



Kentucky Office of the Attorney General
General Meeting-Virtual
May 11, 2021
10:00 a.m. EST

Minutes

- I. Roll call and introductions: Cathy York, Chelsea Harrod, Christie Penn, Damien Sweeney, Rewa Zakharia, Angela Morris, Susan Rhema, Caroline Ruschell, Jackie Sugarman, Dily Pursley.
Guests: Theresa Gargan, and Laura Kretzer
- II. Review of minutes from March 9, 2021 meeting: Motion to approve the minutes made by Christie Penn. Motion seconded by Angela Morris. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Approval of Local MDT Protocols.

Protocol for the following 9 counties were reviewed:

Allen County, Daviess County, Henderson County, Hancock County, McLean County, Ohio County, Simpson County, Union County, Webster County

Caroline Ruschell stated that the Protocols for McClean, Union, and Webster Counties deviated from the Model Protocol in that their meeting frequency is every other month as opposed to every month. Discussion was held about the importance of meeting monthly regardless of caseload. Laura Kretzer stated that from June of 2020 through March of 2021, McClean County had five forensic interviews reported, Union County had twenty-two, and Webster County had eight.

Motion to approve the following MDT Protocols was made by Christie Penn. Motion seconded by Jackie Sugarman. Motion passed unanimously.

Allen

Daviess
Henderson
Hancock
Ohio
Simpson

Motion to table the vote to approve the following MDT Protocols was made by Rewa Zakharia. Motion seconded by Angela Morris. Motion passed unanimously.

McClellan
Union
Webster

IV. Committee Updates from State MDT Protocol Revisions:

Rewa Zakharia discussed her group's edits and shared them by providing a word document that was sent to all members. Changes were made to the Prosecutors, Law Enforcement, and Victim Advocate sections. Please refer to the attached document to review edits.

Laura Kretzer discussed her team's work on the different roles of mental health which included the consultative role, service provision role, and issues related to confidentiality. The team will be meeting with Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) to discuss their role on the MDT and discuss the CAC section of the Model Protocol.

Angela Morris stated that their group has discussed the mental health section of the Model Protocol and will be meeting to discuss other sections assigned to that team.

Caroline Ruschell discussed the need to put a list together of additional people that can provide input for the different sections of the Model protocol. Cathy York discussed obtaining technical advice from subject matter experts and to note the areas that the Commission needs assistance with.

V. Partner Updates and Announcements:

Angela Morris discussed Community Forums that are held twice every year to receive input from the public on ways to improve the Child Welfare system. Those recommendations are shared with the Legislative Child Welfare Oversight Committee. They are also hosting a series of webinars to collaborate between DCBS and the Courts that will include Court personnel and Judges along with DCBS staff and child welfare professionals.

Chelsea Harrod discussed the Cabinet's joint planning meeting with the Children's Bureau that included safety model updates and included all other branches within the Cabinet.

Christie Penn discussed the transition to the 988 system that will become operational in July 2022, which connects callers from across the country to a National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Dr. Sugarman stated that the initiative to train SANE nurses from across the state to respond to children who go to the ER with complaints of sexual assault begins in October of this year.

- VI. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Christie Penn. Motion seconded by Rewa Zakharia. Motion passed unanimously.

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