

## Council's Committee

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Location: **Microsoft Teams meeting**  
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Date: February 9, 2021  
Time: 1:00 P.M. CDT

**Staff Present:** Richard Kennedy, Exec. Dir., Craig Hargrow, Dep. Exec. Dir., Steve Petty, Dana Cobb, Gwendolyn Wright, Jennifer Jones, Jerri Moore, Jill Stott, Kristi Paling, Lindsey Cody, Rosalyn Leavell-Rice, Susan Cope, Shaun Noblit and Bill Latimer

**Staff Absent:** N/A

**Commission Members:** Ashley Dunkin (Chair), Ella Britt, Petrina Jones-Jesz, Allan Sterbinsky, Randy Butler, Stan Settles, Kelly Drummond, Wendy Shea and Steven Neely

**Commission Members Absent:** N/A

**Guests:**

- 1) **Call to Order – Ashley Dunkin, Chair**  
Dunkin called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. After roll call a quorum was ascertained.
- 2) **Approval of November 2020 Regional Council's Minutes (ACTION)**  
Dunkin asked for a motion to approve the Regional Councils meeting minutes from the November 2020 Commission Meeting.

***Bentley moved to approve the minutes from August 2020.  
Sterbinsky seconded. Unanimously Approved.***

## ***Approval of a proposed Children’s Advocacy Award (CAD) award “ The Friend of Children Award”***

Dunkin asked for a motion to approve the new CAD award “The Friend of Children Award”

***Bentley moved to approve the award.  
Sterbinsky seconded. Unanimously Approved.***

## **Children’s Advocacy Update (CAD 2021)- Sumita Keller**

Keller updated the committee regarding CAD 2021.

### **3) Staff Updates**

#### **Regional Coordinator Updates**

##### **Lindsey Cody- ETCCY**

Cody informed the Committee that the ETCCY and the East TN Foundation conducted an ACEs KMT Meeting in Oak Ridge, TN with Senator Becky Massey, and invited guests at K-9 SOS Kennels. ETCCY conducted their annual legislative event online on Friday, December 11, 2020 with guest speakers Judge Tim Irwin, Jane Jolley of the Knox County Mayor’s Office, Richard Kennedy of TCCY, Ben Harrington of MHAET, Charles Baumgardner of DCS, and Senator Becky Massey. The event was hosted by TSPN. ETCCY, UCCCY, and NETCCY are presenting “Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools” with guest speaker Becky Haas on Friday, January 29th, 2021 with TSPN as Zoom host. ETCCY, UCCCY, and NETCCY will continue their ACEs Education Series with guest speaker Mathew Portell, Principal of Fall-Hamilton Elementary School in Nashville on Friday, February 26, 2021 with our guest Zoom host TSPN. Regional Administrator completed adult jail monitoring at 19 facilities and delivered Juvenile Compilations to Courts and DCS Legal Offices.

##### **Jill Stott - NE**

Stott reported that she is a member of four Foster Care Review Boards (FCRB). Two of

those have been meeting virtually for several months, one is still being held in lieu of in-person with the Kingsport Judge and Stott has been working with DCS and Washington County Court to start having their FCRB. The first virtual meeting was January 20, 2021. Stott has conducted jail monitoring for all 26 jails and law enforcement facilities in Northeast Tennessee. Stott also met with Carter County jail as a follow-up to start tracking juveniles being held until they are picked up. Stott is joining the East Regional Administrator and Upper Cumberland Coordinator to provide a virtual training on Friday, January 29 from 9:00am until noon. Becky Haas will be the presenter for this ACEs Knowledge Mobilization training. This event is coordinated by the East Regional Administrator. Stott attends various regional meetings virtually such as Foster Care Review Boards, Community Advisory Boards, Anti-Drug Coalitions, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network, Bristol's Promise, 423 Unsilenced, Children and Youth Vision Council, Dawn of Hope and Johnson City and Kingsport Legislative Committee

## **Kristi Paling- UC**

Regional Coordinator Paling completed annual compliance monitoring for adult jails and continues to monitor juvenile detention facilities. Paling is partnering with Lindsey Cody and Jill Stott, ETCCY and NECCY respectively, to present "Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools" with speaker Becky Haas on January 29, 2021. Paling has a UCCCY virtual legislative event set for 2/12/21. Paling along with Regional Coordinator Jill Stott will provide leadership with the Eventbrite registration platform for CAD 2021. Paling participated in a community event with Power of Putnam, packing backpacks for the homeless in our region on December 19, 2020.

## **Susan Cope- MC**

Cope reported that she completed 100% of the annual compliance monitoring reports assigned to her. They included the Sumner County Juvenile Temporary Holding facility, five county jails, one police department, and two juvenile court holding facilities. MCCY held an election for new officers in November 2020 and these officers assumed their responsibilities in January 2021. MCCY is excited to announce that we now have a representative from all 13 counties in our region serving on our MCCY Board. Last year we had a total of 424 members. MCCY's membership includes our paid individual and agency memberships and our sponsorship memberships. We have grown from the membership of 53 in 2015 to 424 in 2020. MCCY membership is from January to December of each calendar year and membership renewals are now being sent in for FY 2021. The current 2021 membership count is at 93. Regional Coordinator Cope did not have a membership list in 2014 when she took over MCCY. In 2014 she only had four members who served on the MCCY Board. MCCY has made great strides in the last five

years and Regional Coordinator Cope wants to acknowledge her Board Members and the hard work they have contributed to make the MCCY a successful and active Council in the Mid-Cumberland Region. MCCY began planning a virtual legislative event in December 2020. SCCCY and SECCY joined MCCY in the planning for this event in January 2021. Thus far, we have had two meetings and will have another meeting the week of January 25th.

## **Shaun Noblit- SC**

Noblit and the South-Central Knowledge Mobilization Team are moving into the next steps to creating a trauma informed Maury County. The KMT has spent time focusing on training and collaborating with appropriate stake holders. Noblit and Kimberly Ladd (Maury County Prevention Coalition Director) met with Jennifer Drake-Croft about next steps for Maury County. Working off the 4 buckets approach discussed with Drake-Croft, the KMT will continue to connect and equip the community, while moving into the engaging and supporting stages. Noblit went to Madison, Alabama with other community and council members to pick up gifts for the foster children of South-Central Tennessee. One tractor trailer truck and two box trucks were needed to transport all the gifts. Noblit and SCCCY is working closely with Leavell-Rice, Cope, SECCY, and MCCCY on a joint legislative event. The event will be centered around the Civil Justice Subcommittee of Children and Families. The event will take place in March, with exact date to be assigned. Noblit performed compliance monitoring on all 13 south central jails and court holding facilities. Noblit also conducted site visits for Monteagle Police Department and Grundy County Jail.

## **Rosalyn Leavell-Rice-SE**

Leavell-Rice also completed 100% of the annual compliance monitoring reports assigned to her. They include the one temporary holding cell in Marion County, three juvenile detention facilities, ten county jails, four county courthouse holding cells, one prison, one sheriff's sub-station and seven police stations. SECCY along with Chattanooga 2.0's Early Matters ACEs Working Group is sponsoring a Train-the-Trainer Reunion on February 5, 2021. The event will include breakout sessions, virtual Bingo and guest speaker Jenn Drake-Croft. Drake-Croft will give an update on what is going on with BSB throughout the state. MCCY, SCCCY and SECCY will be having a collaborative legislative event. The date is pending. We have had two meetings and will have another meeting the week of January 25th. The plan is to have legislators from the Children's subcommittee speak.

## **Dana Cobb- NW**

Cobb stated the West Tennessee Virtual Legislative Forum, “The State of the Child: The COVID Impact,” was held on Friday, January 29, 2021. The Forum was a collaborative effort of the West Grand Division Regional Coordinators, Gwendolyn Wright, Memphis-Shelby County Regional Council, Jerri Moore, SW Regional Council and Dana Cobb, NW Regional Council. United Way West TN co-sponsored and was an integral part of the Forum’s success. Participants heard from experts in the fields of Health, Child Welfare, Education, Local Economic Impact and Mental Health. Senator John Stevens provided a presentation on COVID’s impact on the state budget and an update on Tennessee’s Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds. The Forum reached its capacity of 500 participants. Cobb transitioned into the role of President of the Rural Health Association of Tennessee. Cobb serves on the Executive, Finance, Policy and Conference Planning Committees. The Rural Health Association of TN hosted a very informative and successful annual virtual conference in November 2020. Cobb completed in-person compliance monitoring and reports on sixteen (16) NW facilities. The facilities included county jails, police department lockups, court holding rooms, the NW Correctional Complex (Prison) and Juvenile Detention Center. Cobb also attended the virtual OJJDP Conference in November, 2020, to learn about compliance monitoring changes in the Juvenile Justice Reform Act that will go into effect December 2021. On December 4, 2020, the NW and SW Councils held the last virtual Rural West Youth Services Officer Roundtable Meeting for the year. There were 22 attendees, representing 13 counties. Craig Hargrow provided an informational update on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Annual Conference. We also discussed issues that Youth Service Officers have been facing with COVID, Mental Health, and Department of Children Services. Condolences were extended to Madison County Juvenile Court Services staff on the loss of one of their Juvenile Detention staff to COVID. Cobb distributed the 2020 Juvenile Law Compilation books to NW judges and Juvenile Court staff, Department of Children Services legal staff, Juvenile Detention Center, NW jails and police departments, District Attorneys, Public Defenders and others.

## **Gwen Wright- Memphis Shelby**

The West Tennessee Virtual Legislative Forum, “The State of the Child: The COVID Impact”, was held on Friday, January 29, 2021. The Forum was a collaborative effort of the West Grand Division Regional Coordinators, Gwendolyn Wright, Memphis-Shelby County Regional Council, Jerri Moore, SW Regional Council and Dana Cobb, NW Regional Council. United Way West TN co-sponsored and was an integral part of the Forum’s

success. Participants heard from experts in the fields of Health, Child Welfare, Education, Local Economic Impact and Mental Health. Senator John Stevens provided a presentation on COVID's impact on the State Budget and an update on the Tennessee Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds. The Forum reached its capacity of 500 participants. Wright completed in-person Juvenile Justice compliance monitoring and reports on twenty-one (21) Shelby County facilities throughout the months of November and December. The facilities included area county jails, Memphis Police Department precincts and bureaus, Shelby County Court Holding Facility, Airport Police Department and the Shelby County Juvenile Detention Center. Wright distributed the 2020 Compilation of Selected Laws to Shelby County area jails, District Attorney, Juvenile Court Staff, Department of Children Services leadership and legal staff, Juvenile Public Defender's Office and others. Wright continues to participate in Memphis/Shelby County Community Advisory Boards, Councils, Coalitions, and Boards and continues to serve as chair of the Tennessee Community Services Agency Board of Directors.

## **Jerri Moore- SW**

Moore stated the West Tennessee Virtual Legislative Forum, "The State of the Child: The COVID Impact", was held on Friday, January 29, 2021. The Forum was a collaborative effort of the West Grand Division Regional Coordinators, Gwendolyn Wright, Memphis-Shelby County Regional Council, Jerri Moore, SW Regional Council and Dana Cobb, NW Regional Council. United Way West TN co-sponsored and was an integral part of the Forum's success. Participants heard from experts in the fields of Health, Child Welfare, Education, Local Economic Impact and Mental Health. Senator John Stevens provided a presentation on COVID's impact on the State Budget and an update on the Tennessee Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds. The Forum reached its capacity of 500 participants. On December 4, 2020, the NW and SW Councils held the last virtual Rural West Youth Services Officer Roundtable Meeting for the year. There were 22 attendees, representing 13 counties. Craig Hargrow provided an informational update on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Annual Conference. We also discussed issues that Youth Service Officers have been facing with COVID, Mental Health, and Department of Children Services. Condolences were extended to Madison County Juvenile Court Services staff on the loss of one of their Juvenile Detention staff to COVID. Moore completed in-person compliance monitoring and reports on fourteen (14) southwest facilities throughout the months of November and December. The facilities included county jails, police department lockups, court holding rooms, Wilder Youth Development Center and Madison Juvenile Detention Center. Moore also attended the virtual OJJDP Conference in November 2020, to learn about compliance monitoring changes in the Juvenile Justice Reform Act that will go into effect December 2021. Moore distributed the 2020 Juvenile Law Compilation books to southwest jails,

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District Attorneys, Juvenile Court staff, Department of Children Services legal staff and others. Moore participated in virtual meetings of SW Community Advisory Boards and Health Councils, Prevention Coalitions, and other statewide and local committees and advisory boards. The SW region was fortunate that most of these were able to continue to meet virtually throughout 2020. Moore was elected as the new co-chair for the Northwest Citizens Review Panel, re-elected as the Secretary of the Jackson-Madison Prevention Coalition and continues to co-chair the Children's Committee for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Region VI Policy and Planning.

## **Additional Items**

- 4) ***Motion to Adjourn was made by Britt and seconded by Sterbinsky.***

***Ashley Dunkin, Chairperson adjourned the meeting 1:47 PM.***

Prepared by: Dana Cobb