's meeting.
2. CACMI contract commenced in Jan 2022. Thank you to Veronica Flores for coordinating.
3. Subcommittee structure announcements:
  - a. Thank you to the 2021 Subcommittees.  
Protocol: Committee disbanded.  
Training: Committee disbanded  
CRP: Panel continuing.  
Summit: Completed summit, restarting committee in May.

- b. Announcement of 2022 Subcommittees:
- CRP: Chair Dr. Laws-Barker, Topic: ACES and MDTs.
  - Protocol: Co-chairs Alex Brace and Annie Harrison, Forensic Interviewing review.
  - Protocol/Training: Chair Det. Merritt. Topic: Review of Child Death Protocol/Training.
  - Summit: Chair Det Harrison. Topic: Execute 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit.
  - Consideration of other committees, based on incoming appointees and ideas identified by members.

**Vice Chairperson Report:** No report.

**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Report:** Director Starling reported the department attended two hearings. First hearing included small business leaders and community partners who would like to be included and have a role in supporting youth. Working hand and hand with Youth in Transition (YIT) in collaboration with the legislature, SCAO and business leaders to have an impactful role with youth obtaining employment, housing, and transportation. Second hearing was with the Senate House Appropriations Committee regarding FY22 accomplishments and looking forward to FY23. Working to find different ways to support private partners and obtain support they need for services, facilities, and increased support for foster care families. Providing a rate increase of 18% and seeking additional support for the future. Emphasis on doing more for foster care families, especially those who are caring for high-risk youth. Rep. Whiteford commissioned the Adoption/Foster Care Task Force and provided recommendations around kinship care, different ways to engage kinship care providers, prevention services and overall engagement with private partners and stakeholders and the foster care to prison pipeline issue.

**GTF Coordinator Report:** Veronica Flores reviewed the provided financials and reported that the CJA application and 3-year assessment are both due on May 31, 2022.

**Report from State Court Administrative Office Child Welfare Services:** Erin House reported that SCAO is working on three projects and the CIP strategic plan. The projects are as follows: Data Project, Youth Advocacy Project, and Legal Representation Project. In addition, CIP is offering a COVID19 supplemental grant to authorize CIP funding to juvenile courts. At this time, nine courts have received grants. CIP will also be offering upcoming webinars.

## **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee:** Chairperson Harrison reported quarterly meetings have been established; first meeting was on February 9<sup>th</sup>, topics include Chair report out, planning for strategic planning, 3-year assessment, Governor appointments, incoming onboarding of new members and upcoming conferences.

**Citizens Review Panel:** Dr. Alane Laws-Barker was not present for a report out. However, a written Report was provided and included in the packet that was sent out prior to the meeting.

**Protocol Subcommittee:** Alex Brace extended thanks to everyone who participated in the subcommittee, the Plan of Safe Care Protocol is with currently MDHHS for review and approval.

**Summit Subcommittee:** Chairperson Harrison reported the summit was a successful event and she is very proud of the team and presenters. The virtual event allowed for an increase in access and a high number of attendees. Veronica Flores provided feedback data from the summit survey which can be found in the GTFCAN Summit Survey Data Summary provided with the packet.

**Training Subcommittee:** Vice Chairperson Merritt offered a concluding report for the training committee. The training committee has collaborated with SCAO to design and launch the Child Sexual Abuse Training. The training is now live; four of the eight training modules have been completed. Feedback is unbelievable and they have had national and international participation and have exceeded the goal on training delivery. Partnering with SCAO and colleagues has made this training successful with a focus on multidisciplinary audience. Kate McPherson from SCAO reported statistics of the training, attendees, and participants. All disciplines have been participating in the training and delivery goal has been reached. There are several upcoming webinars and trainings that will be offered.

**Public Comment:**

- Public comment was received.

**Adjournment of Meeting:** The meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m. **Next meeting is set for Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 11am.**