

**Governor's Task Force on Justice for Abused Children
Multidisciplinary Team Committee**

Organization and Responsibilities

March 14, 2001

Introduction:

In accordance with CGS Section 17a-106a, the Governor's Task Force on Justice for Abused Children establishes a committee identified as the Multidisciplinary Team Committee to fulfill the requirements of the above cited statute and other responsibilities deemed appropriate by the Task Force.

Purposes:

1. Establish and modify standards to be observed by multidisciplinary teams.
2. Review protocols of the multidisciplinary teams.
3. Monitor and evaluate multidisciplinary teams and make recommendations for modifications to the system of multidisciplinary teams.
4. Report and make recommendations to the Governor's Task Force on Justice for Abused Children, the Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families, State's Attorneys and others involved with the establishment and funding of the teams regarding individual team compliance with the Standards as established by the Governor's Task Force on Justice for Abused Children.
5. Identify and report to appropriate agency or organization regarding obstacles and barriers to compliance with standards.

Method:

The Committee will review the teams every three years in regard to (a) their protocols, (b) maintenance of standards, (c.) ability to achieve goals and activity and (d) outcome statistics. The review may include site visits and team member surveys.

The Committee will report to the Task Force, the Commissioner of DCF, the appropriate States Attorneys and others approved by the Task Force regarding the compliance of teams to the established standards.

The Committee will make recommendations to the Task Force regarding modifications in the Standards and system of multidisciplinary teams.

The Committee will periodically monitor and analyze composite team data and make recommendations based upon this data to individual teams and to the Task Force.

No identifying information regarding specific cases of abuse or neglect will be included in information collected by the Committee.

The Committee will determine procedures and rules which will permit the Committee to function effectively and efficiently. The Committee will develop procedures to permit recusal when conflict of interest arises for members.

Membership:

The Task Force will appoint members to the Committee for a term of three years. Members may succeed themselves. In the first year of the Committee, 1/3 will be appointed for a two year term, 1/3 will be appointed for three year term and 1/3 will be appointed for a four year term.

Representation on the Committee should be geographically distributed to represent as many judicial districts in the State as possible. At least two of the Committee Members must be members of the Task Force. The Committee should be comprised of a minimum of 15 members who represent each of the following agencies/ disciplines, have expertise in investigations of child abuse and neglect and represent the ethnic diversity of the state:

Department of Children and Families
Municipal Police
Department of Public Safety
State's Attorneys or designees
Assistant Attorney General
Physician
Mental health
Investigative interviewer independent of DCF and law enforcement
Multidisciplinary team coordinators
Victim advocate
Others as deemed appropriate by the Task Force

The chairperson for the Committee will be selected by the Committee.

Reporting Responsibilities:

The Committee is responsible to the Task Force.

The Committee will submit a report at least once a year to the Task Force, the Commissioner of DCF and the specific State's Attorneys associated with the teams monitored and evaluated.

Staffing Requirements:

Staff for the review process and coordination of meetings will be provided by the Task Force at a minimum of 40 hours per team review.