

CIP Committee Meeting Minutes
Conference Call
August 8, 2011
3:00 – 5:00 (CT)

Attending: Judge Davis, Amy Benda, Sharon Kallemeyn, Virgena Wieseler, Vicki Burger, LuAnn Van Hunnik, Becky Morlock-Reeves, Tony Benning, Todd Schlekeway

UJS Staff: Sara Kelly and Karn Barth

Absent: Judge Myren, Dave Valandra, Roxie Erickson and Marty Graves

New Member: Committee members welcomed Senator Todd Schlekeway to the committee.

Children's Justice Conference:

Updates: Sara Kelly reported as of Thursday, August 4, Rapid City had 73 registrants and Sioux Falls had 61 registrants.

Transportation of guest speakers: Sara Kelly stated she had a state vehicle to transport Ashley Rhodes-Courter and Timothy Travis from Rapid City to Sioux Falls. Lisa Fleming and LuAnn Van Hunnik will transport the guest speakers from the American Humane. The other guest speakers live in South Dakota and will transport themselves.

Room attendants and registration table: Sara Kelly asked for committee members to assist in staffing the registration table and having a room attendant for any needs the guest speaker may have. Becky Morlock-Reeves and Amy Benda will help out where needed at the Sioux Falls conference, Judge Davis stated he will help out where needed at both sites. Vicki Burger will staff the registration table in Sioux Falls. Virgena Wieseler and LuAnn Van Hunnik will staff the registration table in Rapid City. Amy Benda offered her staff's assistance in Sioux Falls and LuAnn Van Hunnik offered her staff's assistance in Rapid City.

Permanency Planning/Hearings: Virgena Wieseler stated the agency is rolling out the new court report format statewide and plan to have it completed by the end of the year. The agency is introducing it in phases to local offices. The committee was given a sample of the report. The children's justice conference will be the platform used to introduce the new court report.

Virgena Wieseler stated child protection services (CPS) is working on improving permanent planning for children in foster care. CPS is exploring ways to make the agency more accountable for permanent planning and goals. Virgena stated one idea is to ask CASA programs to assist with holding local CPS agencies accountable for permanent plan. Virgena stated CPS would like to conduct in-service training with the local CASA

programs. Amy Benda stated she is open to the in-service training. Virgena stated the Alternative Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) work group will finalize an in-service training agenda and then approach each of the local CASA programs. Sara Kelly asked if there is a need for training funds; Virgena stated she will let Sara know after an agenda is set. Virgena stated CPS is putting together a checklist for attorneys on what to look for in a permanent plan, what the expectations should be and how to hold CPS accountable. The committee brainstormed on ways to get the check list to attorneys. Sara stated she could mail it out to current certified abuse and neglect attorneys. Sara will also check with the UJS IT department to see if the check list can be attached to the training video for future certified attorneys, and the UJS website. Sara will also contact the state bar and ask they will add it to their newsletter.

Term limits: Sara Kelly asked the committee if they wanted to keep the committee term limits at three and five years or eliminate the staggered years, since the committee is now staggered and it won't lose a majority of members in one year. Karn Barth stated UJS committees are setting term limits to four years. The CIP Committee agreed to four year terms. Sara confirmed with Todd Schlekeway that four year term is acceptable for him. Sara will change the committee's roles and responsibilities overview sheet to reflect this change.

Other: Virgena Wieseler stated CPS was approached by American Humane to participate in the evaluation of Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) in the Rapid City area and implementation of FGDM statewide.

LuAnn Van Hunnik stated CPS submitted a grant proposal to American Humane to implement an early intervention response model. The early intervention response model involves holding a Family Group Conference on neglect cases where CPS has determined the need for immediate response in order to try to prevent placements. If children are placed in emergency situations that don't allow time for a meeting before placement, CPS will hold a meeting shortly after placement to try to develop a safety plan to return children home as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55

Next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2011.