

**OHIO  
2016 – 2018  
CHILDREN’S JUSTICE ACT GRANT  
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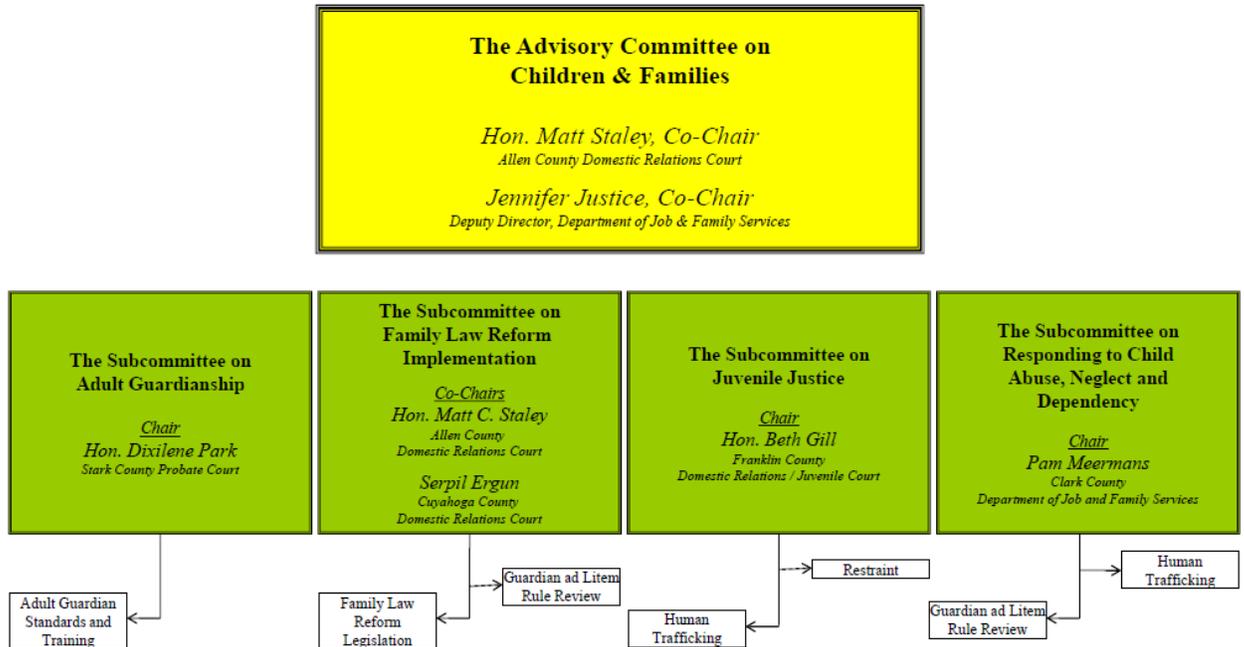
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**Information Related to How the Task Force Works Together**

1. Structure

Ohio’s multidisciplinary task force that complies with the Children’s Justice Act (CJA) requirements set forth in Section 107 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) is established as a subcommittee under the Supreme Court of Ohio (SCO). This subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Responding to Child Abuse, Neglect and Dependency (CAND), functions under a standing Advisory Committee on Children and Families appointed by Chief Justice Maureen O’Connor.

**2016 Table of Organization**



The purpose of the advisory committee is to provide ongoing advice to the Court and its staff regarding the promotion of statewide rules and uniform standards concerning the establishment and operation of programs for children and families in Ohio courts; the development and delivery of services to Ohio courts on matters involving children and families, including training programs for judges and court personnel; and, the consideration of any other issues the advisory committee deems necessary to assist the Court and its staff regarding children and families in Ohio courts.

Two work groups specific to activities identified by the subcommittee through its Three-Year Assessment were functional over this past year:

1. Workgroup on Guardians ad litem
2. Workgroup on the Court’s Response to Human Trafficking of Minors

Additionally, a CAND member serves as liaison with the Ohio Network of Children’s Advocacy Centers specific to the human trafficking of minors, and CAND continues to oversee the

operational rollout of Safe and Together as an enhancement to Ohio’s Differential Response Program.

CAND is jointly staffed by the CJA coordinator (Ohio Department of Job and Family Services) and SCO’s Court Improvement Program Coordinator. Research and support services are provided to CAND and workgroups through the Family and Youth Law Center (FYLAW), Capital University Law School (Columbus).

## 2. Work Plan

CAND’s work is guided by the charge developed through vote of the subcommittee and approved by the advisory committee. Additional items that are consistent with the subcommittee’s charge may be referred for subcommittee consideration at any time. CAND has elected to complete work on existing tasks and focus on two new efforts: regional, multidisciplinary activities that examine substance use disorder within the families that come to the attention of the juvenile court and effectively identifying and responding to minors who appear before the court and are victims of human trafficking. CAND also has elected to re-examine its proposed Child in Needs of Protective Services legislation.

The 2016-2018 Charge to the Subcommittee that will be examined throughout this report:

### **1. Investigative, administrative and judicial handling of child abuse and neglect**

- a. Provide advice and guidance for the establishment of a service provider network for child victims of human trafficking (Recommendation 9, Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force), which shall include a training component for first responders.
- b. Provide regional, multidisciplinary training opportunities that encourage stakeholder-driven action planning.

### **2. Support of experimental, model and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques.**

- a. Complete transition to Ohio-based training to full capacity, and fully implement the “Safe and Together” model for any county that wishes to implement this programming as an intimate partner violence intervention within a differential response framework.
- b. Support experimental, model and demonstration programming that addresses substance use disorders within the families that come to the attention of the child welfare system.
- c. Establish model approaches for juvenile courts to identify and respond to minors who appear before them and are victims of human trafficking.
- d. Explore model approaches to providing competent and effective representation of parents. (This initiative is supported through Ohio’s Court Improvement Program and will not be discussed in this report)

### 3. Reform of State laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children

- a. Review and recommend revisions to Rule 48 of the Rules of Superintendence as related to juvenile application.
- b. Re-examine the proposed Child in Need of Protective Services legislative language.

### 3. Meeting Frequency

CAND's meetings are scheduled on the basis of need and intensity of the activities that are undertaken. Over the past year, CAND has moved from a monthly to quarterly schedule as the work load has been re-distributed from full membership to work groups.

The focus of full membership meetings has transitioned primarily to review and approval functions, with work increasingly parceled to time-limited and activity-specific work groups and task teams. In addition to offering enhanced opportunity for leadership and engagement by subcommittee members, this configuration establishes a pipeline for new membership. Workgroups and task teams specifically seek to expand participation to subject matter experts outside of Subcommittee membership. Workgroups and task teams are activity-specific and meet more frequently on an "as scheduled" basis.

### 4. Communication of Activities: Ohio Child Protection Law Reform Website

To effectively manage and communicate its work and to make resources that could benefit child welfare professionals and stakeholders publically available, the Subcommittee developed a project website, <http://www.ohiochildlaw.org>.



The website has been an effective tool for CAND this year, providing both public sub-sites for updating and highlighting new developments in key initiative areas, as well as password-protected project management sections where the CAND and key partners post drafts of working documents, meeting agendas, communications, and other project-related materials.

Each project's private site contains a compendium of research and resources to guide CAND in the development of recommendations for enhancement to law, policy and practice.

The site also contains links to related websites of interest to child welfare stakeholders, including the Ohio Adoption Photo-listing, the Foster Youth Advocacy Center, and the Ohio's Families and Children Rule Review Website.



The rule review website, <http://www.ohiorulereview.org/>, is a mechanism that the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) established to solicit ongoing stakeholder input on the administrative rules that govern Ohio's child welfare programming. ODJFS staff receive monthly reports on the comments that have been posted. This information can be used to inform and support CAND's work regarding policy and statute that stakeholders regard as needed or problematic.

In addition to the ability to review and comment on rules, the site contains detailed information on the rule-making process, with user-friendly explanations of the eight-step process and associated time frames. Site users also have the ability to propose rules for review through an online comment process.

During the past fiscal year, new enhancements were made to the rule review website:

- a. Forms: forms are now loaded to the site for review when changes are being considered.
- b. Past review comments: a list of all rules that were posted to the website with access to the comments made about those rules has been added.
- c. New rules: rules that are being proposed can now be posted for comment.

5. Demonstration of Awareness of the Child and Family Services Plan and the Annual Progress and Services Report

CAND is provided information regarding Ohio's Child and Family Services Plan and may oversee activities that are identified as forwarding progress of established goals. CAND members also are

apprised of project status, as reported in Ohio's Annual Progress and Services Report and may coordinate with activities set forth in the annual plan established to govern expenditure regarding the Basis State Grant (CAPTA).

Ohio's state child welfare director, Jennifer Justice (Deputy Director, Office of Children & Families), is a member of CAND and a co-chair of the Advisory Committee on Children and Families. She provides regular updates on Ohio's status related both to the CFSP and Child and Family Services Review. These entities serve as ongoing user groups to gain perspective on proposed activities, and as avenues through which issues are channeled to identify solutions. Ohio's CJA Coordinator is a member of ODJFS' Office of Families and Children's Senior Management Team and works closely with colleagues to coordinate CAND activities with CFSP and APSR needs and goals.

6. Linkage to Court and Legal Representation Improvement Work

CAND and its various workgroups are integrated into the administrative structure of the Supreme Court of Ohio. CAND and the Advisory Committee on Children and Families are jointly staffed by Ohio's CJA and Court Improvement Program (CIP) Coordinators. Ohio's CJA Coordinator and CIP Coordinator, who also is Manager of the Supreme Court of Ohio's Children and Families Section, have an established weekly meeting for ongoing oversight of joint activities and to address issues that affect the children and families who come to the attention of Ohio's judicial system. A pilot project that is examining approaches to ensure competent representation of parents who are involved in judicial cases of abuse, neglect or dependency is reported to CAND, but not included in this report since it is wholly funded by CIP dollars. CAND's guardian ad litem workgroup has been discussing legal representation of children through its examination of dual appointment procedures and assurances.

## Prior Year Projects/Activities and Performance Report

### Investigative, Administrative and Judicial Handling of Child Abuse and Neglect

#### Minor Victims of Human Trafficking

CAND has two activities related to the human trafficking of minors, support of a first responder network and development of new approaches and protocols for Ohio's juvenile courts to identify and intervene on behalf of minor victims of human trafficking. A discussion of the Workgroup on Courts' Response to Minor Victims of Human Trafficking is included on pages 20 and 21.

CAND assumed an oversight capacity in the development of a first responder network for minor victims of human trafficking. As reported in prior years, the Ohio Network of Child Advocacy Centers (ONCAC) was selected to initiate this task.

This past year, Ohio was able to move CJA's two-year seed funding into state-supported dollars;

transition to self-sustainability always is the goal of CJA-funded initiatives. CJA has continued limited support of multidisciplinary training efforts to encourage the local development of skills, refinement of practice, and enhancement of collaboration. ONCAC currently is working with membership agencies to develop regionally-offered instruction regarding labor trafficking of minors since the bulk of training opportunities have focused on trafficking of minors for sexual purpose. These events will be held in six locations throughout the month of June.

Additionally, Ohio was selected to participate in a pilot of human trafficking forensic interviewer training sponsored by the National Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers, and is coordinating details for a forensic interviewing of minor victims of human trafficking for Ohio's children's advocacy centers. The September event will be held in Columbus and limited to one representative from each center.

### **Regional Multidisciplinary Training**

SCO and ODJFS jointly planned and hosted four regional workshops to support community-based action planning. The one day course offers communities the opportunity to examine local practices in abuse, neglect and dependency cases that come to the attention of the juvenile court, including processes that may impact Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) performance measures.

The course is open to teams identified by the local juvenile court judge. Typically, the team is comprised of court staff responsible for the dependency docket, the child welfare agency director or designee(s), and other court or community representatives that impact how the abuse, neglect and dependency case comes to and progresses through the court.

To facilitate stakeholders' ability to attend, this course was shortened from its previous span of two and one-half days into a single day. Several supports were built in to support this condensed version:

1. Each county team was assigned an independent facilitator responsible for keeping participants task-oriented and on-track. Facilitators were asked to participate in a preparatory call to establish course expectations and familiarity with the day's participatory exercises.
2. Each county team was supplied with county-specific performance data in advance of the training.
3. Registered teams were expected to participate in an advance planning call and asked to complete a case-mapping exercise prior to the event.
4. Teams were provided with a comprehensive data packet showing county performance in both court and CFSR measurements.
5. Each county team was offered limited funding to support implementation of the county action plan post-training. Suggested use of the funds included the cost of follow-up meetings, consultants, team training, neutral facilitation, site visits.
6. To support an extended meeting day, teams travelling greater than 45 miles were offered free overnight lodging the night before. This also encouraged group social activities prior to the meeting. The meeting was a combination of lecture and group activities. Each team produced an action plan to address items identified throughout the day's exercises. The day's agenda:

## Workshop Content

# Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Caseflow Management Workshop

**7:30am—8:00am**  
Registration and Breakfast

**8:00am—8:30am**  
**Welcome and Remarks**  
Pre-test and team introductions.

**8:30am—9:30am**  
**Fundamental Elements of Caseflow Management and Data Measures**  
*Steve Hanson, M.A.*  
*Brian Farrington*

This session will explore the fundamentals of caseflow management and data measures, including: judicial leadership and vision; court consultation with justice partners; court supervision and case progress; control of continuances; and early court intervention and early dispositions.

**9:30am—10:15am**  
**Team Exercise: Making Events More Meaningful**  
The team will develop a plan to use meaningful events as an analytical tool for developing a local improvement plan.

**10:15am—10:30am**  
Break

**10:30am—11:45am**  
**Overview of the Child and Family Services Review**  
*Carla Carpenter, MSSW*  
*Brian Farrington*

This session will discuss the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process overview and related goals.

**11:45pm—12:30pm**  
Lunch

**12:30pm—1:30pm**  
**County-Specific Data and Performance Measurement**  
*Carla Carpenter, MSSW*

This session will focus on county performance through caseload and CFSR data, as well an in-depth review of national standards, and reading and analysis of data.

**1:30pm—2:45pm**  
**Team Exercise: Walking the Tracks**

The team will analyze and evaluate the existing caseflow management and docketing systems.

**2:45pm—3:00pm**  
Break

**3:00pm—4:00pm**  
**A Local Court's Perspective: Best Practices and Strategies to Address Obstacles**  
*Carla Guenthner, Esq.*

This session will provide participants with practical strategies, focusing on incorporating local policies and procedures to address both CFSR and caseflow goals.

**4:00pm—4:45pm**  
**Team Exercise: Reaching Consensus on the Team's Priority Areas**

The team will develop agreement on the most significant challenges, and priorities for addressing those challenges.

**4:45pm—5:00pm**  
Final Comments and Closing

## Experimental, Model and Demonstration Programs for Testing Innovative Approaches and Techniques

### Intimate Partner Violence

Reports from prior years have detailed the history and purpose of the Ohio Intimate Partner Violence Collaborative (Collaborative), a partnership among CAND, ODJFS, Casey Family Programs, Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN), Ohio Children’s Trust Fund, HealthPath Foundation of Ohio, and FYLaw. By forging community partnerships that support a holistic response to intimate partner violence (IPV) within a differential response framework, the Collaborative aims to reduce trauma to, and removal of, children who are exposed to this form of violence. The *Safe and Together*<sup>TM</sup> model, is utilized during the investigative – “assessment”-- phase of the process. In addition to helping Ohio caseworkers better recognize and respond to the presence of intimate partner violence within the home as a factor during the child protection assessment, it also provides the caseworker with tools that better allow the child to safely remain within in the home.

#### 2015-2016 Milestones

##### 1. Training Expansion

Ohio continues the process of establishing an Ohio-based training process. Dave Mandel and Associates has maintained its support of 11 Ohio-based trainers through:

- a. Regular telephone conferences with project facilitators.
- b. Conference calls to discuss training and practice issues.
- c. Biannual trainer meetings.
- d. Pre- and post-training discussions and documentation.

All trainers completed a recertification process at the end of fiscal 2014-2015 that will allow them to maintain certification through fiscal year 2016-2017. The process included online testing, video observations, consultations, and performance reviews.

##### 2. Program Expansion

A total of 48 counties have been trained in the *Safe and Together*<sup>TM</sup> model by the end of this fiscal year. Twenty of these counties have repeated the foundational training days at least once to accommodate new and untrained staff.

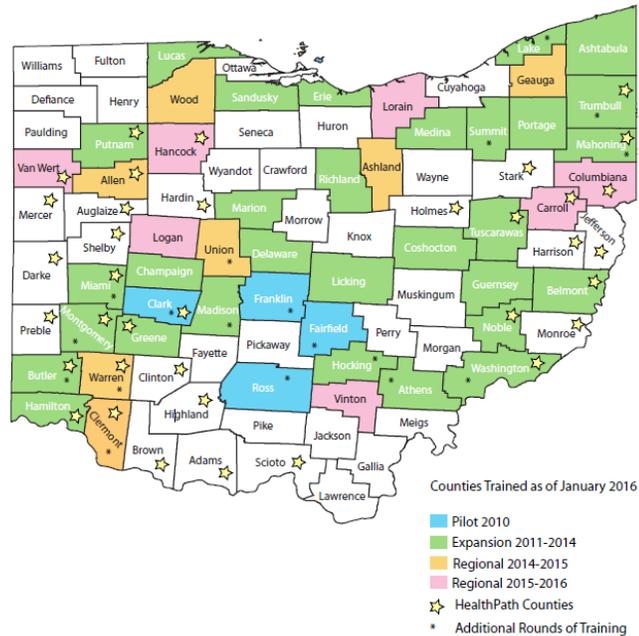
To be considered as an expansion site, counties must:

- a. Have experience with differential response.
- b. Express interest in, and full commitment to, the entire training.
- c. Meet logistical criteria that allow for greater efficiency in training smaller counties.
- d. Commit to providing feedback on the trainers and training experience through post-training evaluations.

Current focus is on internal sustainability practices, implementation strategies, and post-

training support opportunities.

## Ohio Counties Trained in *Safe and Together*™



### 3. Work Plan

Ohio's post-training support includes conference calls, webinars, safe father engagement trainings, and regional advanced practice trainings. Additionally, project partners are planning follow-up to the regional judicial meetings held last fiscal year (e.g., web-based judicial education, a bench card resource for juvenile court judges).

### 4. Planning Group Activities

The Collaborative continues to promote and disseminate "The Impact of Batterers on Children: An Ohio Model Community Response Protocol," which was released in mid-2015.

### 5. Additional Project Support

Community Technical Assistance (TA) and readiness assessment through ODVN is funded by the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio and ODJFS. County children services agencies and their community partners have taken advantage of a menu of TA activities aimed at increasing model fidelity and strengthening partnerships across systems. To date, 26 of the 48 counties trained in the *Safe and Together*™ model will have been offered Community TA.

CAND will continue to support rollout of *Safe and Together*™ through June 30, 2017; all counties that voluntarily select to implement the model will have been fully trained and supported through initial implementation.

## **Programming to Address Substance Use Disorder**

Ohio's 2015 CJA report described plans for the Judicial Symposium on Addiction and Child Welfare (Symposium) that was (to be) held June 23, 2015. This event brought together 56 county teams jointly led by the juvenile judge and the child welfare director and including child welfare, behavioral health and judicial professionals whose work directly impacts families who come to the attention of courts because of substance abuse. Representatives from the child welfare, substance abuse treatment and the judiciary presented throughout the day as each team discussed various stages of a case scenario presented through video throughout the day. At the conclusion of the day, teams identified core local needs and limitations, and developed action step they could take to support their community partners' work and resolve conflicting demands. To view materials, case scenario videos, and other materials: [http://www.oacbha.org/ohios\\_2015\\_judicial\\_symposium.php](http://www.oacbha.org/ohios_2015_judicial_symposium.php).

CJA funds have been used in combination with grant funding from Casey Family Programs to further support the conversations initiated during this event, and to continue county collaborations on behalf of these multi-system families.

### 1. Planning Funds

Casey Family Programs made \$1,000 implementation dollars available to any county that attended the Symposium and submitted an action plan. The funds were not intended to support programming; instead these dollars are for the purpose of continued planning. Suggested uses included brown bag luncheons, neutral facilitators or consultants, training events, etc.

### 2. Competitive Innovation Grants

In partnership with Casey Family Programs, ODJFS offered competitive funding to county public children services agencies (PCSA) that were partners of a certified family dependency treatment court (family drug courts). The funding sought to explore approaches that support the children services role in improving outcomes for families that come to the attention of the child welfare system experiencing a substance use disorder. Counties were eligible to apply under any of four areas:

- a. Screening
- b. Scale
- c. Infusion
- d. Competency and Efficiency

The following projects were selected:

- a. Clermont PCSA (Competency and Efficiency) to create a recovery coach/peer support advocate program. \*\*
- b. Fairfield PCSA (Screening, Scale, Infusion, Competency and Efficiency) to institute universal screening for substance use disorder and trauma, increased case management and judicial oversight, and establishment of a pre-filing option for the family dependency treatment court.

- c. Hardin PCSA (Infusion) to extend assessment and referral processes used in the family dependency treatment court to individuals outside of that population.
- d. Trumbull PCSA (Infusions, Competency and Efficiency) to add a Parent Partner Recovery Coach to drug court team and to make day care services available during court appearances.\*\*
- e. Union PCSA (Screening and Scale) to institute the use of a screening instrument with the ultimate goal of universal screening and to work with the local treatment agency to provide on demand SBIRT (screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment) and, when appropriate, referral to the Union County Family Drug Treatment Court.

\*\*Funded through Casey Family Programs

### 3. Demonstration Site Funding

Ohio is one of five states to receive a competitive two-year planning grant to increase the scale and scope of Ohio's family drug courts through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Ohio also selected to further examine the concept of infusion: integrating the practices of a family drug court into non-specialized dockets and child welfare practice. At the grant's conclusion, Ohio is eligible to apply for a five-year implementation grant.

To establish a proof of concept regarding the experimental processes being examined, 12 counties volunteered as demonstration sites. The two-phased site rollout will test strategies related to either infusion or expansion. All sites have agreed to implement a universal screening process.

Sites submitted action plans; CJA dollars were awarded to each of the PCSAs to support the systemic improvements that are required for planning and data collection.

### **Workgroup on Courts' Response to Minor Victims of Human Trafficking**

Chaired by Lucas County Juvenile Court Judge and CAND member Denise Navarre Cubbon, the workgroup is formed jointly under CAND and the Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice. It is comprised of 20 people who have backgrounds in a variety of fields, including law, social work, law enforcement, academia, and medical. The workgroup's focus is on child victims of trafficking who may present to Ohio's juvenile courts as juvenile justice cases (e.g. prostitution, drug offenses, shoplifting, delinquency, status offenses, etc.) and how juvenile courts can best identify and address the needs of these children.

The workgroup is charged with:

1. Identifying promising court-centered practices, models, and strategies to identify system-involved trafficked children.
2. Supporting judicial leadership and foment inter-system collaboration at the local level.
3. Recommending rules, policies, and practices.

Initial meetings have examined innovative practices within Ohio. It has distributed a survey to all courts across the state in order to identify services that are currently being offered, to assess local training and program needs, and to gather information on court services. Based on the survey responses, the workgroup will tailor projects in order to meet the identified goals.

## **Reform of State Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, Protocols, and Procedures to Provide Comprehensive Protection for Children**

### **Guardian Ad Litem Rule and Practice Review Initiative**

As described in prior reports, CAND was charged with reviewing state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures relating to GAL practice and with making recommendations regarding Rule 48 of the Supreme Court Rules of Superintendence as it relates to GAL practice in abuse and neglect cases. The Rule, effective in 2009 and developed through recommendations of CAND, was ripe for review to identify areas of GAL practice and process that would benefit from modification; review also was prompted in part by recommendations for reform included in a 2012 report of the Ohio Attorney General. The task group originally planned to submit draft recommendations to the Advisory Committee by June 2015. The timeline was expanded to allow for additional stakeholder input, research, and data-gathering to better inform the extensive changes to GAL practice and governance contemplated by the proposed recommendations.

CAND's GAL Rule workgroup has met in person and by telephone conference on a regular basis to update research and formulate proposals in relation to critical components of Rule 48, including dual appointment of attorneys as both GAL and attorney for a child; required process when conflicts in dual representation are identified; the number of and topics covered by required pre-service and ongoing GAL training; court oversight and evaluation of GAL performance; management of the GAL complaint or grievance process; and mandated GAL responsibilities.

The Rule 48 review and revision process was completed in early April, 2016. The Workgroup met jointly with the Domestic Relations Rule Review Workgroup to finalize draft recommendations for presentation to the Advisory Committee for review and comment. Subsequently, the Rule recommendations will be finalized for submission to the CAND; upon acceptance by that group, the Rule 48 amendments will be re-submitted to the Advisory Committee for final approval. Once approved, the proposed Rule 48 recommendations will be submitted to the SCO for its review and comment process.

In tandem with the development of Rule 48 recommendations, work began late in 2015 on an online toolkit for courts, GALs and other stakeholders to assist practice on local and individual levels. Materials already completed for the toolkit are a sample report form, sample grievance procedure, a model evaluation form, and a component on GAL mentoring and field work programming that courts may consider implementing at the local level as a training option. Components under development include model local rules, suggestions for GAL evaluation and oversight, a model order of GAL appointment, and sample grievance processes.

## Child in Need of Protective Services

CAND has elected to re-examine the proposed Child in Need of Protective Services (CHIPS) statutory reform to identify if there are stand-alone pieces that could be extracted. It is beginning its examination with the following pieces:

1. Category of sexual harm.

Under current law, child sexual abuse is a subset of abuse that the law defines as relating to “a child who is the victim of sexual activity,” which is defined as either “sexual conduct” or sexual contact.” The majority of stakeholders registering comments found the current laws pertaining to child sexual abuse in Ohio unnecessarily complex and ambiguous, making it difficult for child welfare practitioners to understand or use them. The following were the predominant issues to be corrected:

- a. Inconsistencies in application.
- b. Improper plea bargaining.
- c. Improper substantiations.
- d. Over-inclusiveness.
- e. Inconsistencies in screening practice.

2. Elimination of dependency as an adjudication category.

Field research identified the overly broad definition of dependency under ORC 2151.04, which leaves its use open to many different interpretations under Ohio law, as an impediment to effective practice. The following were the predominant issues to be corrected:

- a. Archaic and imprecise terminology.
- b. Conflicting requirements (e.g. although dependency appears to be intended as a non-fault based category, one section, 2151.04(D), requires fault on the part of the parent; one section of the dependency statute is a catch-all category that is conclusory rather than definitional: dependency can mean a condition or environment that would warrant the state taking “guardianship”).
- c. Improper plea bargaining; improper and excessive use.
- d. Blurred distinctions among categories.

3. Specification of Exposure to Substance Misuse

Under current law, this type of harm would typically give rise to an allegation of neglect or dependency or, under certain circumstances, one of child endangerment. The following were the predominant issues to be corrected:

- a. Under- or over-inclusiveness.
- b. Inconsistencies in interpretation and application.
- c. Fairness; bias.

## Prior Year Budget Expenditure Line Item

Over this past year, Children's Justice Act dollars supported the following activities:

1. Regional and state multidisciplinary team training opportunities:
  - a. Improving case investigation and prosecution of human trafficking of minor victims.
  - b. Identifying local practices and processes to facilitate enhanced timeliness and outcomes in child abuse, neglect and dependency cases.
  - c. Improving counties' approaches to working with families where there is substance use disorder and who come to the attention of the child welfare system.
  - d. Creating an enhanced understanding of Ohio's *Safe and Together*<sup>TM</sup> practices within Ohio's judicial communities.
2. Intimate Partner Violence Collaborative county expansion and sustainability.
3. ODJFS and SCO collaborations:
  - a. Research and staffing for CAND and various workgroups.
  - b. Judicial College course development.
4. Attendance at federally initiated Children's Justice Act meeting.

## Proposed Activities/Applications

*Description of proposed activities for the upcoming year:* Ohio will use Federal Fiscal Year 2016 - 2018 Children Justice Act monies to focus on CAND's recommendations to:

1. Fully implement a system for responding to intimate partner violence within a differential response framework.
2. Provide continued research, communication and support services to CAND and its workgroups.
3. Support implementation of new county-based services, processes and protocols that are designed to coordinate interventions on behalf of families who come to the attention of the child welfare and judicial systems and who experience addiction.
4. Provide enhanced multidisciplinary and regional training.
5. Support recommendations of CAND's workgroups and ongoing efforts.
6. Maintain compliance with eligibility criteria and ensure adequate administration of Children's Justice Act programming.

### **Intimate Partner Violence**

1. Proposed activities.

It is projected that approximately five additional regional cohorts will complete the Safe and Together<sup>TM</sup> training by June 30, 2017. Ohio will continue to coordinate:

- a. County training activities.
- b. Work of the Statewide Planning Group.
- c. Oversight of trainer activities.
- d. Collaboration with the Ohio Domestic Violence Network.

- e. Distribution and application of the Statewide Planning Group’s model community response protocol.
- f. Communication activities.

DMA will continue to work closely with the certified Safe and Together™ Ohio trainers and members of the Collaborative to ensure that the delivery of Safe and Together™ training to county child welfare agencies and their community partners maintains model fidelity. DMA also will provide sustainability support to Ohio trainers that includes:

- a. Recertification opportunities.
- b. Webinars, conference calls, and advanced in-person trainings.
- c. Technical assistance.
- d. Periodic telephone conferences.
- e. In-person meetings.

2. These funds support activities to:

- a. Administer and oversee the Ohio Intimate Partner Violence Collaborative.
- b. Ensure that county child welfare staff and local partners have the necessary skills and competencies to effectively implement the Safe and Together™ model while maintaining child safety.
- c. Defray associated county costs through the allocation of program stipends to cover reproduction of instructional materials, county site logistics, or stakeholder participation.
- d. Support participation of the Ohio Domestic Violence Network in counties not associated with, or included in, the catchment area of the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio.

3. How these activities reform State systems.

Ohio’s Intimate Partner Collaborative is implementing a significant shift in how communities address child maltreatment when intimate partner violence is a factor within the home. This approach moves from a short-term, segmented, and crisis-based reaction to a holistic, community partnership approach which focuses on the long-term safety of the child while holding caregivers accountable.

The Collaborative is coordinating a sustainability plan over the next year, which aims to promote internal capacity for model implementation and increased use of in-state expertise in model practices.

**Task Force Research, Communication and Support**

1. Proposed activities.

CJA funds are used to continue to provide administrative and task-oriented support at the direction of CAND.

2. These funds support activities to:

- a. Staff and provide administrative support to CAND and its workgroups.
  - b. Develop and carry out a research plan as approved by CAND and its workgroups.
  - c. Produce final reports and documents as requested by CAND.
  - d. Arrange, participate in, and prepare for public and professional education activities as requested by CAND.
  - e. Maintain CAND communications, including the Ohio Child Protection Reform Initiative Website.
  - f. Develop public information documents at the direction of CAND.
3. How these activities reform State systems.  
The research and support activities of CAND document and provide the foundational basis for CAND's work to implement CAND's systemic change recommendations.

### **Child Welfare, Courts and Addiction**

1. Proposed activities.  
CAND will support local efforts to coordinate services and protocols on behalf of families where there is substance abuse or addiction, and who come to the attention of the judicial and child welfare systems. CJA funds will be used to:
  - a. Support the community action plans developed by the six Phase 2 Statewide System Reform Project Demonstration Sites.
  - b. Competitively award support to model programs that evolve from action plans.
  - c. Competitively award support to programs that enhance the scale and scope of family dependency treatment courts, and infusion of treatment court principles into non-specialized dockets and child welfare practice.
2. Funding to support these activities is multi-sourced. The Children's Justice Act contribution will be used to supplement funding and bridge time-limited awards (e.g. Casey Family Program awards must be completed by December 30<sup>th</sup>). CJA funding will broaden funding opportunities and extend funding through the end of the state fiscal year.
3. How these activities reform State systems.  
These activities contribute to the development of a statewide approach to intervening on behalf of families who come to the attention of child welfare services due to a substance use disorder by building upon the principles and network of Ohio's family dependency treatment courts. This activity encourages the development of multi-system, county-based solutions that are supported by state-level policy and collaboration.

### **Children's Justice Act Administration**

1. Activities.  
Funds will be used to suppose the expenses associated with participation in at least one federally-initiated Children's Justice Act meeting.
2. This activity is a required criterion for states' receipt of Children's Justice Act funding.