

**Juvenile Court Improvement Program Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2021  
Via Microsoft Teams**

Juvenile & Family Court Programs Division  
1133 Chemeketa Street NE, Salem, OR 97301  
1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS</b>			
X	Hon. Lindsay Partridge, Marion County Circuit Court		Hon. Eva Temple, Umatilla and Morrow Counties Circuit Court
X	Hon. Rebecca A. Duncan, Oregon Supreme Court	X	Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn, Multnomah County Circuit Court
	Hon. Norm Hill, Polk County Circuit Court	X	Hon. Karen Ostrye, Hood River County Circuit Court
X	Lacey Andresen, Deputy Director, DHS		Daniel Schneider, Training Specialist, Child Welfare Partnership, Center for Improvement of Child & Family Services
X	Mark Hardin, Retired Director, Child Welfare Center on Children & the Law, American Bar Association	X	Jessica Lloyd-Rogers, President, Marion Polk Foster Parent Association, CRB Member
X	Darin Mancuso, Foster Care Ombudsman, Governor's Advocacy Office	X	Shaney Starr, Oregon Casa Network & Casa of Marion County
X	Gail Schelle, Adoptions Program Manager, DHS	X	Rebecca Jones Gaston, ODHS Child Welfare Director
X	Keren Farkas, Deputy General Counsel, Office of Public Defense Services	X	Joanne Southey, Deputy Chief Counsel, Civil Enforcement Division, DOJ
X	Amy Miller, Executive Director YRJ	X	Adam Becenti, Director of the Office of Tribal Affairs, DHS (Christine Kamps stood in)
X	Tom Maxwell, TCA Douglas County Circuit Court	X	Kim Keller, ODHS
X	Timothy Phipps, Morrison Mentor	X	Sam Stephens, Former Foster Youth
<b>INTERESTED PARTIES</b>			
<b>JFCPD STAFF</b>			
X	Nanci Thaemert, Director, JFCPD	X	Heidi Strauch, Programs Manager, JFCPD
X	Jayne Cooper, ICWA & Model Court Analyst, JFCPD		Megan Hassen, Senior Juvenile Law Analyst, JFCPD
X	Amy Benedum, JFCPD Program Analyst	X	Yousef Allouzi, Data Analyst, JFCPD
X	Nikki Hahn, Management Assistant, JFCPD		

## **I. Welcome & Introductions –**

**Approval of Minutes from (March 8 and May 7, 2021) Meeting** – Hon. Lindsay Partridge

## **II. Reports:**

- a. Self-Assessment and Strategic Plan for final year of 2017-2021 grant cycle—Yousef Allouzi

Retrospective report is due June 30<sup>th</sup>. A draft is ready for review and finalization.

- b. CIP Grant Application for 2022-2026 grant cycle—Jayne Cooper

New application is also due June 30<sup>th</sup>. Working on putting together the new grant. Is a 5 year grant cycle. Had a lot of staff turnaround in 2020. Now that fully staffed, able to better decide where to best to focus.

- c. JCIP Grant Assessment Subcommittees: Update—Heidi Strauch

Nikki will be setting the first subcommittee meetings. Each committee will have a JCIP staff member to facilitate. Reports with program recommendations will be due to the Advisory Committee in February.

- d. Juvenile Data Dashboard—Yousef Allouzi

Shares the data dashboard screen. Explains the different screens of statistical information. Some of the data comes from DHS. OJD staff have access to individualized case information. The public-facing side only has aggregate information.

Purpose of use for court staff will depend upon per county need, but generally to look at trends, statewide and county by county. Judge Partridge-uses data to see where court can improve numbers. Sometimes contacts other courts for input and their process. Gail Schelle-uses the data to report to federal groups.

ORICWA contains new data reporting requirements, which we are working on implementing.

### **III. Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)**

#### **a. Adoptions Data**

Statewide numbers have improved, passed goal.

Gail Schelle-numbers have been steadily improving over the last couple of months. Has been a lot of work being done by staff. Overall struggle has been from time child comes into care until finalization. Have more ability to control these numbers.

Judge Partridge-which date is being used? Date from termination signature or date from appeal finalization.

Legally free date is from final mandate for the appeal. Fewer cases are being appealed.

### **IV. Discussion Topics:**

a. Sam Stephens-supporter of HB 2505 would like removal of underlying bias in DHS for removals. Would like more insight from DHS when an accusation is made rather than a quick overview.

b. Eyes and Model Court Summit Planning – Heidi Strauch

Close to finalizing the agendas.

c. Rubric for Targeting Counties for Family Treatment Court Roll-Out—Heidi Strauch

Mia Ruston is the analyst implementing grant. Make sure existing treatment courts have what they need to implement best practices.

Are there any stakeholders who would like to meet to discuss which counties may be ready for FDTC roll-out?

Judge Partridge-if legislature doesn't approve bill, is issue dead? Heidi: Not necessarily, but currently lacks stakeholder consensus. If the bill does not pass we have plans to develop a multi-disciplinary workgroup to work on pulling together a consensus plan before the next legislative session.

Mia Ruston-lists the current and previous counties with treatment courts. Some have been put on hold due to COVID.

Judge Ostrye-Wasco County is going to try and open treatment court to all JD7 courts. FDTC are mostly mothers whose children are in care, sometimes there is a criminal case involved. It is voluntary involvement. Stakeholders come together during staffing to discuss progress of participant and services being received.

Judge Partridge-in Marion, participant had certain requirements to follow, otherwise a contempt may be followed. Often there was an incentive, such as housing, in order to participate in FDTC. When housing options went away, participation in FDTC declined.

Judge Holmes Hehn-hard to know where to expand or pilot due to the vast array of county resource availability.

Joanne Southey-interested in participating in what may be best practices model.

Keren Farkas-Columbia County has a successful FDTC due to strong resources, whereas Clatsop was not as successful and did not have as much access to housing, etc.

Heidi Strauch-main component is getting counties to best practices.

Rebecca Jones Gaston-came from Maryland. Some counties/courts had treatment courts.

- d. September meeting: Remote, live, or hybrid?—Heidi Strauch

Exploring options for hybrid.

Judge Holmes Hehn-likes the hybrid choice, likes to appear remotely if possible.

Joanne Southey-also prefers hybrid/remote appearance.

e. JCIP Supplemental Funding

Money left over from federal government due to COVID. Opportunities to use funding to expand access for participants remotely.

**V. Upcoming Events**

- a. Through the Eyes of a Child Conference and Model Court Summit:  
August 9-10, 2021

**VI. Next Meeting:** September 13, 2021; 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.