

## CJA Task Force Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, January 26, 2026, noon-2 pm

**Summary Statement:** The CJA Task Force is a federally mandated, multidisciplinary advisory board that reviews and evaluates statewide front-end child welfare policies and practices and makes recommendations to DHS and others for systemic, equitable improvements to promote children’s justice and well-being.

### Attendance:

Role (42 U.S.C. §5106c (c)(1)) (voting members)	Name	Present	Absent	Notes
1. Law enforcement	Barrett Chrissis			
2. Law enforcement	Wade Rasch	x		
3. Civil court judge	Judge Anderson			
4. Civil court judge	Judge Doll	x		
5. Prosecuting attorney	Adam Hinz			
6. Prosecuting attorney	Adrianna Whitney	x		
7. Defense attorney	Emmalie Brudzinski	x		
8. Defense attorney	Thomas Godfrey			
9. Attorney for children	Anne Gueinzus	x		
10. Guardian ad litem	Erika Randall	x		
11. Guardian ad litem	Sheri Johnson	x		
12. Health professional	Dr. Mark Hudson	x		
13. Mental health professional	Saprina Matheny	x		
14. Mental health professional	Anna Clavin			
15. Child protection services	Kari Hohn	x		
16. Child protection services	Jessica Iwen	x		
17. Parent representative	Joanne Hodgeman			
18. Parent representative	Tatiana Bergum	x		
19. Foster care survivor	Dawn Hyland			
20. Foster care survivor	Marlena Jasch	x		
21. Individual experienced working with children with disabilities	Kate Rickord	x		
22. Individual experienced working with children with disabilities	Tascha Just	x		
23. Individual experienced working with homeless children/youth	Dr. Mara Borges-Gatewood	x		

24. Individual experienced working with homeless children/youth	Lolita Davis-Carter	x		
25. Survivor of child abuse or neglect	DeClara Tripp	x		
<b>Role (non-voting members)</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Ad hoc – Corner House CAC	Jane Straub (CAC)	x		
Ad hoc -Minnesota Children’s Alliance	Marcia Milliken (CAC)	x		
Ad hoc -First Witness CAC	Tracie Clanaugh (CAC)	x		
Ad hoc -Ombudsperson	Jill Esch (OAIF)	x		
Ad hoc -CJI Representative	Rebecca “Becca” Vanden Hanen (CJI)	x		
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Muriel Gubasta (OBFF)			
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Misty Coonce (OOFY)	x		
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Manuel Zuniga (OBFF)			
Ad hoc-Ombudsperson	Ann Hill (OBFF)			
CYF American Indian Well-Being Unit   CSP Division	Nigel Perrote	x		
Ad hoc-DV Expert	Scott Miller			
Ad hoc-Lived experience/subject matter expert	Marvalyne Tripp	x		
Ad hoc-Lived experience/subject matter expert	Mel Alvar (PAVSA-Safe Harbor)	x		
Ad hoc-Subject matter expert	Katie Erickson			
DCYF CJA Task Force Coordinator	Laura Gapske	x		
DCYF CS&P Dept. Manager	Rebecca Wilcox			
DCYF CS&P Family Supp & Place Svcs Attorney/ CJI	Baudry, Jennifer L			
DCYF CS&P	Beth Chaplin	x		
DCYF CS&P	Amanda Lager	x		

1. Welcome
2. Task force member updates or announcements
  - Resignation of Brent Genereux due to work obligations
  - Four applications/interest in lived experience vacant seat
3. Action item: nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair for two-year term, Vote on confirmation of nominees.
  - Nomination of Tascha Just for chair by Kate R. and second by Anne G. Voted in by majority vote.
  - Nomination of Jessica Iwen for vice-chair by Dr. Hudson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kate R. Voted in by majority vote.
4. Action item: Vote on appointment of Delphine Nyabando, medical professional. Voted in by majority vote.
5. Action item: Vote on allocation of funds for Subject Matter Experts (SME) engagement for Workgroup C \$2,500. Vote approved by majority vote.

6. Update on RFP for FI scholarships
7. Review of the Safe Passages Child Fatality Report and give some insights for the CJA Task Force (Overview by Tascha Just)
8. Annual report and application upcoming---need workgroup committee updated workplans and reports
9. Comments from the public-None.
10. Break out time for workgroups and Annual Report Outline

Next meeting: March 16, 2026; noon-2 pm

Link: [CJA task force meeting \(full team, bi-monthly\) | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)