



SouthDakota

# MINUTES

## Jolene's Law Task Force

**Senator Deb Soholt, Chair**  
**Senator Alan Solano, Vice Chair**

**Second Meeting**  
**2016 Interim**  
**September 15-16, 2016**

**SD DOT Training Room**  
**Becker-Hansen Building**  
**Pierre, South Dakota**

**Thursday, July 28, 2016**

The second meeting of the Jolene's Law Task Force for the 2016 interim was called to order by Task Force Chair Senator Deb Soholt at 10:00 a.m. (CST) in the SD Department of Transportation Training Room within the Becker-Hansen Building, Pierre, South Dakota. Roll call was conducted, establishing a quorum with the following members of the Task Force in attendance: Senator Deb Soholt (Chair); Senator Alan Solano (Vice-Chair), Senator Jenna Hagggar, Representative Tona Rozum; Representative Peggy Gibson; Members Christine Bisek, Cameron Corey, Daniele Dosch, Dr. Nancy Free, Sherriff Barry Hillestad, Wendy Kloepfner, Ann Larsen, Angela Lisburg, Jolene Loetscher, TateWin Means, Hollie Strand, and Virgena Wieseler.

Additional coalition members in attendance included Carole Cochran, Tanya Fritz, Krista Heeren-Graber, Dr. Michael Lawler, Casey Murschel, and Suzanne Starr.

Support staff in attendance included Roxanne Hammond, Jason Simmons, Sharon Chontos and Rachel Oelmann.

Other attendees included Dr. Jay Perry (SD Board of Regents), Muriel Nelson (Children's Home Society), Mary Beth Holzwarth (Endeavor 52), Dr. Amy Schweinle (University of South Dakota), Dr. Troy Fuerst (public testimony), Reinhold Fuerst (public testimony), and two interns from the SD Network.

*NOTE: For purpose of continuity, the following minutes are not necessarily in chronological order. Also, all referenced documents distributed at the meeting can be found on the Department of Health website at <http://doh.sd.gov/news/JolenesTaskForce.aspx>.*

### **Approval of Minutes**

**SENATOR JENNA HAGGAR MOVED, SECONDED BY REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY GIBSON, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2016, TASK FORCE MEETING BE APPROVED. The motion prevailed by a voice vote.**

### **Remarks from the Chair**

Senator Deb Soholt welcomed the committee to the second meeting of the Task Force for 2016. Senator Soholt summarized the outcome of work conducted by the Task Force to date and facilitated a round-table introduction of committee, coalition, and other attendees. Additional opening remarks included summary of the two-day meeting agenda, focused on drafting goals and objectives for the 10-year strategic plan of the Task Force. Leadership of the meeting was delegated to Sharon Chontos, Project Manager with Sage Project Consultants, LLC, for facilitation.

The following depicts general discussion points and action items, organized by the goals within the draft strategic plan.

### **Goal A – Statistics & Benchmarking**

#### *Introduction and vision provided by Senator Solano (Vice-Chair)*

Senator Solano discussed past challenges as previously identified and documented by the Task Force throughout its work since inception in the area of data collection, consistent methodology utilization, and data record keeping among agencies and partners across South Dakota. Reference was made to the pilot agencies that participated in the initial data assessment conducted in 2015, and that the guiding principles of Goal A are largely in result of that work. Senator Solano advised the vision was to include a single-point data agency with management of an integrated database system in order to effectively monitor and ultimately predict indicators associated to child sexual abuse in South Dakota.

Sharon Chontos facilitated discussion on the specific language and intent of tasks within Goal A.

Following edits to the draft plan, Rachel Oelmann presented the Data Systems Questionnaire (developed by the Goal A subcommittee including Carole Cochran, Senator Deb Soholt, and Senator Alan Solano) and encouraged all partners and agencies within the state doing work in the area of child maltreatment to complete it. The questionnaire responses will be used to inform the plan and to lay the groundwork for initial efforts within statistics and benchmarking.

### **Goal B – Public, Private, and Tribal Health Priority**

#### *Introduction and vision provided by Senator Soholt (Chair)*

Guest speaker Mark Gildemaster (Department of Health) presented updated information from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey as discussed at the July 28, 2016, Jolene's Law Task Force Meeting.

Sherriff Hilstead noted his upcoming attendance at the Sheriff's Convention end of September, where he planned to foster conversations about statewide coordination of law enforcement training and awareness with regards to child sexual abuse.

Tanya Fritz (Children's Home Society) presented learnings from the Elevate Montana program for the group's consideration. A sub-group was formed to further refine associated objectives within Goal B related to the creation of trauma-informed and self/cultural healing communities.

Sharon Chontos facilitated discussion on the specific language and intent of tasks within Goal B.

### **Goal C – Mandatory Reporters**

#### *Introduction and vision provided by Senator Soholt (Chair)*

Sharon Chontos facilitated discussion on the specific language and intent of tasks within Goal C.

Presentation by Roxanne Hammond regarding current legislative rules and statute. Noted that the plan and resulting legislation (if appropriate) should include reference to a) firefighter/safe place authority, b) a training mechanism based on liquor sales & training, and c) inclusion of multiple modules within training. Hammond along with Senator Gibson also reviewed statute versus ARSD processes, and the roles and responsibilities of the Rules Committee for the knowledge of the Task Force.

Noted that the plan should in all circumstances use the term “abuse” versus “assault” to be consistent.

### **Goal D – Criminal Justice and Child Protection Services Response**

*Introduction and vision provided by Senator Soholt (Chair)*

Sharon Chontos facilitated discussion on the specific language and intent of tasks within Goal D.

Discussion included logistics around the upcoming MDT gathering in Watertown, SD, for the start-up of the planned pilot project in the northeastern part of the state. The Task Force further discussed length of prosecution of cases at present, noting that evidence-based prosecution and regional staffing (prosecutor) strategies should be considered. The group noted that longitudinal tracking measures should be added to Goal A – Statistics and Benchmarking to assess how long a child is “in the system” with regards to criminal or civil case prosecution.

### **Goal E – Public Awareness**

*Introduction and vision provided by Representative Peggy Gibson*

Introduction to campaign review process provided by Representative Peggy Gibson, resulting in selection of the Enough Campaign. Tanya Fritz and Representative Gibson outlined key components of the Campaign that could be leveraged in South Dakota, and emphasized that this campaign is thought to include current, relevant subjects (e.g. internet exploitation) more than comparable campaigns on the market. Jolene Loetscher offered insight into an online and social media strategy to be included in the Plan.

Sharon Chontos facilitated discussion on the specific language and intent of tasks within Goal E.

### **Goal F - Infrastructure**

*Introduction and vision provided by Senator Soholt (Chair)*

Senator Soholt prefaced the collaborative discussion surrounding supporting infrastructure for the work of Jolene's Law Task Force and the 2016-appropriated Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment at USD (the Center) with the following statements:

- The Center aims to recruit and hire a statewide director with statewide focus and reach in practice.
- The Center will have both an academic and non-academic scope; it is important that the bar be moved on transforming education at all levels (K-12, and secondary institutions) but also that the Center have an applied impact at the grassroots level among statewide partners.
- Elements of accountability need to be interwoven into the scope of work for the Center. USD has been selected as a key partner in this initiative and in creation of the Center due to its long history of accountability, checks and balances, and administrative oversight, thus making it an ideal partner for Jolene's Law Task Force.
- The scope of work before the Center is expected to evolve as more is learned in the area of child sexual abuse across the state through the work of the Task Force.
- The Center will likely require additional project management support at the outset to ensure the goals and objectives of the 10-year plan are smoothly and expeditiously implemented.

Sharon Chontos facilitated discussion on the specific language and intent of tasks within Goal F.

### Action Items

Interim action steps to inform the November planning retreat included:

Disseminate Center Director job description to task force members, namely TateWin Means.	Dr. Lawler
Complete the "Data Systems Questionnaire" to inform Goal A tasks.	All
Work to distribute Questionnaire (previously noted) within tribal partners.	Dani Dosch and TateWin Means
Foster conversations with law enforcement re: child sexual abuse training needs/expectations.	Sherriff Hilstead
Prepare summary statements re: YRBS data for further consideration by Task Force members, including the following variables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Youth forced to have sex</li> <li>- Youth that have considered suicide</li> <li>- Youth that have attempted suicide</li> </ul> Benchmark SD to national data. Define methodology processes so the Task Force can explain the data in conversation with others.	Mark Gildemaster
Weave in language/points from Safe Star from the National Indian Country Clearinghouse for Sexual Assault.	Sharon Chontos
Further define an action plan for trauma-informed and self/cultural healing communities (Objective B.2) through sub-group consisting of Tanya Fritz, Muriel Nelson, Jolene Loetscher, and Dr. Nancy Free.	Tanya Fritz
Review plan to ensure language used is consistent with statute.	Roxanne Hammond
Review SDCL 23-3-64(2) regarding inclusion of position types within "safety-sensitive" designation.	Roxanne Hammond
Review and edit objectives and provide three year budget estimates to Sharon Chontos by Monday, October 3.	Task Force Member

### Public Testimony

Dr. Troy Fuerst and his father Reinhold Fuerst provided public testimony of their awareness of the issue and progress made of the Task Force, of which they were in appreciation.

### Closing Remarks

Closing remarks were made by Senator Soholt, where the actions of the day were summarized and immediate next steps reviewed. Soholt challenged the Task Force to strive towards the interim action steps articulated in the two-day session to inform subsequent meetings yet this interim session. The Jolene's Law comprehensive work plan will change the landscape to end child sexual abuse in South Dakota.

**Adjourn**

**JOLENE LOETSCHER MOVED, SECONDED BY REPRESENTIVE PEGGY GIBSON THAT THE JOLENE'S LAW TASK BE ADJOURNED. The motion prevailed unanimously by a voice vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. Friday September 16, 2016.

DRAFT