

TASK FORCE ON CROSSOVER YOUTH DATA AND INFORMATION SHARING

MEETING NOTES

December 1, 2016

10:00am – 2:00pm

Arizona State Courts Building, 1501 W. Washington

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Conference Room 345 A & B

Chair: Hon. Craig Blakey, Ret.

I. Meeting Called to Order at 10:00am

II. Welcome New Members

- Dr. John Vivian
- Jim Lovett
- Steve Selover

III. Roll call

Present: Hon. Craig Blakey, Ret., Leslie Cooper, Diane Culin, Sandra Diehl, Ellen Grein, Susan Hallett, John Jackson, Angela Kirsher, Lauren Lowe, Cory Lustig, Elaine Maestas, Teresa Manning, Therese Martin, Eric Meaux, Amy Stuart, Hon. Joan Wagener, Regina Rodriguez and Robert Shelley

Not Present: Zarina Aguilar, Shelly Curran, Lillian Downing, Pete Hershberger, Casie Lightfoot, Jim Lovett, Hon. Margaret McCullough, Sarah Murillo, Hon. Kathleen Quigley, Steve Selover, Sloane Steele and Dr. John Vivian

IV. Approval of the October 25, 2016 meeting minutes

V. Preparing Recommendations

1. Judge Blakey advises that the Task Force must have its recommendations to the Chief Justice by September 1, 2017, and wants to start on a rough draft today.
2. The Task Force was split into smaller groups. Each group represented a different agency, i.e., Education, Behavioral Health, Juvenile Probation, Department of Child Safety and Court. Members from other agencies were then encouraged to share ideas and concerns with the silo they were participating in and report back.

VI. Group Discussion and Activity

1. Behavioral Health Recommendations:

- Behavioral Health shall share with Department of Child Safety and Juvenile Probation the assessments that they have on youth including mental health, substance abuse, treatment plans and recommendations, as well as CHILD AND FAMILY TEAM recommendations, psychological and psychiatric evaluations, and crisis plans within 7 business days of request by Department of Child Safety or Juvenile Probation.
 - Recommend that child's attorney also be provided all behavioral health assessments and recommendations.
- Behavioral Health shall convene a CHILD AND FAMILY TEAM meeting within 10 business days of request from Department of Child Safety or Juvenile Probation.
- Behavioral Health shall notify the child's attorney in a dependency case and if there is an attorney in the juvenile justice system of the CHILD AND FAMILY TEAM meeting. Many times these attorneys have information that may be helpful.
- Training of each other's systems on what information can be shared and how it can be shared.
 - Suggestion to provide this at PO academies and meetings at Department of Child Safety, Juvenile Probation and Behavioral Health.
- Behavioral Health shall share monthly progress notes, discharge summaries and recommendations within 5 business days. Department of Child Safety sometimes receives these but Juvenile Probation does not.
- Would like Department of Child Safety and Juvenile Probation to have access to the Health Information Exchange.
 - Concern that Health Information Exchange is a Medicaid-based system and unsure how much of the juvenile justice population would be part of this.
- If unable to have access to Health Information Exchange, need statutory changes to assist Juvenile Probation and Department of Child Safety with easier access to this information. Require Behavioral Health to disclose records to Department of Child Safety and Juvenile Probation within 10 business days of a written request. Also include in statute that Department of Child Safety and Juvenile Probation are prohibited from secondarily disseminating that information.
 - Concern that Department of Child Safety has discovery obligation to share information with parents and the court.
- General discussion was held regarding parent's and child's rights to having this information shared.
 - Need to specify what information is needed to provide necessary services.

- Hope to avoid a court order requiring this information.
- General discussion was held regarding a Guardian ad Litem being assigned to an existing delinquency case if there are concerns with the family and if a dependency case should be opened.
 - Maricopa County routinely assigns a Guardian ad Litem which often results in making the child a crossover youth.
 - Pima County assigns Guardian ad Litem to investigate situation. For any private dependency petitions that are filed, Department of Child Safety will investigate and provide a report to the Court.
 - Coconino County has an informal agreement that the prosecutor would request a Guardian ad Litem.
 - Concern with parents having to go through more services when case is assigned to Department of Child Safety.
 - Concern brought up that a Guardian ad Litem is being assigned purely to obtain funding for certain placements.
 - Suggestion was made to have the attorney assigned to the Juvenile Probation case file a pleading requesting a Guardian ad Litem.
 - Suggestion to have Department of Child Safety offer voluntary services to family without filing a dependency petition.
 - Suggestion to have Judges explain to parent(s) that a Guardian ad Litem is being assigned to investigate their home situation involving all children. This can help persuade families to get involved in services.
 - Court can request parent(s) to participate in services even if Department of Child Safety is not involved.
- Suggested recommendation is to have the same funding and services available to Juvenile Probation as is available to Department of Child Safety.
- Suggested recommendation to create a team/designee that will review a mandatory reporting situation prior to contacting Department of Child Safety. Work together to see what services can be put in place to avoid opening a dependency.
 - Concern that necessary abuse or neglect reports will not be made.
- Suggested recommendation to have Department of Child Safety provide kinship information without having to open a case.
 - Kinship databases are available for purchase. The State of Arizona could possibly purchase the database and make it available to Juvenile Probation and Department of Child Safety.

VII. Next Steps

- Next meeting will be January 31, 2017.

- Recommendations from today’s meeting will be sent out to members for their review prior to next meeting.
- Judge Blakey suggested including “training” as a component to be considered.

VIII. New Business – None

IX. Call to the Public – No issues raised.

X. Meeting Adjourned at 2.05 pm