

Children's Services Review Panel (CAC) Minutes

April 28, 2025; 4:30 – 6:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/98236935012?pwd=1aQdPvVwuw8V310V5V3vYcJs7BcCem.1>

Members Present: Molly Evans, Ankit Sood, Casey Acord & Tonya Long

Ramsey County Staff: Alex Cleveland, David Herrera

MN Dept. of Children, Youth, and Families: Laura Gapske (DCYF)

Guests: Jill Gunderson-Gernes, Kristine Frick, Abby Latham, Jill Esch, Beth Blick (on phone)

Reminder of Agreements:

If you would like a copy of agreements, please reach out to Laura Gapske.

New Actions:

- Approval of March Meeting Minutes
- Recommendation of new panel members; Kat Ruth-Leigh, Beth Salz

Guest Speakers: Shani Green and Devon Gilchrist

Chair Update:

County Update: Alex Cleveland

DCYF Update:

Other CRP Projects:

Chisago County is focused on the state and county stat performance on the federal standards for medical exam timelines for children and youth in out of home placement.

Hennepin County continues to participate in the Collaborative Safety Model monthly meetings and bring back lessons/themes/strengths by evaluation of a child protection case throughout the life in the system.

Children's Justice Act task force projects: The CJA task force has three work groups; 1) Supporting funding for county and Tribal workers to have access to state and national basic and advanced forensic interview training. 2) Implementation of the Child Protection Labor Trafficking Response starting statewide on July 1 to advise and fund statewide trainings and protocol development for MDT's. 3) Address areas for improvement to parent, kin, and child/youth legal representation in CHIPS court hearings.

Bi-annual; National Citizen Review Panel Conference: A survey was sent out by the National Citizen Review Panel Advisory Committee to gauge interest in attending the National Citizen Review Panel conference in 2026. This would need to be budgeted into the next fiscal year's \$5,000. Expenses are approximately \$2,500 but

attendance is highly encouraged. San Diego and it looks like going back to Paradise Point for the dates of 5/31/2026-6/3/2026 is best!

One constraint that we are considering is that past conferences have received underwriting support that is no longer available, so the conference will need to be self-supporting with a registration fee of up to \$700. the registration fee will include at least (2) breakfasts and (2) lunches.

Foster Care Survey:

Next Steps: A logistics meeting and any additional questions will be address at a meeting between DCYF and Ramsey County next week. The conversation will be shared back with panel members for transparency purposes.

Map out Action Items and Timeline: Meeting between DCYF and Ramsey County next week. Meeting with DCYF CQI and IRB office.

Assign Tasks to Members: Gapske will reach out the CQI and start to review the DCYF IRB form.

Announcements/ Updates: None