

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Plan Requirements

Substantive Changes to State Law or Regulations:

There were no substantive changes in Oregon’s laws or regulations during the past year relating to the prevention of child abuse and neglect which could affect the State’s eligibility for continued CAPTA funding.

Significant Changes to the State’s Approved CAPTA Plan:

There were no significant changes to Oregon’s approved CAPTA plan.

CAPTA State Grant Fund Use

2 FTE - Child Protective Service Coordinators	
CAPTA Sections 106(a)(1), (3), (4), (5), and 106(b)(C)(ii), (iii)	CPS Areas All 16 areas

Child Protective Service (CPS) Coordinators play a critical role in the intake, assessment, screening and investigation of reports of child abuse or neglect. CPS Coordinators develop policies and procedures and provide training and consultation to staff to assure consistent and appropriate CPS response.

CPS Coordinators also participate in the design, development and implementation of modifications and enhancements to the State Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). SACWIS is Child Welfare’s system of record and supports the program by tracking reports of child abuse and neglect from intake through final disposition.

The people in these positions work in partnership with the other CPS Coordinators in the Department of Human Services’ Office of Child Welfare Programs, under supervision and direction of the CPS Program Manager. The CPS Coordinators develop and implement strategies for more effective communication between the State’s central program office and child welfare field offices on policy and practice issues. In addition, the CPS Coordinators participate in quality reviews of CPS practice and performance.

Responsibilities

- Provide statewide technical consultation to District managers, Child Welfare Program Managers, supervisors, child welfare caseworkers and community partners on CPS program and practice.
- Evaluate effectiveness of CPS policy, performance, service delivery and outcomes.
- Coordinate training with other state agencies.
- Improve communication between the central program office and local field offices.
- Participate in the State's child welfare Founded Disposition review process.
- Conduct quality reviews of CPS/Child Welfare practice, procedures and performance.
- Provide technical consultation to community partners and the general public on sensitive, high profile and high-risk family abuse situations.
- Provide support and technical assistance to the CPS program manager in research, policy and protocol development and legislative tracking.

Child Protective Service Coordinator – Position 1

Summary of Activities from May 2011-June 2012

- Continued support implementing the Oregon Safety Model (OSM) by providing training on OSM best practice at supervisor and caseworker quarterly meetings.
- Ongoing reviews of CPS assessments using a quality assurance tool developed by CPS program staff. These quality reviews help identify where additional training is needed for CPS caseworkers.
- Ongoing development of best practice procedures for CPS caseworkers and supervisors. Topics include: domestic violence cases, marijuana use in child welfare cases, threat of harm guidelines, assessing teens as parents, and addressing sexual abuse issues.
- Developed curriculum and provided two OSM training sessions to In-Home Safety and Reunification Service (ISRS) providers in Multnomah County.
- Provided ongoing reviews of statewide Safety Plans and in-person follow-up in field offices to work with staff on completing plans that are safe and appropriate to the specifics of the case.
- Coordination of Critical Incident Review Team (CIRT) recommendations including:
 1. Convened and facilitated a workgroup following the “JM” CIRT findings to review the Department's existing policy, practice and training related to the screening and assessment of abuse/neglect reports. Made recommendations to clarify CPS guidelines related to the investigation of cases involving children who are older.

2. Developed training curriculum and created a training tool for use in "Assessing Isolated Children" resulting from the JM CIRT. Three webinar training sessions were provided to approximately 150 CPS staff throughout the state.
 3. Developed an audit tool to assist in measuring improvement in the best practice of domestic violence cases during CPS assessments.
- Participated in design sessions for the State's SACWIS system to insure CPS policies and best practice are being adhered to in the system.
 - Completed sensitive case and CIRT reviews for the purpose of identifying systemic issues resulting in bad outcomes.
 - Wrote a proposal for the implementation of Differential Response in Oregon.
 - Assisted in developing a template of a comprehensive CPS assessment example in collaboration with use as a training tool for CPS staff.
 - Developed curriculum and provided statewide training and flow chart for new policy on Creating and Maintaining Case Records, and Service Plans in the State's SACWIS system.
 - Developed and presented training on Out-of-Home Care Investigations for the Foster Care Safety Team.
 - Participated in the permanency curriculum review for Portland State University's Child Welfare Partnership.
 - In the process of developing curriculum and an implementation plan for advanced training on Domestic Violence working with batterers resulting from the Domestic Violence Audit.
 - Ongoing participation in the Founded CPS Assessment Disposition Review Committee (appeal process).

In addition, this position works closely with other agencies and community partners representing child welfare on a variety of workgroups and committees such as:

1. Child Welfare Governance Committee
2. Child Welfare Training Advisory Committee
3. Child Welfare Refugee Committee
4. Q & A following Mandatory Reporter Training
5. SACWIS Implementation Team

Child Protective Service Coordinator – Position 2

Summary of Activities from May 2011-June 2012

The person in this position has been successful in providing greater statewide consistency in child welfare practice through extensive reorganization and development of new and revised child welfare policy, administrative rules and guidelines including the following:

- Oregon Administrative Rules which includes the definition of terms for screening, assessment, notice and review of founded dispositions, and safety analysis for DHS and law enforcement cross reporting; child abuse assessment dispositions; daycare facility investigations; and assessing safety service providers.
- Revised the Oregon Administrative Rule that guides service and plan development.
- Re-wrote the policy that describes how to create a case record, including development of naming standards.
- Revised protocol for child fatality reviews, critical incident review teams, sensitive issue reviews, and case practice for addressing a new baby on an open assessment or open case.
- Created and revised forms and pamphlets, including a form for notifying perpetrators of the founded disposition against them and their rights to appeal the finding.
- Revised a tool to assist caseworkers in conducting CPS case reviews for quality control purposes.
- Coordinating Founded Dispositions reviews.
- Facilitated rule advisory committees.
- Served as policy expert in trials.
- Assisted with reviews of critical cases.
- Facilitated CPS case reviews for quality assurance.
- Reviewed child abuse and neglect fatalities.
- Analyzed Legislative Bills, as needed.

In addition, this position works closely with other agencies and community partners representing child welfare on a variety of workgroups and committees such as:

1. Rule Advisory Committees
2. Founded CPS Assessment Disposition Review Committee
3. CPS and Office of Investigations and Trainings meetings
4. Forms Committee
5. Policy Council
6. Law Enforcement Data Systems meetings
7. State Child Fatality Review Team
8. Rule Writer's workgroup

Summary of Training Activities

- Provided 20 hours of Mandatory Reporting Training to child welfare and child protective services caseworkers, other DHS staff, community partners and to the legislature.
- Developed training plans for implementation of all new and revised rules.

.5 FTE - Family Based Services Consultant	
CAPTA Sections 106(a)(1), 106(b)(C)(ii), and (iii)	CPS Areas All 16 areas

This .5 FTE Family Based Services (FBS) Consultant position ensures the quality and consistency of child safety practice and policy for two Districts encompassing six counties in Oregon. The person in this position works in coordination with four other FBS Consultants within the Office of Child Welfare Programs, under the supervision of the Child Protective Services Program Manager.

The person in this position consults with child welfare caseworkers and supervisors to guide in the application of the Oregon Safety Model to maintain children safely in their home or to reunify them with their parents as quickly as possible.

In addition, the FBS Consultant trains staff and provides ongoing feedback about changes in practice. These efforts increase consistency in practice across the State.

Objectives

- Provide statewide technical assistance and direction to District Managers, Child Welfare Program Managers, supervisors, caseworkers and community partners on the implementation, management and evaluation of FBS programs and practice.
- Evaluate effectiveness of FBS policy, performance, service delivery and outcomes.
- Develop and implement goals and objectives for policy and training in collaboration with other state agencies.
- Improve communication between the central program office and local field offices.
- Conduct quality reviews of FBS child welfare practice, procedures and performance.
- Provide technical consultation to child welfare and other DHS staff, community partners and the general public on sensitive, high profile and high-risk family abuse situations.
- Provide technical assistance and feedback to the state CPS Program Manager about current practice issues involving field staff.

Summary of Activities from May 2011-June 2012

- Oregon Safety Model (OSM) Implementation: Consultant continues to train and consult via practice forums and supervisor/case worker quarterly meetings on the OSM.
- Provided ongoing consultation related to Oregon Family Decision Meeting and Child Safety Meeting procedures.

- Developed best practice procedures for use by caseworkers and supervisors. Topics include: development of an initial in-home safety plan; conditions for return of child(ren) safely to their homes; assessing the protective capacity of parents; and the use of the Child Safety Meeting to engage extended family members.
- Assisted in the development and implementation of Oregon’s In-Home Safety and Reunification Services (ISRS) training.
- Provided regular and ongoing training and consultation focused in areas of safety planning, in-home safety, and reunification services, six domains and conditions for return.
- Participated in the statewide review of randomly selected in-home safety plans to identify areas of concern and develop consistent practice. This involved reviewing multiple cases and in-home safety plans each month. When a safety plan was found to be inadequate, the FBS consultant followed up with the caseworker and his supervisor. This was an extremely helpful although time consuming process which assisted field staff by using specific cases as learning tools for understanding safety planning, conditions for return and ISRS services.
- August 2011, assisted the Linn County branch with piloting the new SACWIS system.
- September 2011, provided on-site support to the Marion County branch office as they were the first branch to fully implement the new SACWIS system in the state.

Trauma Response Training	
CAPTA Sections 106(a)(1), 106(a)(6), (7) and (8)	CPS Areas All 16 areas

Trauma Intervention Programs of Portland/Vancouver provided the following training related to DHS’ Trauma Response Model:

- Gave a presentation to the DHS Workgroup on May 9, 2011.
- Provided two additional Trauma Response consultations to the DHS Workgroup.
- Provided training at the Keizer Community Center on November 15, 2011. Training topics were:
 - What to Say and What Not to Say
 - Death Notification
 - Understanding Emotional Shock
 - The 5 Emotional First Aid Skills
 - What Family Members Need After a Sudden Death
 - Care vs. Cure
 - The One Characteristic of Emergency Responders Which Survivors of Tragic Events Value Most

Outcomes: Improving the skills, qualifications and availability of individuals providing services to children and families, and the supervisors of such individuals, through the child protection system, including improvements in the recruitment and retention of caseworkers.

Child Welfare Alcohol and Drug Addiction Education and Training	
CAPTA Sections 106(a)(1), 106(a)(6)(A) and (C), and 106(a)(13)(B)	CPS Areas All 16 areas

Eric Martin delivered alcohol and drug addiction education and training modules to child welfare caseworkers and parents involved with child welfare. The continued increase in opiate and marijuana addiction led to the increased number of trainings offered on these topics. The contractor researches current effectiveness of evidence-based and best-practices in alcohol and drug treatment and education. From July 01, 2011 through June 30, 2012, 28 one-day training sessions were provided regionally to child welfare staff on:

- Best Practices in Case Planning for Clients with Methamphetamine Abuse/Addiction;
- Clients with Heroin Addiction and Working with Methadone Maintenance Treatment Programs;
- Clients with Marijuana Addiction; and
- Working with Marijuana Users and Clients with Alcoholism.

Marijuana education and intervention classes for parents involved with child welfare will continue in Clackamas, Washington, Multnomah, Lane and Linn counties. Real-life scenarios and strategies on how to work more effectively with addicted clients is part of this training module. Speakers share experiences about their addiction, recovery process and working with staff from state agencies. The topics of opiate and marijuana addiction are the most requested based on the increase in use of both of these substances and their connection to medical marijuana and pain management issues.

Other CAPTA Funded Programs

Investigations of Suspected Medical Neglect	
CAPTA Sections 106(a)(1), 106(a)(9)(A), (B) and (C)	CPS Areas All 16 areas

A portion of our CAPTA state grant is set aside annually to contract with medical providers to assist in Investigations of Suspected Medical Neglect as required by Public Law 98-457, which requires the State to respond to reports of suspected medical neglect, including reports

of withholding medically indicated treatment for disabled infants with life threatening conditions.

In these cases, medical professionals provide neonatology and consulting services to clients referred by the Department of Human Services (DHS), and to DHS staff when necessary, to determine whether reasonable medical judgment is being applied by attending physicians and hospital sites where clients are being assessed.

Due to the sensitive nature of these cases and the specialized skills required to complete the investigations, DHS has designated a child welfare staff person in each of the three cities having tertiary care centers (Portland, Eugene and Medford) to be a specialist in Medical Neglect investigations. These Medical Neglect investigators, along with the CPS Program Manager, are available for telephone consultation and will form a special investigation "team" including a designated medical professional and a local CPS case worker on cases of medical neglect.

Differential Response	
CAPTA Sections 106(a)(1), 106(a)(1), (4), (10), (11) (13)(A), and (14)(A)	CPS Areas All 16 areas

Oregon is continuing its planning and design efforts to implement Differential Response.

Summary of Activities from May 2011-June 2012

DHS is continuing to work toward the integration of differential response into the State's current practice. A Differential Response Manager was hired in October 2011 to help lead these efforts. Focus groups were assembled and led by Action for Child Protection which was awarded a contract to help implement differential response. These focus groups occurred in September 2011 and included field staff, supervisors, program managers, families, tribal community members, other partners and providers.

In addition, two teams have been established to oversee the system development and provide guidance. These teams are (1) the Core Team and (2) the Design Team. The Core Team is comprised of differential response staff, program managers, district managers and the Director of Child Welfare. This team provides guidance, support and mentoring to the Design Team. The Design Team is comprised of various community partners/providers, program managers, data and program analysts and differential response staff. This team meets one time each month where team members guide decisions about the philosophy of the model, the nuts/bolts of the practice, policy changes and training needs. Discussions

center on the parameters of the system, policy needs, and creation of a unified model with built-in capacity for local service delivery adaptation.

In April 2012, DHS hired four Safety and Reunification Coordinators to support the statewide development, integration and implementation of differential response. Action for Child Protection and differential response staff presented differential response orientations across the State to stakeholders and community providers/partners. Follow-up meetings are being scheduled to orient DHS staff to the differential response model.

Future Planning – July 2012 through July 2013

In the next year, it is expected that DHS will finalize the specifics of the differential response approach as it is integrated with the State’s current CPS response model, the Oregon Safety Model. Regular meetings will take place between DHS staff and community partners to refine the specifics of differential response in each community and to define expectations and responsibilities. In addition, DHS will continue to meet with key legislative members about our current practices and new approaches to safely reduce the number of children coming into foster care by implementing differential response.

CAPTA Citizen Review Panel Annual Reports	
Section 106 (c)	CPS Areas All (Panels Option)

Oregon has three active Panels located in Multnomah, Jackson and Malheur counties. These counties represent demographic, economic, social and political populations found throughout Oregon. In the same way, our Panels provide a diverse perspective of recommendations and activities related to child protective services delivered to children and families. The Department of Human Services’ Office of Child Welfare Programs contracts with child abuse intervention (assessment and advocacy) centers in each of these counties to carry out the work of the Panels.

These Citizen Review Panels receive guidance and technical assistance from the CAPTA grant manager.

Oregon CAPTA Panel Annual Report

County: Jackson	Time Period: 7/1/2011 - 6/30/2012
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Panel Members

Name	Agency
<i>Chair:</i> Roxann Jones	Senior Project Coordinator, Commission on Children & Families
<i>Support Staff:</i> Michelle Wilson	Development Director, Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)
Josh Miller	Intake Supervisor, DHS Child Welfare
Mary-Curtis Gramley	Executive Director, Family Nurturing Center
Diana Hamilton	Program Manager, Jackson County Victim Witness
Jennifer Mylenek	Executive Director, CASA
Marlene Mish	Executive Director, Children's Advocacy Center
Michelle Pauly	Deputy District Attorney, Jackson County
Rene' Wold	Program Coordinator, The Job Council
Melissa Wolff	Branch Manager, DHS Child Welfare
Keltner, Leila	Medical Director, CARES Northwest
Montgomery, Dawn	Community Member (formerly with DHS, Child Protective Services)
Roelandt, Diane	Juliette's House
Stolebarger, Christine	Community Member (former parent mentor, now working for DHS)
Taylor, Ruth	Parents Anonymous, Morrison Center
Underhill, Rod	Multnomah County DA's Office

Alternate Members

Name	Agency
Lisa Smith	Program Manager, CASA
Dawn DelRio	Clinical Supervisor, Family Nurturing Center
Josh Miller	Intake Supervisor, DHS Child Welfare
Mary-Curtis Gramley	Executive Director, Family Nurturing Center
Diana Hamilton	Program Manager, Jackson County Victim Witness
Jennifer Mylenek	Executive Director, CASA

Other Attendees

Name	Agency
Pam Bergreen	Branch Manager, DHS Child Welfare
Mary Chambers	Unit Supervisor, DHS Child Welfare
Karla Carlson	Supervisor for Screeners, DHS Child Welfare
Rosemary Jernigan	Supervisor, DHS Self-Sufficiency
Anna Loeffler	Volunteer Coordinator, Children’s Advocacy Center
Kelly Packard	Caseworker, DHS Child Welfare
Jodi Matheny	Caseworker, DHS Child Welfare

Meetings

Date	Time	Location
July 20, 2010	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
August 17, 2010	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
September 21, 2010	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
October 19, 2010	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
November 16, 2010	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
January 18, 2011	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
February 15, 2011	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
March 15, 2011	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
April 19, 2011	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
May 17, 2011	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC
June 21, 2011 (scheduled)	3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	CAC

Activities

The Jackson County CAPTA panel contracted with an outside facilitator to conduct three focus groups around the topic of teens in foster care. The following groups were represented in the focus groups: youth in care or who had been recently returned to their parents’ custody; CASA’s; foster parents; child welfare workers; mental health workers; developmental disability service caseworkers; and Independent Living Program staff. The primary goals of the focus groups were to: 1) determine what foster care looks like for teens in Jackson County; 2) discuss how we could improve the child welfare system for teens, caseworkers, foster parents, ILP, and CASA’s; and 3) what we need to change or build into the system for programs like CASA, mentors and foster parents who serve the teen foster care population.

Several themes emerged from the focus groups, and our panel identified the following areas that the panel could explore supporting: 1) relationship building; 2) system communication/collaboration; 3) mentoring; and 4) training.

The Jackson County CAPTA panel had recommended to the State in our 2009 Annual Report the need for mentoring type relationships for adolescents in the foster care system. Based upon the additional information we gleaned from the focus groups that we conducted, our panel agreed to pilot two mentoring projects in Jackson County that would serve youth in the foster care system. The duration of the projects was from January 2011 through September 2011. Provided below is a description of the two pilot projects for which we provided funding during the year:

1. *CASA's Mentoring Youth to Independence (MYTI)* is an advocacy/mentor-driven program, utilizing volunteers to advocate for services for youth preparing to age out of foster care and to provide mentorship beyond each youth's wardship. The vision is to help ease the transition into adulthood from foster care for older youth and to provide them with a positive mentor relationship to support them as they grow into independent adults. The project served 8-10 youth ages 14 and older in permanent foster care. The youth completed a goal assessment at the beginning of the MYTI program and at the end of the year to record progress. MYTI focused on 4 key areas: life skills, job readiness, education, and living options/plans.
2. The Children's Advocacy Center's *Reach for the Stars* mentoring project served 8-10 adolescent girls in foster care to participate weekly in a group mentoring project that is based on evidence-based practices. The benefits to these youth include increased self-esteem, increased relationship and communication skills, increased skills in setting and maintaining healthy boundaries, and increased ability to make positive decisions for their lives. The desired outcome is to decrease risk factors and increase protective factors such as resiliency and positive mental health. The youth were provided with a community volunteer mentor and experienced weekly activities that included meal preparation, craft projects, outings, and reflective activities such as journaling and group sharing. The project was measured through written assessment by both the participants and staff members.

We reviewed two cases whose status was still open in the child welfare system at the time of the review. The first case was a critical injury case involving a toddler that had been founded for Threat of Harm due to parental substance abuse issues. The second case our team reviewed was a multiple referral case involving a toddler resulting in the child being placed in relative foster care due to founded Threat of Harm.

In both cases, much of the team's discussion focused on on-going supportive services either for the parents or the relative foster care placement, not only while the case is open but directly following the decision to return children or develop a permanency plan with a placement resource. Family support services are used to strengthen the ability of families to care for their children and quite often are tied to eligibility factors based upon the status of the case. Removing these supports too early can adversely impact the family's ability to safely continue to parent their child.

Another area of discussion was whether or not there is a central place for DHS, law enforcement, and the courts to learn if a person who comes into their caseload is involved with one of the other systems. A centralized system would be a prudent way for agencies to work together to ensure the safety of children. While some systems do exist for this, they are not all used by all agencies. More consistency in this area would give all parties more complete information when making decisions which could impact the safety of children in families who come into contact with these agencies.

Recommendations/Responses

Recommendation – Our panel recommends that DHS/Child Welfare continue to explore and expand supportive services to caregivers to ensure that during the reunification process, important services are tapered off at an appropriate level and new community resources are enlisted for the long term. This will ensure that families who have been experiencing a high level of supportive services do not find themselves resource poor during a difficult transition period in their lives, resulting in a lowered chance for success and ongoing child safety.

DHS Response – *This recommendation is consistent with the needs and development of children and their families during the reunification process. It will be forwarded to the Family Based Services consultant who oversees the contracts for time-limited reunification services.*

Recommendation – We recommend that DHS/Child Welfare work with law enforcement and the court systems to develop a centralized system that would allow the agencies to crosscheck system involvement. This would enhance the effectiveness and collaboration among the systems and, most importantly, provide better outcomes for child safety.

DHS Response – *The Department utilizes databases such as OJIN and LEDS to conduct background checks on individuals of interest. These databases enable the agency to crosscheck involvement with courts (including restraining orders, criminal and civil cases) and law enforcement (criminal charges).*

Recommendation – We recommend that DHS continue to work proactively to allow timely referrals and connection of children in the system to supportive services. We recommend that mentoring programs with proven positive results be invested in for youth in the foster care system, with a high priority placed on offering this resource to teens, especially those who may age out of care without a permanent family support system.

DHS Response – Currently, there are projects such as Powerhouse and Oregon Mentors, which provide mentoring for teens. Oregon Fostering Youth Connections has also identified this area as a priority.

Looking Ahead

We look forward to being informed of DHS’ response to our local CAPTA recommendations in a written report as information becomes available. We appreciate the opportunity to assist the State of Oregon in improving our child protective services system in its goal of ensuring safety, permanency and well-being of children in our communities.

**Oregon CAPTA Panel
Annual Report**

County: Multnomah	Time Period: 7/1/2011 - 6/30/2012
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Panel Members

Name	Agency
Andrew, Rachel	Lt., Portland Police Bureau C.A.T.
Baker, Teresa	CARES Northwest
Baynes, Beth	Health and Social Services, Multnomah County Education Service District
Brandel, Judy	Multnomah County Health Dept.
Dowling, Kevin	CARES Northwest
Gibbs, Karen	DHS, Child Protective Services
Goldstien, Kim	CARES Northwest
Green, Miriam	DHS, Child Abuse Hotline
Harding, Michelle	Parent Mentor
Kendoll, Skylar	DHS
Keltner, Leila	Medical Director, CARES Northwest

Montgomery, Dawn	Community Member (formerly with DHS, Child Protective Services)
Roelandt, Diane	Juliette's House
Stolebarger, Christine	Community Member (former parent mentor, now working for DHS)
Taylor, Ruth	Parents Anonymous, Morrison Center
Underhill, Rod	Multnomah County DA's Office

(Note the CAPTA Panel does not have bylaws regarding membership. The names listed below are those who attended at least 50% of the quarterly meetings.)

In addition to the members listed above, others who assisted the work of the Multnomah County CAPTA Panel included:

Name	Agency
Gotch, Katherine	Multnomah County Parole and Probation
Jewell Jensen, Cory	Center for Behavioral Intervention
Ovelmen, Keith	Janus Youth Programs – Cordero House
Swanson, Judith	Multnomah County DA Office

Meetings

Quarterly meetings were held:

- August 5, 2011
- November 4, 2011
- February 3, 2012
- May 4, 2012

All meetings were held at Emanuel Hospital from 11:00am – 1:00pm. Our work continued to focus on developing practice guidelines for DHS staff to enhance effective intervention in cases of child sexual abuse.

In addition to the full CAPTA Panel meetings:

- A "Core Writing Group" met monthly at CARES Northwest to draft chapters of the practice guidelines. This group was comprised of members of the CAPTA Panel, as well as experts from the community; and
- The CAPTA Panel sponsored a training on the "Dynamics of Sibling Sex Abuse" on July 13, 2011 at Emanuel Lorenzen Center.

Activities

The CAPTA Panel continued to focus on promoting children's safety by evaluating the current practices and policies at DHS regarding their response to child sexual abuse. Our goal was to develop practice guidelines to assist DHS workers in responding to these types of cases.

The CAPTA Panel-sponsored training on the "Dynamics of Sibling Sex Abuse" was attended by 67 caseworkers, as well as members of the CAPTA Panel. Various community professionals with expertise in working with child offenders and victims were brought in to present.

August 5, 2011: A quarterly CAPTA Panel meeting was held with 18 attendees present. As in the past, we brought in community experts and used case presentations to help us better understand specific topics, as well as the challenges faced regularly by DHS workers. This meeting focused on child pornography and the internet. Detective Erin Schweitzer, a member of the Project Intercept Task Force that investigates cases of child pornography, shared information about their tri-county team, which issued about 300 search warrants last year.

The meeting also included a presentation by Cory Jewell Jensen from the Center for Behavioral Intervention. Corey presented on "Pornography, the Internet and Criminal Sexual Behavior."

The case presentation involved two siblings whose father's computer was seized after it had been linked to child pornography. The father's children were not in any of the photos, and the children had made no disclosures of abuse. The Panel discussed questions such as "What threat does the father pose his own children?" and "If the mother does not believe that the father poses a threat, will she be able to keep their children safe?"

There were 15 attendees at the November 4, 2011 meeting. The main topic was supporting child sex abuse victims. Kim Jacobowitz, an Intake Counselor at CARES Northwest and a member of the Multnomah County Family Support Team, provided a PowerPoint presentation and then a case review involving a young girl who had been brutally sexually assaulted by her uncle. Kim highlighted the importance of addressing trauma in therapy and reviewed different types of therapy used for trauma victims. The group talked about how there is a lack of mental health therapists in our community with training in trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy for children who have been sexually abused.

On February 3, 2012, the 18 CAPTA Panel attendees addressed the topic of "Sexual Abuse between Siblings and Other Young Children." We heard from representatives of multidisciplinary teams from Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties who work to address cases involving children under 12 who sexually act out on other children. It was the first time the different County teams had come together. They shared information on case triage, membership of their respective committees, and the services they are able to offer.

At the May 4, 2012 meeting, we plan to focus on the topic of "Teen Consensual Sex." Specifically, how should DHS respond to cases involving "consensual" sex between a teenager and an adult? How do other community agencies respond to those types of cases? As we have in prior meetings, we plan to have a community expert present on the topic, and then review a DHS case to highlight the challenges to our community in helping these teens.

At each of the CAPTA Panel meetings, we provided updates on practice guidelines being developed for DHS caseworkers to assist them in assessing cases of alleged child sexual abuse. Sections include:

- Understanding Victims of Child Sexual Abuse
- Understanding Sexual Offenders
- Familial Sexual Abuse
- Threat of Harm Sexual Abuse
- Sexual Abuse between Siblings and Other Young Children
- Teen "Consensual" Sexual Abuse
- Child Pornography
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Intervention and Case Planning

Subcommittees

The "core writing group", led by Skylar Kendall and Karen Gibbs of DHS and involving numerous experts on topics related to child sex abuse, gathered at CARES Northwest for 2-hour monthly meetings to review relevant research and draft chapters of the practice guidelines.

Future Plans/Next Steps

The practice guidelines project has been progressing well, and we anticipate a draft (estimated 200-250 pages) will be completed by early June 2012. We plan to contract with a technical writer to produce a final document by the end of August 2012. The practice

guidelines will be available online and in print. We anticipate using the guidelines as the basis for training caseworkers on responding to child sexual abuse.

Recommendations

The Panel recommended DHS develop practice guidelines for DHS caseworkers to assist them in assessing cases of alleged child sexual abuse.

- With the support of DHS, the CAPTA Panel initiated this project in 2010. We expect to complete the project by August 2012.

Looking Ahead

The Multnomah County CAPTA Panel's last meeting is scheduled for August 3, 2012. We intend to have the practice guidelines completed and ready for distribution by the end of that month.

Acknowledgements

We want to acknowledge the ongoing commitment of the Panel members and attendees, who gave of their time and expertise, and who made it a priority to participate on the CAPTA Panel despite the many other demands on their time. We appreciate the collaborative approach they brought to the meetings and their commitment to promoting the safety and well-being of our community's children.

This had been a particularly challenging year, as we learned in September 2011 that the CAPTA Panel contract we had with DHS for more than a decade would be ending the following month. Our CAPTA Panel was very concerned about the timing of the contract's end given the fact that we were in the middle of a multi-year project. With the CAPTA Panel's encouragement, DHS agreed to establish a contract extending funding for the Panel's work through August 2012. We are very grateful to DHS for their willingness to listen to the Panel's concerns and for their ongoing support of the project.

As in the past, we would like to thank the Multnomah County DHS staff who participated as Panel members and who came to present cases for review. Their willingness to patiently explain policies and procedures, share their successes and frustrations, and answer questions about casework served as the foundation for the work of the Panel.

In particular, Karen Gibbs and Skylar Kendall of DHS have been instrumental in the development of the practice guidelines. It is because of their leadership, commitment and passion for helping protect children that the practice guidelines have been created as a

resource to their DHS colleagues and for all professionals seeking to enhance their ability to respond effectively to children and families coping with an allegation of child sexual abuse.

<p>Oregon CAPTA Panel ANNUAL REPORT</p>

County: Malheur	Time Period: 7/1/2011-9/30/12
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Panel Members

Name	Agency
Chair:	Project DOVE
Co-Chair: *Jennifer Fugate, Lead Advocate	Project DOVE
*Susan Johnson, Fiscal Coordinator	Project DOVE
Claudia Wilcox, Board Member	Treasure Valley Children’s Relief Nursery
Bobbi Rudell	Malheur County CASA
*Dennis Savage	Malheur County CASA
Jane Padgett	DHS
Kelly Poe, Executive Director	Malheur County Commission on Children & Families
Angie Uptmor	Malheur County Commission on Children & Families
Tanya Ebbers, MSW Intern	Northwest Nazarene University
*Anne Bolin, Student	Treasure Valley Community College
Wendy Hill, Region 14 Manager	DHS
Sharron Kipling	DHS
*Theresa Mairs	The Family Place
Onie Mansor, Executive Director	The Family Place
*Vicky Espinoza	Malheur County Child Development Center – Head Start
*Susan Robinett	Malheur County Child Development Center – Head Start
*Sue Faw	DHS Child Welfare
*James Aalgaard, Minister	St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
*Kelley Richardson, Family Law Attorney	Oregon Law Center
*Perry Tolman, Bishop	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

*Christine Phillips	DHS
*Juli Gundle, Student	Eastern Oregon University

An asterisk (*) denotes a new member who joined during the reporting year. A highlighted name denotes a member who left during the reporting year.

Meetings

- July 21, 2011
- August 18, 2011
- September 15, 2011
- September 27, 2011
- September 28, 2011
- October 20, 2011

Activities

In July 2011, the CAPTA review panel met. Holly Dominick called Chris Phillips on a conference call. Chris shared some information regarding an issue discussed at the previous meeting (6/16/11). She explained that while our case reviews were lengthy and at times repetitious, condensing them was not a fair option to the panel. She suggested that our panel should be presented with all the case information in order to make an appropriate and informed review of a case. After discussion the panel agreed that those in attendance asked for more time to read the cases. Two weeks in advance was suggested. Chris stated that we could get the case on the Wednesday a week before the meeting. So at our next meeting, August 18, 2011, we will be reviewing the case that Chris has already worked at redacting. We can expect to receive the case review by Wednesday, August 10, 2011.

The August 18th meeting was canceled.

In the September 2011 meeting, there was no case review as the focus was on spending funds available until this grant year ended at the end of September 2011. There was discussion about a community training opportunity with Corey Jewell Jensen. The purpose of case reviews was discussed. DHS responded that the purpose was to examine the system and make recommendations for system improvements and changes. CAPTA panels were funded in only 3 counties of Oregon: Malheur, Jackson and Multnomah. The question was asked, after a review where does the information go, and do we get feedback from that information? Other questions posed were regarding annual reports and financial reports. Meet again in September to allocate remaining funds to the Corey Jewel Jenson seminar and additional expenses.

During the October 2011 CAPTA meeting an update was given to the group on Cory Jewell Jensen coming to speak to the community in April 2012. Although this group will not receive further funding from the state, the need for a review process remains. A proposal was made to form a Child Welfare Review Committee to begin meeting in January 2012. Current members of this group will be encouraged to attend, and additional members will need to be recruited, especially child advocates.

State CAPTA Coordinator Contact Information

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