

Legislative Members:
Senator Jeff Kruse
Senator Floyd Prozanski
Representative Duane Stark
Representative Kathleen Taylor

Staff:
Adrian (Addie) Smith



Non-Legislative Members:
Hon. David Brewer
Hon. Patricia Crain
Hon. Daniel Murphy
Fredrick M. Boss
Valerie Colas
Nancy Cozine
Lois Day
Mimi Laver
Leola McKenzie
Angela Sherbo
Matt Shirtcliff
Joanne Southey
Lynn Travis
Rod Underhill

The Task Force on Legal Representation in Childhood Dependency Proposed Work Plan

State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 971-273-8570
Email: Adrian.Smith@oregon.gov

Task Force Goals and Structure

As provided by SB 222, the goal of this Task Force is to promote the best possible outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system by recommending:

- 1) A model of representation for children, parents, and DHS in dependency cases; and
- 2) The resources necessary to support this model.

To accomplish this goal, the Task Force will assess current practices in Oregon, models used by other states, and best practices identified by national experts. SB 222 also instructs the task force to look at smaller related issues. To tackle these requirements the task force will break into voluntary subcommittees to handle these issues, including:

- Performance Standards
- Models for Crossover Cases
- Quality Assurance/Measured Outcomes

Additional committees may be created as issues arise.

Task Force Agenda

The task force is charged with giving final recommendations to the legislature in July 2016 to coincide with deadlines for 2017 legislative and budget concepts. To meet this deadline the task force will meet monthly starting October 2015. The meetings will be divided into three sections: Background, Discussion, and Finalization. A preliminary outline is provided below.

- I. **Background** - Review of national models, presentations on current system, and identification of system-wide obstacles.
 - a. **October 28**- Child Welfare, Outcome-Oriented Processes, and the National Perspective
 - i. Location: Marion County
 - b. **November 23**- Survey of the Current Practice in Oregon's 36 Counties
 - i. Location: Marion County

- c. **December**¹- Identify and Review Obstacles to Best Outcomes Including Legal, Budget, and Service Concerns
 - i. Location: Multnomah County
 - ii. Optional Opportunity to sit in on Juvenile Proceedings to be arranged

- II. **Discussion of proposals and options** - Crafting solutions, proposing alternatives, and talking about the sub-issues and committee work.
 - a. **January**- Identify how to overcome obstacles, modify best practice models to meet the needs of Oregon kids and families, and promote meaningful outcomes. Brainstorm solutions and proposals.
 - i. Location: Linn County
 - ii. Optional Opportunity to sit in on Juvenile Proceedings to be arranged

 - b. **February**- Report out from subcommittees: brainstorm and solution proposals.
 - i. Location: Douglas County
 - ii. Optional Opportunity to sit in on Juvenile Proceedings to be arranged

 - c. **March**- Discuss and refine solutions for parents and children
 - i. Location: Marion County

 - d. **April**- Discuss and refine solutions for DHS and the State
 - i. Location: Marion County

- III. **Finalize Recommendations** - Draft, review and edit language, ratify the report and recommendations, and plan for implementation.
 - a. **May**- Delineate a final set of recommendations.
 - i. Location: Marion County

 - b. **June**- Review draft of proposed report and recommendation language and discuss necessary changes or modifications
 - i. Location: Multnomah County

 - c. **July**- Finalize recommendations and discuss plans for implementation.
 - i. Location: Marion County

¹ All other dates for the duration of the Task Force will be scheduled after a conversation and doodle poll at the first Task Force meeting.