

**MODEL COURT WORKING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
DATE JANUARY 10, 2012**

Call to order: 12:15pm

Attendance:

Sahar Gipson, Joanne Karolzak, Ramona Panas, Cathy Hicks, Carol Punske, John A. Gauger, Karen Adam, Kathleen Quigley, Rebecca Manoleas, Anizza Scott, Brenda Flynn, Roxanna Matiella, Wendy Million, Cathleen Fitzgerald, Bob Heslinga, Sue Cuneo, Susana Samborsky, Tamara Sargus, Krista Germeroth, Rick Nunez, Beverly Tobiason, Sandy MacDonald, Chris Mautner, Cathleen Linn, Jane Butler, Gus Aragon, Francie Julien-Chinn, Laurie B. San Angelo, June Willson, Kim Rainey, Andrew Mendoza, Rik Schmidt, Jesus Diaz.

Collaborator Reports:

- CPS – Francie Julien-Chinn reported vacancies are being filled and new case managers are out in the field. There continue to be serious issues with placements.. There are no placements for teens at present. Governor’s Task Force report was released but there are no further details other than what was in report.
- CPSA – Haley Horton reported a new protocol and monitoring tool for children involved with CSPs was rolled out on January 9, 2012 to improve communication between the Community Service Providers (CSPs) and CPS Case Managers. This monitoring will be done quarterly. Haley is looking into ways to improve and expand collaboration with court staff on a consistent level not only addressing probation issues but issues concerning dependency as well.
- CASA – Ramona Panas announced Cathy Hicks, CASA Coordinator, started on December 19, 2011. Protocols for Judicial appointments of “crisis” CASAs are nearing completion. As of this date, there are nine new CASAs going to the Advocacy Academy. There were responses to the ads in December for recruitment of CASAs. Ramona also reminded committee of the March for Children event on March 30th and nominations for the Child Abuse Prevention awards are needed. Website address is www.marchforchildren.webs.com.
- DEPENDENCY UNIT – Anizza Scott added to Ramona’s last comment on March for Children; February 3 is the deadline to submit nominations. Anizza stated the pager used for intakes in the past was replaced with a cell phone with texting capabilities. Scheduling of Preliminary Protective Hearings is five to seven business days after removal and is strongly enforced. Anizza and Sue Brandt will be visiting CPS Intake Units to provide a refresher on the court intake process. Anizza handed out two year-end charts: case closures and substance abuse rates. There were 979 dependency petitions in 2011.
- FAMILY DRUG COURT – Chris Swenson-Smith announced an addition to the Family Drug Court staff, Recovery Support Specialist Andrew Mendoza. There are now three Recovery Support Specialists assisting the FDC Case Specialists. COMPASS Behavioral Health Care recently initiated a second cohort of Celebrating Families to accommodate more FDC families in this program. Haley interjected as a reminder that non-AHCCCS parents can go to any Community Service Provider and ask for substance abuse related services funded through SAPT funds. This does not cover their prescriptions.
- MEDIATION – Rebecca Manoleas reported that a workgroup continues its work on a protocol for custody and parenting time mediations. This is still in the preliminary process. Year-end figures will be available at the next meeting.
- FCRB – No report.

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Current Goals:

- Domestic Violence – Judge Adam passed out the list of members for the four workgroups: Assessment, Education, Intervention, and Coordination. The latter will be considered in the future. The handouts included the task and the Logic Model for each workgroup. Co-Chairs will be scheduling meetings for their particular group and reporting to the sub-committee. Judge Adam included an Op-Ed article on “Investing in Early Childhood” discussing how stress affects the biological mechanisms in infants and children.
- Back to Basics – No Report

Standing Committees and Continuing Goals:

- Courts Catalyzing Change – Chris Swenson-Smith recently obtained 2010 Pima County population data for children 0-17. All ethnic groups went down with the exception of Hispanics, who now make up 53% of all children. Education – Cathleen Fitzgerald announced two upcoming events: Winter Education Forum showing “Our Town” at the PCJCC Training Center on January 19, 2012 from 11:30am to 1:30pm and Career Day at Pima Community College on February 7, 2012 from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. Carol Punske reported that under the McKinney Vento Act children who are removed from families are eligible for transportation to their home schools for the remainder of the school year.
- Calendaring and Case Processing – Judge Cuneo mentioned sub-committee would discuss whether to continue as part of the Model Court Working Committee since original goals have been completed. Next meeting will be held on January 12, 2012.

Old Business: None

Adjournment: 12:50pm

Next Meeting on February 14, 2012
12:15pm to 1:30pm
PCJCC Training Center

