

**Juvenile Court Improvement Program Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes – Enter Date September 13, 2021  
Via WebEx**

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
	Hon. Rebecca A. Duncan, Oregon Supreme Court		Hon. Amy Holmes Hehn, Multnomah County Circuit Court
	Lacey Andresen, Deputy Director, DHS	X	Hon. Karen Ostrye, Hood River County Circuit Court
X	Mark Hardin, Retired Director, Child Welfare Center on Children & the Law, American Bar Association	X	Daniel Schneider, Training Specialist, Child Welfare Partnership, Center for Improvement of Child & Family Services
X	Darin Mancuso, Foster Care Ombudsman, Governor's Advocacy Office		Jessica Lloyd-Rogers, President, Marion Polk Foster Parent Association, CRB Member
X	Gail Schelle, Adoptions Program Manager, DHS	X	Shaney Starr, Oregon Casa Network & Casa of Marion County
X	Keren Farkas, Deputy General Counsel, Office of Public Defense Services	X	Rebecca Jones Gaston, ODHS Child Welfare Director
X	Amy Miller, Executive Director YRJ	X	Joanne Southey, Deputy Chief Counsel, Civil Enforcement Division, DOJ
	Tom Maxwell, TCA Douglas County Circuit Court	X	Adam Becenti, Director of the Office of Tribal Affairs, DHS
X	Sam Stephens, Former Foster Youth		Timothy Phipps, Morrison Mentor
X	Greg Montgomery, BFSD Data Analyst & Research Manager	X	Jennifer Holman, ODHS, Reunification Manager
X	Kim Keller, ODHS, Child Permanency Manager		
<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	X	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		
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**I. Welcome & Introductions – Heidi Strauch**

**Approved Amended Minutes from June 14, 2021 Meeting –Judge Partridge**

**II. Reports:**

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

Response from feds updating and recommending approving the 2017-2021 grant cycle.

- b. CIP Grant Application for 2022-2026 grant cycle—Jayne Cooper  
Tentatively been approved for this grant cycle. Strategic plan document is still active.

- c. CIP Meeting with federal partners (9/9/21)—Heidi Strauch

Follow up meeting, item 6 on ODHS PIP, timely achievement of permanency; area for improvement. Recommendation of Judge training regarding parent engagement. Involvement of stakeholders.

Judge Partridge: what is judge training issue from feds?

Heidi Strauch: Mentioned motivational interviewing, novice judge connection and mentoring, JELI is actively working on this piece.

Sam Stephens: need to have representation that matches ethnicity of party. Is there youth involvement in any court training?

Heidi Strauch: Historically there have been panels with youth involvement that speak with judges, etc.

Mark Hardin: regarding permanency goals to DHS, shared goal, judicial process is major barrier to timely permanency. More a systemic resolution than training or demonstration projects.

Judge Ostrye: regarding motivational interviewing training, prior training in spring of 2020 that was helpful.

d. JCIP Grant Assessment Subcommittees: Update—Heidi Strauch

Jayne Cooper: global update; subcommittees were created and are fully underway, welcomes any suggestions or comments on topics to be directed to facilitator of subcommittee.

JCIP-Tribal subcommittee: has had two meetings so far, have developed a lengthy list of areas for improvement, ready to tackle phase 2; root-cause analysis. Have been in touch with tribal affairs partners to help work through root-cause analysis. Looking at creating a charter.

Quality legal rep subcommittee: had first meeting in July, appointed co-chairs. Still looking at the data, will be identifying areas and needs that can be impacted and improved.

Amy B: working on improving quality of hearings, heard from feds, strongly encourages improved enhanced hearings, strong qualitative component, focus on initial court appearances and reasonable efforts hearings. Narrowing in on outlines, have not done a root/cause analysis yet. Discusses possible projects for this subcommittee.

Yousef Allouzi: Updates on Joint JCIP/DHS subcommittee project. First couple of meetings have been getting familiar with the change management process. Been looking through data. Communicating with federal partners to understand data.

Mark Hardin: Good committee to link with capacity building for courts.

Jayne Cooper: Frequent topic in subcommittees is challenge with lack of resources for volume of cases.

Jennifer Holman: Requiring a hearing in order to return to parent may play role in length of time to permanency.

e. Juvenile Data Dashboard—Yousef Allouzi

Displays latest Time in Care data page. “Other” category is likely aging out or transfer of custody.

Judge Ostrye: aging out is important, wonders about separating that out.

f. Legislative Update—Heidi Strauch

Presents PowerPoint, two main bills that passed; (SB 279) visitation during school hours and (SB 85) changes to qualified residential treatment programs.

Jayne Cooper: discusses SB 562 (ORICWA)

Joanne Southey: SB 279-missing school for court, discussion at OJD?

Heidi Strauch: understanding is that it does not apply to court hearings, just parent visitations.

Jayne Cooper: many model court teams have been discussing remote appearances and what have been helpful.

Heidi Strauch: have had discussions about hybrid CRB appearances to preserve access to availability.

Shaney Starr: CASA has received an increase in funding. Ability to develop training and increased support to CASA's statewide. Improving quality delivery across state.

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

#### **a. Adoptions data**

Gives update on adoption period 4/2021-6/2021

Mark Hardin: asks about the effects on the data from COVID

Gail Schelle: still having trouble with timeliness to permanency with adoption

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

#### **a. Eyes and Model Court Summit Debrief – Heidi Strauch**

Reviews the survey results from 2021 conference

#### **b. JCIP Supplemental Funding Update—Megan Hassen**

Megan Hassen: Updates legislative COVID funding; chose to improve access to court hearings remotely. Have received five local applications to improve technological equipment for remote hearings.

Substantial funds are left over. Requests interest in committee to determine funds usage.

Pilot program for text messaging for court appearance is in the works.

Received one request for statewide staff to coordinate parents in custody to appear for court appearances.

Have until 9/2022 to obligate the funds and 12/2022 to spend the funds.

c. Shoulder to Shoulder Conference Funding Request—Megan Hassen

Megan Hassen: received an application for program support. JCIP has historically funded these requests. Changing to support specific line items for funds and speaker fees.

Amy Miller: how well known is it to the public about receiving JCIP funds?

Megan Hassen: not aware of outreach other than posting to website and word of mouth. Prior knowledge/people are no longer with JCIP, taking recommendations for outreach and usage.

Judge Partridge: possibly discuss opportunity at model court meetings along with criteria.

Nanci Thaemert: OJD just enacted a subrecipient policy that makes it more difficult to hand out money. Can pay directly to speaker.

Judge Partridge: historically grants were determined by a subcommittee then sent to advisory committee for approval. Committee recommends the approval of funds for funding requests. Gives historical perspective about JCIP grant funding

d. Protective Custody Orders—Heidi Strauch

Relays concern about protective custody orders remaining open such as voluntary cases or no removal. Law enforcement not knowing which ones are active. Establish a formal business process to handle these.

Judge Partridge: should be a DHS issue, vacate order. Issue should be put on agenda for December.

Joanne: check in with workgroup to see if was ever addressed.

e. New business

Heidi Strauch: adding brief stakeholder reports to agenda in future?

Joanne Southey: if there is an update, email ahead of time to add to agenda

**V. Upcoming Events**

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