

**OHIO 2017 – 2018
CHILDREN’S JUSTICE ACT GRANT
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<i>Page</i>	<i>Title</i>	
2-7	Eligibility Requirements: Documentation & Information Related to How the Task Force Works Together	
		Documentation Not Included Here
	2-3	Structure
	3-4	Linkage to Anti Trafficking Efforts
	4	Linkage to CFSR & CQI Work
	4-5	Work Plan
	5	Meeting Frequency
	5-7	Communication of Activities
7-15	Prior Year Projects/Activities & Performance Report	
7-9	Investigative, Administrative & Judicial Handling of Child Abuse	
	7-9	Training & Support of First Responders
	9	Regional Multidisciplinary Training
10-14	Experimental, Model and Demonstration Programs for Testing Innovative Approaches & Techniques	
	10	Intimate Partner Violence
	11-12	Programming to Address Substance Use Disorder
	13-14	Workgroup on Courts’ Response to Human Trafficking of Minors
	14	Data Driven Decision Making
15	Reform of State laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children	
	15	Guardian ad Litem Practice
	15	Child in Need of Protective Services
15	Prior Year Budget Expenditure Line Item	
16-20	Proposed Activities/Applications	
	16-17	Intimate Partner Violence
	17-18	Task Force Research, Communications & Support
	18	Child Welfare, Courts & Addiction
	18-19	Training & Support for First Responders
	19	Child Fatality Review
	19	Interdisciplinary Training
	20	Children’s Justice Act Administration
	Budget Recap Not Included Here	
20	List of Attachments	

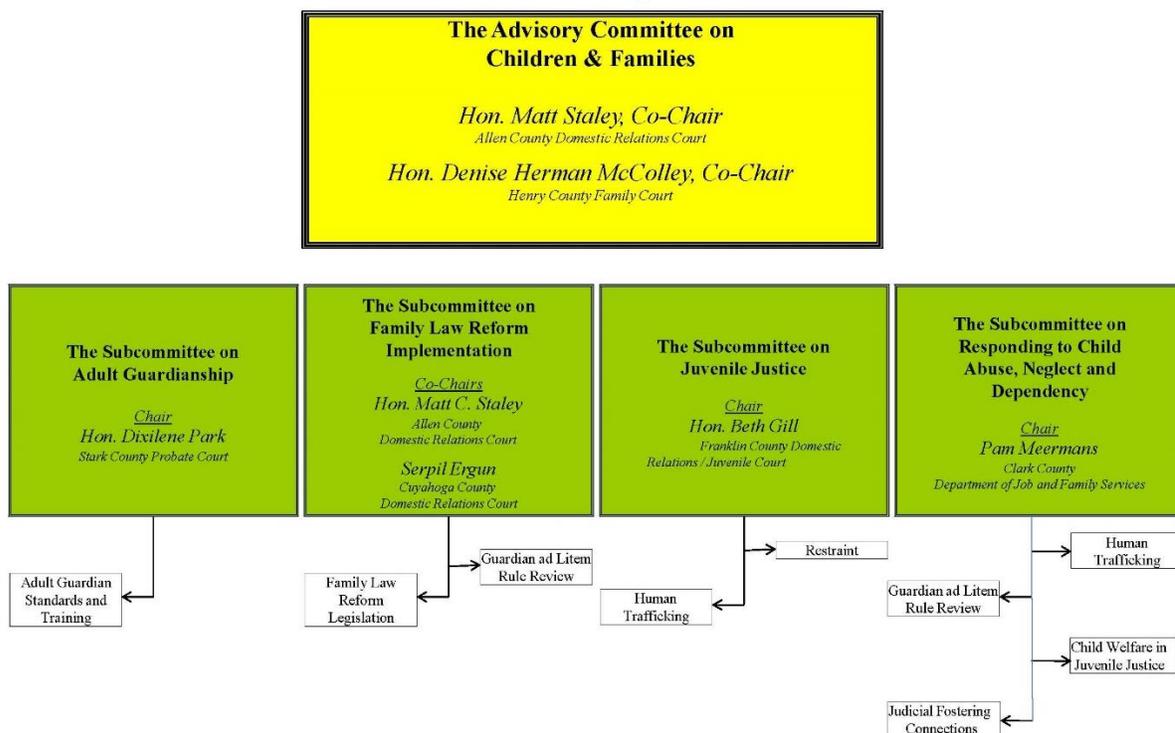
Eligibility

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.

2017 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.

CAND is comprised of a core subcommittee and various topic-specific workgroups, which also include core subcommittee members. This work functionality has significantly enhanced

CAND's professional participation and diversity in membership while meeting the letter and intent of the federal regulation:

- Subject matter experts are more willing to devote time and personal resources when the recommendations are more closely focused on issues in which they have personal investment. This is reflected in increased meeting frequency, regular attendance, members' outside research and work on topics, and workgroups' self-direction to continue with secondary issues.
- The exposure through workgroup activities, which members initially are willing to tackle since they appear focused and with a discernable end point, helps to recruit and interest experts who initially may feel disconnected from CAND's broad systemic examination. After experiencing the process, members generally appear willing to continue in expanded capacity. In this way, CAND is able to tap into more targeted expertise and diverse membership.
- Workgroup functionality allows CAND to collaborate with other subcommittees that may have overlapping interests. For example, members of both the Juvenile Justice and CAND subcommittees participate on the Juvenile Justice in Child Welfare Workgroup, which is examining the initial risk, safety and family assessments of children within the child welfare system who have concurrent juvenile justice issues. Members from both the Family Law and CAND subcommittees are examining expansion of the court rules governing guardians ad litem.

Representation that complies with federal multidisciplinary requirements is maintained at all times. It should be noted that CAND may focus on topics and recommendations that extend beyond CJA-funded initiatives, such as the Judicial Fostering Connections Workgroup that was established to make recommendations regarding court policies and procedures related to Ohio's extension of Title IV-E to eligible young adults up to the age of 21. These activities will not be discussed within this report.

Research and support services are provided to CAND and workgroups through the Family and Youth Law Center (FYLaw), Capital University Law School (Columbus). CAND is jointly staffed by ODJFS' CJA coordinator and SCO's Manager of the Children and Families Section, the organizational area responsible for administration of the Court Improvement Program (CIP). The CIP Coordinator attends CAND meetings and provides status updates regarding Ohio's CIP strategic plan and CIP activities. SCO and ODJFS work closely to align CJA and CIP with other state and federal programs, including CAPTA, the CFSR, and CFSP/APSR.

2. Linkage to Anti-Trafficking Efforts

CAND has established a Courts' Response to Human Trafficking Workgroup. The activities of this workgroup are discussed on pages 20-21. Additionally, a member of CAND serves as liaison with Ohio's first responder network for minor victims of human trafficking, the Ohio Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, and provides regular status updates to ensure alignment of activities.

In June, CJA dollars will be used to support a two-day statewide human trafficking multi-disciplinary training to ensure that all children's advocacy center staff and community multidisciplinary team members have the skills and knowledge necessary to competently address forensic interviewing and/or mental health and trauma issues that are associated with minor victims of human trafficking. The training will utilize faculty from the National Criminal Justice Training Center at Fox Valley Technical College to meet the following objectives:

- Define the High Risk Victim and demonstrate the correlation and commonalities between the chronic runaway, repeat victims of sexual abuse, and the child victimized through sex trafficking
- Learn how to individually, as a unit/squad, or collectively as a community, identify and understand the problem of sex trafficking locally
- Understand the unique dynamics and challenges surrounding interviewing of the High Risk Victim, and the barriers that prevent victims' full and complete disclosure of abuse and exploitation
- Learn a proven a three-point strategic approach to combat child sex trafficking in their community

3. Linkage to the Child and Family Services Review and Continuous Quality Improvement Work
Ohio places special effort on coordinating the activities of its various federal and state initiatives, including that of the CIP, to ensure that efforts align as pieces of a systemic whole. Ohio's CJA Coordinator is a senior manager in Ohio's state-level child welfare office, ODJFS' Office of Families and Children. The CJA Coordinator and the Manager of SCO's Families and Children Section (Manager) meet weekly to ensure coordination of efforts. Additionally, the CJA Coordinator attends a monthly SCO-sponsored Family Law Team meeting. This meeting has been organized by the Manager and draws from the various organizational areas of SCO that touch upon the families and children who appear before Ohio's courts. This includes the Ohio Judicial College, Caseflow Management, Dispute Resolution, Domestic Violence, Specialized Dockets, and Families and Children areas, as well as other areas upon request.

Ohio's state child welfare director, Deputy Director Carla Carpenter, is a member of CAND and the Advisory Committee on Children and Families. Ohio currently is engaged in a state-conducted Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and several of the 15 county assessment sites are represented on CAND. Regular status updates are a part of every CAND agenda and progress is discussed. When the self-assessment is complete, CAND anticipates being asked to examine court-related aspects of the findings.

CAND is similarly engaged in Ohio's CFSP/APSR; a number of CAND activities are reported within those documents. ODJFS' Continuous Quality Improvement Advisory Committee includes SCO's CIP and Data Coordinators among its membership.

4. Work Plan
CAND's work is guided by the charge developed from the 2015 CJA Three Year Assessment and

approved through vote of membership and the advisory committee. Additional items that are consistent with the subcommittee's purpose may be referred for subcommittee consideration at any time, as has happened with issues raised through the CFSR or other program developments, such as Ohio's decision to implement extension of Title IV-E benefits. The 2017-2019 CJA Three Year Assessment activity will form the basis of a new charge. CAND's current charge:

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. **(COMPLETE)**
- 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. CAND's core team meets quarterly; workgroups and task teams 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, offering 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 Photolisting, the Foster Youth Advocacy Center, and Ohio’s Families and Children Rule Review Website.

You may also be interested in:

The Ohio IPV Collaborative
Ohio’s response for children exposed to domestic violence.

Differential Response
A continuum of responses to reports of child abuse or neglect.

The Ohio Adoption Photolisting Website
You can make a difference to a child in need of an adoptive family!

Family and Youth Advocacy Website
Meeting the needs of systems-involved youth.

Ohio’s Families and Children Rule Review Site
Your opinion counts!

CAND’s work will include a focus on updating the website. The Task Force has discussed the benefit of redesigning the site to provide enhanced access to best practice guidelines and connections with communities who are “doing it well.” This will be examined.

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.

It also should be noted that ODJFS' Office of Families and Children's website posts the CJA annual report and program application to ensure that there is full access to this and other strategic planning documents such as the Annual Progress and Services Report, CAPTA State Plan Update, and Child and Family Services Plan. These can be found at <http://ifs.ohio.gov/ocf/Reports-Plans-and-Presentations.stm>

Prior Year Projects/Activities and Performance Report

Investigative, Administrative and Judicial Handling of Child Abuse and Neglect

Training and Support for First Responders

CJA continues to provide training and support to child sexual abuse first responders through Ohio's consortium of children's hospitals. The support has four interlocking components:

1. Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurses

CJA continues to support the Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (PSANE) program through a grant to the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children. The Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children trains medical providers from medically underserved Ohio communities to conduct skilled, medical evaluations for sexual abuse and severe physical abuse cases. Previous reports have documented the objectives and benefits of Ohio's long-term investment.

2. PSANE Instruction

Over the past year, Ohio's consortium of children's hospitals, through its project lead, The Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children, hosted two five day didactic PSANE Instruction and Assessment Courses to ensure that participating nurse practitioners have assessment skills and telemedical capability to maintain quality of programming. Last year, the training was expanded from four to a full five days to be compliant with national PSANE training requirements. Nurses from Cincinnati Children's, Akron Children's, Dayton Children's and Adena Hospitals were in attendance.

One two-day didactic was provided for PSANEs. Objectives included:

- Completing a peer case review.
- Discussing pediatric forensic interviewing techniques and how they apply to the MRDD adult population.
- Identifying risks and interventions for suicide among adolescents.
- Discussing Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention (CFSTI) as a short-term therapy option to prevent PTSD.
- Reviewing the appropriate use touch DNA testing and identify updates in evidence collection.
- Identifying improvements, successes and challenges of Ohio PSANE programs.
- Reviewing procedures for patient care and evaluation of sexual assault.
- Discussing examples of challenging examination findings.
- Reviewing appropriate use of HIV post-exposure prophylaxis.

3. Peer Review of Forensic Interviews

Ongoing peer review and support are critical quality assurance and continuing education components of the forensic interviewing program supported through these funds.

Activities included:

- Monthly collaborative peer reviews of participants' sexual abuse interviewing skills.
Monthly web-based peer review sessions are provided to Ohio's children's advocacy centers. A survey of participants was conducted and participants would also like to expand the peer review sessions to include relevant articles and speakers in addition to critiquing forensic interviews.
- The Annual Peer Review Retreat
The Annual Peer Review Retreat was held in November. During this day-long session, participants heard from Kirsten Minnie, an intelligence analyst from the Department of Homeland Security who spoke about human trafficking and Dr. Amanda Brownell who presented a case study of Medical Child Abuse (Munchausen Syndrome by Proxy). This annual activity allows participants in statewide peer review to receive continuing education on a specialized topic. It also provides statewide children's advocacy centers and partner agency staff an opportunity to interact in person which enhances the on-line critiquing experience for participants.
- Competent and timely technical support during each remote video conference.
Lync Web Meetings is the technology utilized to have remote sites participate in peer review. Invitations are sent to all of the 26 Ohio children's advocacy centers. Participants in the Beyond the Silence Forensic Interviewing Training Program can join as well. Technical support is provided to the sites as needed to join these sessions.

4. Beyond the Silence Forensic Interview Training

Oversight for Ohio's forensic interviewing instructional and training program, *Beyond the Silence*, continues to be offered through the Mayerson Center for Safe and Healthy Children.

Instructional sessions continue to be offered through the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program regional training centers and on-site as needed and appropriate. The curriculum meets the National Children’s Alliance standard for forensic interview training. The manual was revised this year to include the OJJDP Publication, Child Forensic Interviewing: Best Practices. Recommendations from this paper have been added to the curriculum. Law enforcement officers, children’s services workers, developmental disabilities workers, victim’s advocates, prosecutors, nurses and hospital social workers from 43 of the 88 counties have been trained through this initiative.

Regional Multidisciplinary Training

SCO and ODJFS jointly planned and hosted four regional workshops to support community-based action planning. The one day course offered communities the opportunity to examine local practices in developing a trauma-informed system. At the conclusion of the event, each county team is responsible for developing a community action plan. Working collaboratively with input from all members of the county team, the plan is to identify priority areas for trauma informed systems of care and action steps to address those priority areas, as well as identifying how success will be measured.

REGIONAL JUDICIAL TRAUMA TRAINING FOR ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND DEPENDENCY CASES

Participants: Juvenile Judges, Child Welfare Directors, and System Partners

Course Description. This course invites Ohio’s juvenile judges to lead a team of five including the local Child Welfare Director and three justice system partners to build capacity on trauma-informed systems of care for youth and families involved in child welfare cases. Possible justice system partners may include guardians ad litem, child welfare personnel, court staff, prosecutors, defense bar, and community service providers.

Participating judges and their teams will learn best practices, tools, and techniques for working with child welfare involved youth and families who have a history of trauma, and insight on interacting and working with stakeholders and system partners. Each team will work on collaborative exercises throughout the day, and will finish the day with local action planning.

As a result of attending this course, teams will:

- Identify court practices and implementation strategies, both in and out of the courtroom, for working with child welfare involved youth with a history of trauma;
- Identify ways in which courts and system partners can intersect to promote trauma-informed care of youth in the child welfare system;
- Recognize the impacts of trauma for proceedings with dual status/crossover youth;
- Create a local county plan that the participants can incorporate into their community.

Faculty. Robin R. Tener Ph.D. is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and the Executive Director of Northeast Ohio Behavioral Health, Ltd. (NEOBH). Dr. Tener has over 25 years of experience working with children, adolescents and families, and is frequently utilized by Juvenile, Domestic Relations, Criminal and Family Courts as an expert witness in the area of child trauma. In addition to her work with NEOBH, Dr. Tener acted as the Community Outreach Coordinator for the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) grant awarded to Akron Children’s Hospital, which provided leadership, training and consultative services in the area of childhood trauma, as well as resources designed to improve access to trauma-informed care in the community. Within her role as Community Outreach Coordinator, Dr. Tener additionally assisted with the development of trauma-informed systems of care in child welfare, juvenile justice, schools and other child-serving agencies and systems in communities throughout the region.

This course is sponsored by the Supreme Court of Ohio’s Advisory Committee on Children and Families, Subcommittee on Responding to Child Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency, and Courts’ Response to Trafficking of Children Workgroup.

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, a partnership among CAND, ODJFS, Casey Family Programs, Ohio Domestic Violence Network, Ohio Children's Trust Fund, HealthPath Foundation of Ohio, and FYLaw. By forging community partnerships that support a holistic response to intimate partner violence 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*[™] 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.

This past year focused on ensuring that all counties that were interested in integrating the Safe and Together[™] model into their framework had sufficient support and opportunity for skill development so that the model was implemented in a manner that ensured child safety. The Safe and Together Institute (formerly DMA), continues to provide direction, information, and oversight to ten (10) Ohio-based trainers through regular telephone conferences with project facilitators, conference calls to discuss training and practice issues, biannual trainer meetings, and pre- and post-training discussions and documentation. All trainers will have completed a recertification process by July 2017, which will allow them to maintain certification through fiscal year 2017-2018. The process will include online testing, video observations, consultations, and performance reviews.

A total of 48 counties will have been trained in the *Safe and Together*[™] model by July 2017, and five of these have repeated the foundational training days at least once for new and untrained staff. Twenty-seven of the 48 counties trained in the *Safe and Together*[™] model have selected to also receive Community Technical Assistance which brings together stakeholders from a broad representation of disciplines. Community Technical Assistance is of special value in those jurisdictions where there may not be ongoing and open communication between the domestic violence and child welfare communities or where there may not be a foundational understanding of the program. This community activity helps to address concerns related to child safety and assure that the alleged perpetrator is being held accountable for his/her actions.

CAND has selected to continue support of this work for an additional two years in order to more clearly identify and implement measures that ensure sustainability. The past year's outreach to communities has shown that the intensive time commitment and manner of training discouraged some counties that might otherwise be interested in implementation. The next two years will focus on the development of alternate delivery.

Programming to Address Substance Use Disorder

Ohio is one of five states to receive a competitive three-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 use of evidence-based practices that have been proven effective within a family drug court into non-specialized dockets and child welfare practice. Ohio recently received the application to apply for the three-year implementation phase of this grant, the Statewide System Reform Project (SSRP). Ohio's CJA Coordinator is a member of the project's Core Team.

To establish a proof of concept regarding the experimental processes being examined, 11 counties volunteered as demonstration sites. The two-phased site rollout has been used to establish protocol and test strategies related to either infusion or expansion. All sites have agreed to implement a universal screening process. To facilitate the process and support data collection, a SACWIS enhancement to document the process and record the outcome has been established. Over the past year, CJA dollars were awarded to the Phase 2 demonstration site public children services agencies to support the systemic improvements that are required for planning and data collection. CJA funds previously were used to provide similar support to Phase I demonstration sites. In addition to developing important interdisciplinary strategies to address the state's burgeoning population coming to the attention of child welfare as a result of caregivers' substance –especially opiate—abuse, this initiative is providing a valuable multi-system view of the problem through data not previously accessible. Because of documentation limitations and inability to link data across systems, Ohio's understanding of addiction within the child welfare system primarily is anecdotal. Communities report experiencing extensive impact, but child welfare data has not been able to directly support this.

SSRP includes an evaluation conducted by the Ohio Colleges of Medicine Government Resource Center (GRC); during the planning period, GRC has performed data analysis and a proof of concept evaluation for the SSRP. ODJFS worked with GRC to establish data usage agreements that enable data access by GRC from SACWIS for the purpose of the analysis and evaluation of the project. GRC also established data usage agreements/task orders with the Ohio Department of Medicaid, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the juvenile courts of the 11 demonstration sites. This will enable a multi-system look at the families who come to the attention of child welfare because of substance abuse, as well as an outcome look at those who do/do not participate within a family drug court or who receive an infused evidence-based practice. Participants within the 11 sites also have agreed through consensus to collect limited data not available through the participating systems.

The use of universal screening, although only one small strategy within the larger initiative and very limited in scale at this time, already is demonstrating value. In December 2016, ODJFS presented data at the quarterly SSRP Demonstration Site Meeting to show the early implications of collecting and analyzing screening data in SACWIS. Preliminary analysis indicates SACWIS intake enhancements lead to improved data. Each of the eleven sites has agreed to implement universal screening; SACWIS documentation also is available to any other public children services agency that wishes to voluntarily implement this strategy. Several already have taken this step.



Family Drug Court
Statewide System Reform Program

The purpose of SSRP, administered by the Specialized Docket Section of the Supreme Court of Ohio, is to implement a comprehensive strategy for statewide multisystem reform that improves outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system with substance abuse and mental health challenges.

PARTNERS

- Supreme Court of Ohio
- Ohio Department of Job & Family Services
- Ohio Department of Medicaid
- Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services

This project is supported by Award No. 2013-DC-BX-K003, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs.

KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Formation of Joint Subcommittee and Core Team who develop solutions to barriers identified in pilot sites
- Formation of Executive Oversight Committee, highest level of leadership responsible for administrative oversight, to facilitate access to resources, ensure long-term sustainability, provide final policy review, and support solutions to system barriers
- Identification of 11 pilot sites (*pictured right*) that are testing strategies to more effectively serve all families in the child welfare system affected by parental substance use disorders



KEY SUCCESSES

- Developed governance structure to support institutionalizing system reform efforts
- Identified strategies to improve outcomes for children and families in Ohio
- Piloted universal substance use disorder screening for parents who have a case opened with the child welfare system
- Modified SACWIS database to include information on substance use disorders
- Implemented quarterly pilot site trainings to strengthen program practices
- Established a plan with Government Resource Center to test methods for continuous performance measure monitoring across systems: court, treatment, child welfare, and Medicaid

LESSONS LEARNED/IDENTIFIED GAPS & BARRIERS

- **Cross-system Communication:** Firm strategies such as MOUs with partners is required to overcome communication gaps/barriers
- **Data:** Teams need clear guidelines on what data to collect and how to collect it; Gaps in State data system
- **Ongoing Training:** Training to address roles, responsibilities, and resources
- **Treatment Access:** Gaps in systems for access to treatment after parents are identified
- **Early Engagement:** Need for more treatment and outreach resources to engage parents
- **Funding:** Funding more treatment options, housing, detox, drug testing, staffing

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 medicine. 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.

Its initial year has focused on self-education, which has included better understanding the link for the identification and assessment of this population between child welfare and juvenile justice. Over the past year, the workgroup has:

- Conducted a survey to establish a baseline regarding the educational and resource needs of Ohio's juvenile courts as related to the human trafficking of minors.
- Held a successful webinar that explored the juvenile justice response to trafficking of children.
- Supported, through CIP dollars, the participation of five judicial officers at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' Domestic Children Sex Trafficking educational session.
- Developed education for juvenile judge and justice partners on the intersection of missing and runaway juveniles and trafficking, presented by Judge Linda Teodosio and staff from Rights for Girls and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.
- Developed two benchcards for use by judicial officers and stakeholders that may come into contact with minors who potentially may be victims of human trafficking. These documents, Juvenile Court Trauma-Informed Practice and Juvenile Human Trafficking Ohio Laws & Safe Harbor Response, are included in this report as attachments. Among those included in distribution: each of OFC's field office staff and each participant in the trauma training described on page 17.

The workgroup is proposing the following activities for 2017-2018, several of which will contribute to CAND's reform of state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols, and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children:

- Develop a legislative platform to update and modernize the legal response to trafficking of children. These include an examination of the following proposals:
 - Statutory revision of the appropriate time frame available to victims under Safe Harbor provisions. Ohio's Safe Harbor law allows juvenile courts to determine through hearing that a minor is a human trafficking victim. The prostitution or related offense may be

held in abeyance while placing the victim under supervision of the court and requiring satisfactory completion of specified conditions. This enables the court to engage the victim in services to address the situational trauma and other factors that may bind the victim to the alleged trafficker. The current time frame allows a maximum of 270 days, but many courts find this time is not sufficient for effective treatment. Also, juvenile courts wishing to establish specialized human trafficking dockets feel challenged by this statutory time framework when placed against specialized docket best practices.

- Eliminate the (seemingly) arbitrary age gap that requires a show of force, fraud or coercion to prove sex trafficking of minors (16 -17 years old).
- Expand the definition of trafficking in person to include, for example, importuning, to close loopholes.
- Criminalize the use of the internet to sell commercial sex acts with a minor.
- Expand rape shield laws to protect juvenile victims of commercial sexual exploitation from the trauma of cross-examination at trials of traffickers.
- Promote strategies for specialized and emergency placement of trafficked juveniles.
- Continue to create additional collaborative opportunities/training to improve juvenile courts' response to trafficking of children.

Data Driven Decision-Making

SCO and ODJFS have established processes for regular data exchange that can be used for a variety of activities, including the support of data-driven county public children services agency-court conversations. Beginning June 2017, each county public children services agency director and juvenile judge will electronically receive a “data dashboard” highlighting several data points and suggesting practices on how to use the data to improve processes and collaboration with stakeholders.

The data dashboards will be disseminated quarterly on a set schedule. The public children services agency will receive the dashboard several days in advance of the juvenile court in order to allow time to fully understand the SACWIS data that is presented. Each county will receive two iterations of the dashboard: a state composite showing the state’s aggregate performance and a county-specific dashboard. Each county only will have access to their own county-specific data, although counties can choose to share and distribute as they feel beneficial. Counties will be encouraged to use the dashboard as a platform to initiate conversation about the meaning of the data and the reasons behind the county performance, as well as to seek ways in which performance might be enhanced.

The performance measures are deliberately limited so as to focus the conversations and not overwhelm the recipients. The highlighted measurements will change to reflect topical issues that are raised through the CFSR, three-year assessment, county compliance reports and other sources. Draft prototypes have been included as attachments, although measures and language should be considered sample for the purpose of conceptual demonstration only.

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 work has been more time consuming and extensive than originally anticipated. A proposal has been completed and is undergoing final review. Significant changes have been proposed related to dual appointment of attorneys as both GAL and attorney for a child; required process when conflicts in dual representation are identified; GAL report content and access; the ability to appoint GAL for a limited scope; 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.

Child in Need of Protective Services

CAND continues to reexamine the proposed Child in Need of Protective Services (CHIPS) statutory reform and revamp language within the context of stand-alone introduction.

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. Improving counties’ approaches to working with families where there is substance use disorder and who come to the attention of the child welfare system.
 - c. Creating an enhanced understanding of Ohio’s *Safe and Together*TM 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 the federally initiated Children’s Justice Act meeting.

Proposed Activities/Applications

Description of proposed activities for the upcoming year: Ohio will use Federal Fiscal Year 2017 - 2019 Children Justice Act monies to focus on CAND's recommendations to:

1. Fully implement sustainability strategies to 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 experiential new judge orientation.
6. Examine the establishment of protocol and processes for the state-level review of child fatalities.
7. Support recommendations of CAND's workgroups and ongoing efforts.
8. Maintain compliance with eligibility criteria and ensure adequate administration of Children's Justice Act programming.

1. Intimate Partner Violence

Proposed Activities

Efforts will be focused on implementing strategies that support self-sustainability while maintaining existing levels of services.

a. Sustainability

Initial efforts will be focused on a redesign of how training is delivered. Several factors in the current cohort delivery are problematic for interested counties, including the unpredictability of scheduled training and the requirement that the five-day training be presented in one sitting. The next year's efforts will focus on designing a training design that is delivered through the Ohio Child Welfare Training Program. The Ohio Child Welfare Training Program manages and implements all required child welfare training for child welfare professionals across the state. This is managed through eight regional training centers throughout the state. Offering *Safe and Together*TM through this platform will allow for more flexibility in training scheduling, will allow more counties to take advantage of the *Safe and Together*TM curricula, and promote sustainability of the training model. Additionally, the Intimate Violence Collaborative will be tasked with the development of a strategic plan to achieve self-sustainability by June 30, 2019.

b. Maintaining Services

Technical assistance days and advanced regional training days will be offered to interested counties. Counties will also have the opportunity to engage in the entire *Safe and Together*TM curricula (outside of the regional training centers) should they so choose. For this first year, Ohio will continue to coordinate:

- County training activities.

- Outreach/collaboration with the Ohio Child Welfare Training program, the Institute of Human Services, and the regional training centers.
- Oversight of trainer activities.
- Distribution and application of the Statewide Planning Group’s model community response protocol.
- Facilitation of the Ohio IPV collaborative workgroup sessions, including multi-disciplinary discussion among IPV professionals and service providers.
- Communication activities.

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

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

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. Ensure that *Safe and Together*[™] certified staff have the necessary skills and competencies to effectively work with county child welfare agencies implementing the *Safe and Together*[™] model.
- d. Develop and begin implementation of a self-sustainability strategic plan.

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.

2. Task Force Research, Communication and Support

Proposed activities

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

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 a redesign of the Ohio Child Protection Reform Initiative Website.
- f. Develop public information documents at the direction of CAND.
- g. Support CAND's three-year state assessment.

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.

3. Child Welfare, Courts and Addiction

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 competitively award grants that meet the criteria established through CAND and Casey Family Programs.

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 30th). CJA funding will broaden funding opportunities and extend funding through the end of the state fiscal year.

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.

4. Training and Support for First Responders

Proposed activities.

CAND will continue to support its statewide strategy to:

- a. Ensure that child victims of sexual abuse have access to skilled medical services regardless of geographic location.
- b. Provide professionals who may be the first interviewers of child sexual abuse victims a basic understanding of the dynamics of forensic interviewing for this special population.

CJA funding will support four interlocking activities:

- a. Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse and telemedical programming.
- b. PSANE Instruction.
- c. Peer Review of Forensic Interviews.
- d. Beyond the Silence Forensic Interview Training.

How these activities reform State systems.

These activities contribute to the development of a statewide infrastructure that serves child victims of sexual abuse through skilled professionals with specialized expertise regardless of geography.

5. Child Fatality Review

Activities

This activity will provide expert consultation in the establishment of policies and procedures for the state-level review of child fatalities. The state will be seeking expertise to support an internal workgroup that will establish criteria for review, processes, and ways the process can be used to channel positive change.

How these activities reform State systems.

There currently exists no uniform policies or processes for state-level review of child fatalities. This will provide a clarity and consistency in response, as well as a clear pathway to ensuring that the review results in positive guidance for state program improvement activities and county support.

6. Interdisciplinary Training

Activities

This funding will support the Task Force recommendation to support interdisciplinary training. It will include:

- a. One-two regional trainings on topics identified through CAND. The trainings will be held in collaboration with the Supreme Court of Ohio and Ohio's CIP and will be open to county teams that are assembled by the juvenile court judge and must include the public children service agency director or designee.
- b. One Columbus-based caseload management course that is designed for county teams assembled by the juvenile court judge and public children services agency director or designee. The course shall guide teams through an examination of the processing and flow of cases that come to the attention of the juvenile court because of abuse, neglect or dependency.
- c. Expansion of the Ohio Judicial College orientation for new juvenile judges to include enhanced exposure to child welfare topics and a menu of experiential activities.

How these activities reform State systems.

The county action plans that are developed through these topical events will introduce new interventions for identified areas of concern.

Children's Justice Act Administration

Activities.

Funds will be used to support the expenses associated with participation in at least one federally-initiated Children's Justice Act meeting and costs associated with Ohio's Three Year Assessment.

How this activity reforms State systems.

This activity is a required eligibility criterion for states' receipt of Children's Justice Act funding.

List of Attachments

- 1. Assessing Allegations of Domestic Violence in Child Abuse Cases**
- 2. Juvenile Court Trauma Informed Practices**
- 3. Juvenile Human Trafficking, Ohio Laws & Safe Harbor Response**
- 4. Permanency Docket SAMPLE ONLY – State**
- 5. Permanency Docket SAMPLE ONLY - County**