

Children's Justice Summit - 2009 Action Plan

DISTRICT 3
Goal: Develop a protocol for use of continuances in District 3
6 MONTH OUTCOME: Protocol developed and approved. Implementation plan and implementation to be developed within the next 3 months

ACTION STEPS	LEAD CONTACT	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
Form one workgroup, select chair	Chief Judge	5/28/09
Using two previous assessments, review for continuance reasons and impact on cases – ie. Delays of hearing and permanency timelines	Chair	
Interim report to Juvenile Court Committee	Chair	8/28/09
Discuss possible issues affecting continuances (including cultural issues) identify one change possible solutions, implementation, look at results, tweak or institutionalize changes	Chair	9/28/09
Develop protocol that documents changes		
Provide training to district team and other child welfare partners		
Report on success		
Create Form Order: 1.) check with District 4 2.) to delineate reasons for continuances 3.) cc. Court Administrator for monitoring		11/28/09

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GOAL: #2. Enhance Quality of Representation of GAL and Parents Attorneys

6 MONTH OUTCOME:

ACTION STEPS	LEAD CONTACT	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
Form workgroup to develop minimum expectations and reports to the court	Chief Judge	5/28/09
Use child, parent and foster parent surveys (5 th Judicial District)		ongoing
Develop a GAL and/or parent attorney form for District 3 implementation a.) insert statutory expectations into above report b.) notify attorneys of specialized juvenile training c.) discuss consequences for failure		ongoing
Ongoing surveys for parents, children and foster parents		5/28/09
Continue training and education for legal and other juvenile participants		ongoing
All hearings in court. Child participation is the rule rather than the exception.		ongoing
Encourage technology – Webcam/skype/etc.		ongoing

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GOAL: #3. Implementation of Family Interaction
6 MONTH OUTCOME

ACTION STEPS	LEAD CONTACT	TARGET COMPLETION DATE
Introduction of concepts about attachment/loss and benefits of interaction to district group		4/2/09
Training for stakeholders	Pat	6/30/09
Norma Ginther presentation to stakeholders	Pat A	5/19/09
Development of a protocol for plans, reports and orders in court	Juvenile Court Committee	6/30/09
Presentation of family interaction at summit	Pat/Jeff	5/28/09
Input from local committees	Judge	5/28/09
Roll out phased implementation	DHS	7/1/09
Review performance including surveys	DHS	10/31/09
Full-scale implementation	DHS	1/1/10