

## Children's Justice Summit – 2009

### ACTION PLAN

<b>GOAL: Educate Attorneys in Juvenile Court on Best Practices</b>
<b>6 MONTH OUTCOME</b> : Present to Bench Bar or by end of six months, present to Attorneys by county teams

Action Steps	Lead Contacts	Target Completion Date
Survey of Children and Parents.	Aprile Goodman	May 1, 2009
Contact Judge Owens regarding training on Best Practices in Juvenile Court - take to County Teams	Aprile Goodman	May 1, 2009
Training on Ethics in Child Welfare – Judge Owens already has a presentation		
<b>DISTRICT 8</b>		

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<b>GOAL:</b> Encourage and improve each Child's Court experience
<b>6 MONTH OUTCOME :</b> Training will be conducted

Action Steps	Lead Contacts	Target Completion Date
Develop handouts for children	Heidi Baker	
Training about Children's Rights – especially the right to be noticed about court and attend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is age appropriate? What criteria should be applied while making that decision?</li> </ul>	Heidi Baker	
Talk with 5 <sup>th</sup> District about the child surveys and report to court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Confidentiality issues</li> <li>- Who helps them to complete these?</li> </ul>	Deb Dice	
Explore space options in each courtroom for kid friendly space/accommodations/toys	Local GR8 Teams	
<b>DISTRICT 8</b>		

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<b>GOAL: Improve each child's educational experience</b>
<b>6 MONTH OUTCOME :</b>

Action Steps	Lead Contacts	Target Completion Date
Improve involvement of school teachers and personnel with DHS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Explore use of District 5 forms</li> <li>- Explore barriers (privacy laws, etc.)</li> </ul>	Deb Dice  Pat McAvan	
Distribute school education program done in Albia & Centerville throughout the Judicial District	Holly Karr-White	May 15, 2009
Fostering Connections trainings conducted locally to explain new federal law and requirements	Holly Karr-White	
<b>DISTRICT 8</b>		

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<b>GOAL: Reduction of Unnecessary Continuances Through Development of Protocol</b>
<b>6 MONTH OUTCOME :</b> Letters to Attorneys & protocol in place to reduce continuance including Training

Action Steps	Lead Contacts	Target Completion Date
Develop a Team to create letter of emphasis on reduction of unnecessary continuances	Deb Dice	May 1, 2009
Take to County level to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce the request for continuances</li> <li>- Reduce the number of continuances granted</li> <li>- Develop base Line</li> <li>- Motion &amp; Order state reason for continuance</li> <li>- Education/training</li> <li>- Hearing time be respected</li> <li>- Allotted time for hearing</li> <li>- Buy in through Judges' support</li> <li>- Use of Bench Bar Conferences</li> <li>- Prepared for case</li> <li>- Earlier notification of witnesses</li> </ul>	GR8  Deb Dice & Aprile Goodman	June 15, 2009
<b>DISTRICT 8</b>		

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