



Child Forensic Interview Advisory Committee

April 12, 2021

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

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Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Members Present:
Jay Howell, CFIAC Chair
Alan Abramowitz, CFIAC Co-Chair
Erick Quevedo, Designation and Certification Subcommittee Chair
Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen
Brandy Macaluso
Maureen Honan
Stephanie Cox
Valerie Stanley
Kelly A. Swartz
Alison Cowell
Theresa Simak
Staff Present:
Erica Puckett
S. Nicole Jordan
Marceller Hines

Welcome & Roll Call:

- Meeting started at 1:02PM.

Report Review:

- Review of meeting agenda
- Review of report format, structure, and timeline.
- Review and discussion of:
 - Background and historical context from Child Forensic Interview Task Force and CPT handbook.

Subcommittee Updates:

- **Designation and Certification Subcommittee:**
Erick Quevedo, Subcommittee Chair
 - Draft report language submitted.
 - Current focus of subcommittee members:
 - Development of Pilot Project.
 - Question development of basic child forensic interview training components.
 - CFIAC Members reviewed and voted to approve draft report language.
- **Court Orders Impacting Child Forensic Interviews Subcommittee:**
Alan Abramowitz, CFIAC Co-Chair and Subcommittee Co-Chair
 - There was no proposed bill to amend language in Section 914.16, Florida Statutes
 - CFIAC Members reviewed and voted to approve draft report language.
- **Law Enforcement Subcommittee:**
Theresa Simak, CFIAC Committee
 - Reviewed and discussed protocol Minimal Facts Interview and the following was discussed:
 - Discussion regarding pros/cons
 - Minimal Facts Interviews should 'not be recorded'
 - Definition of 'First Responder'
 - Definition of 'Victim'
 - Discussion regarding 'Leading Questions'
 - Including a limit to the number of adults present during interviews
 - Discussion regarding and proposal for each agency to have a minimum of one employee formally trained in child forensic interviews
 - Recognized that agencies may not have adequate personnel or resources
 - Each agency should have access to sworn personnel trained in child forensic interviews
 - Training recommendations for prosecutors.
 - Best Practices Discussion
 - Fees for child forensic interview training
 - Identified that DOH provide child forensic interview trainings at no-cost to CPT and Law Enforcement
 - CFIAC Members reviewed and voted to approve draft report language

Presentation - Expanded Interviews: Jackie Sandefer-Gonsen

- Introduced 'Expanded and Extended' interviews practice
 - Address and reduce multiple child forensic interviews with child victims
- Common experiences:
 - Children may remember additional details after an interview occurs
 - Research supports that expanded interviews does not reduce credibility of disclosure
 - The following populations may benefit Expanded Interviews:
 1. Victims of Human Trafficking
 2. Children with developmental delays
 3. Poly victimization
 4. Children extremely reluctant to disclose
 - Professionals in the state of Florida have indicated that Expanded Interviews have been effective for children in certain populations. In addition, some Child Protection Teams in Florida have utilized Expanded Interviewing, specifically with victims of human trafficking.
- Examples of 'Expanded Interviews':
 1. First meeting may be centered around building rapport
 2. Second meeting may entail discussion of one incident, time of incident, and details
 3. Third meeting may include discussion about additional incidents
 4. Reference of 'multiple meetings' within a single interview
 5. Multiple meetings are beneficial within a single interview
 6. Practice is occurring nationally
 7. There are training opportunities for 'Extended Interviews'

Recommendations:

- Use similar recommendation formatting from Task Force report.
- Submit revised recommendations for review and approval of full committee prior to next meeting.
- Recommendations should be clear and concise.
- CFIAC Members reviewed and voted to approve draft report language.

Next Steps:

- Next meeting will be scheduled at the end of April 2020 and a survey poll will be e-mailed to members to obtain meeting availability.
- Subcommittees will make draft report revisions as needed prior to next meeting.

Adjourned:

- Meeting adjourned at 4:47PM