

**Children Services Committee**  
**January 9, 2019**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

Tri Chairs: Heather Skeens, April Snead, Jennie Kristiansen

In attendance: See sign in for attached.

By telephone (counties): Do not have a list.

Heather Skeens recognized the Tri Chairs and apprentice.

The December minutes were reviewed. Melanie Corprew, Laurie Potter, and Vita Hamm's names did not appear on the minutes, were in attendance in December, and added to the minutes.

Kella Hatcher, Executive Director of the NC Child Fatality Task Force, presented information using a powerpoint presentation on the North Carolina Child Fatality Task Force and Its Role in the NC Child Fatality Prevention System. Kella explained that the Task Force is the policy arm of the system and does not conduct reviews of fatalities.

Terri Reichert and Emi Wyble from the Division of Social Services presented information using a powerpoint presentation on the Modified Manual which will become known as the Manual. The rollout is scheduled for January 14, 2019. It will be available on the website in the same location as the current manual. The focus of today's presentation is on intake and assessments. Future presentations will focus on other program areas. The January 14 release will include the language cleanup, consistent language with NCFast.

There was discussion about any adult living in the household being considered as a caretaker. They clarified that if there is a clear fire wall, locked door, and no interactions between the upstairs or downstairs, the adult is not considered a caretaker. Adult siblings living in the home are considered as caretakers. A question was asked about someone who is disabled. Another question was about an adult who lives in the home and has no responsibilities. The statute says any adult in the home. Lisa Cauley clarified that staff need to understand that the decision on who is a caretaker is being made at the point of intake based on the information received. Does the report meet the legal definition? If the report is initiated and a determination can be made about whether the adult in question is actually a caretaker. If you cannot decide at the time of intake, screen in the report. If the adult residing in the home does not have caretaking responsibilities as determined through the use of global assessment, then the adult may not be a caretaker. The definition and clarification has been provided by the attorney general's office.

There is a change in the flow chart for out of state decision making. If the child lives in another state, the parents live in another state, and the incident happens in NC, then it is sent to the other state. If the other state doesn't accept it, then NC does not do anything with it.

If there are multiple reports containing the same allegations, the reports are screened in and there is no new initiation as the allegations should have been addressed during the first report. If there are new allegations on an open report and the report is screened in and a new safety assessment is needed. Heather Skeens discussed that NCFast requires a new initiation date. Lisa Cauley said they need to look into that. We can only make one decision. The practice is correct, and we need to fix the technology.

Every reporter receives a reporter letter. There was discussion about NCFast pre-populating the letter with names, even if the names are not known at the time of the report. The state will look into this. Instructions for safe surrender are not included in the Dependency decision making chart. Staff need to read the instructions. NCFast is a service history, not a central registry system. Staff can use NCFast for screening reports because it pulls a services history similar to the 5027s. Case initiation requires all the children to be seen individually and separately. All children are considered victim children and all children must be seen for the initiation to be completed. Contacts are at least every 7 days, and more often as needed. In the Powerpoint on page 8, "services needed" should say "services recommended." Information was added about case participants, roles, and caseheads; NCFast terminology. The policy also includes how to determine the casehead: mother, father, female caretaker, male caretaker, youngest female child, youngest male child.

Kristin O'Connor, Section Chief from Child Welfare Policy and Programs presented information using a powerpoint presentation on Triple P - Positive Parenting Program. During the presentation, she explained that studies have found Triple P to be most effective when is population level saturation of Triple P on child welfare. The effectiveness of the program is in the investment in the system. Program fidelity must be maintained and there needs to be invested money in the infrastructure. The Family First Prevention Act is about building capacity to create better outcomes. Jason, a program manager from Wake County, talked about the history of Triple P in Wake County and lessons learned. Triple P was implemented in 2016 with 44 trained staff. In 2017, they utilized implementation support to reorganize how they were delivering the program and increase outcomes. The number of interventions from 2017 to 2018 increased 496%. He explained that staff would go to the lobby where parents were sitting with their children and present Triple P to them and provided information who to contact for more information. At re-engagement, they had 15-20 staff, and they had learned which staff needed to be included in future trainings. They targeted current foster care, prevention, and a few other areas. Wake County has a parent education unit which provides much of the Triple P instruction. Jason stated that they have not assessed the delivery impact or effectiveness of Triple P, ie social worker versus parent education unit.

Kristin explained the opportunity child welfare has to access additional funding through the Governor's Crime Commission to implement level 3 Triple P in all 100 counties. A powerpoint presentation includes the details. Under the application, approximately 30 counties would receive a social worker to provide Triple P services. The remaining counties will receive training for the in-home staff to use in their counties. Under the Family First Prevention Act, level 4 Triple P services will be part of the IVE dollars.

Lisa Cauley, provided updates on child welfare matters. The CCPT survey is due. The staffing survey is due at the end of the month. Please have staff review KinGAP materials. Trip funds are available to

help foster youth to be licensed drivers. Please email Kristin O'Connor if you are encountering barriers to this program. ACF will visit North Carolina on January 30 and 31, 2019. NCFast will rollout in Western paper counties on January 22. Teresa Strom is now the Section Chief for County Operations. The invites were sent out for the Eastern and Central court convenings. The effective date for use of the manual is May 2019. Please read it. They are phasing it in.

Due to a lack of time, the Implementation Science presentation will be moved to February 2019.