

DEC 101:

How To Start a Drug Endangered Children
Team

Presented by members of the Sawyer County/ Lac Courte Oreilles DEC Team

Tibissum Rice

LCO Indian Child Welfare Caseworker

LuAnn Kolumbus, MSW

LCO Indian Child Welfare Director

HOW THINGS STARTED FOR US

CJA grant funded a position to coordinate Child Abuse Multi Disciplinary Team

Shortly after MDT meetings began in 2013, law enforcement said “lets do DEC”

DEC team started to form

NEED A PERSON WHO CAN BE THE LEADER/COORDINATOR

Appoint a person to take the lead. This person should be able to commit to the DEC Team development.

The point person must be organized, somewhat knowledgeable about how different systems operate and have excellent interpersonal skills.

BRINGING THE PEOPLE TOGETHER

Identify all of the agencies that will be involved: all Law Enforcement jurisdictions, Child Protective Services, etc.

Contact the heads of all of the agencies regarding what a DEC team is and if they would like to be a part.

Persistence, Persistence, Persistence.... Call, email, write letters, face to face appointments and call different people within the agency to get them engaged. If you're not at the table, you'll probably be on the menu.

FOOD

Use what ever you have to
get people to meetings

If you feed them, they will
come!

INCLUDE CLERKS AND RECEPTIONISTS

These hard working folks are your allies

They know the schedules

They know the case details a lot of the time

They can remind the investigator/DA/social worker about meetings and other important business.

PRE-PROTOCOL TRAINING

By Department Of Justice

Included CONFIDENTIALITY Training

Team Development

The DEC Model

ESTABLISH YOUR OWN PROTOCOL WORK GROUP

Need to get volunteers from as many agencies as you can to help write

Don't reinvent the wheel – look at examples of other protocols and use what you can to build your own.

**SAWYER COUNTY/
LCO DEC PROTOCOL**

We are more than willing to share our documents.

-Protocol

-MOU

DRAFT

Get legal representatives involved and County and Tribal boards

Get state (DOC) and federal agencies (IHS) to look at. They may be the ones who have issues about language and wording used in the document.

This review process can take a LONG time

Make sure that if the signing/review process gets drawn out that your agency heads are still willing to have their people work within the protocols

REVIEW

Protocol is a living document

Review at least annually or as needed

Make sure **EVERYONE** on the team reads them and understands them.

**INVOLVE YOUR LOCAL MEDIA
ABOUT YOUR TEAM
FORMATION/PROCESS - PICTURES**

Endangered children training held in Hayward

**BY TERRELL
BOETTCHER**
NEWS EDITOR

The Sawyer County/Lac Courte Oreilles Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) on child abuse/ neglect and drug-endangered children participated in their first training session Nov. 15 at the Northwest Connections Family Resource Center in Hayward.

About 25 people attended the training, including LCO Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Director LuAnn Kolumbus and ICW staff, Sawyer County Health and Human Services Executive Director Paul Grahovac and staff, Sawyer County Sheriff's and LCO Police investigators, Sawyer County Sheriff Mark Kelsey and Chief



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Sawyer County-Lac Courte Oreilles Multi-Disciplinary Team (M-Team) on child abuse and neglect participated in their first joint training session on Nov. 15 at the Northwest Connections Family Resource Center in Hayward.

Deputy Brigette Kornbroke, Hayward Police Chief Joel Clapero, LCO Tribal Attorney Courtney Allensworth, Sawyer County Assistant District Attorney John Yackel, LCO Health Clinic and LCO Mental Health staff, and the Oakwood Haven Domestic Abuse Shelter victim advocate.

The training was coordinated by Jane Flygstad, children's justice coordinator for the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Government, under a Department of Justice grant.

The trainers were Ann Hraychuck, a Department of Justice consultant who is nationally certified in the Drug Endangered Children program; Doreen Wehmas, intake and assessment unit supervisor for the Douglas County Depart-

ment of Health and Human Services; Joan Wilson, family services supervisor for Washburn County Health and Human Services; Tom Fallon, deputy district attorney for Dane County; Washburn County Sheriff Terry Dryden and Chief Deputy Mike Richter.

"We received training on confidentiality, how to build an MDT and drug-endangered children," Flygstad said. "The purpose of a community MDT is to minimize retraumatization of children who are victims of abuse, as well as their families. It's also to streamline and make the whole process more efficient, and to increase the number of prosecutions of perpetrators."

Child Forensic Interviewing Training

by Jane Flygstad, Lac Courte Oreilles Children's Justice Coordinator

Members of the Sawyer County/ LCO Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and other investigators from nearby communities attended Child Forensic Interview Training in Hayward June 24-26. The training was presented by Laura Gapske, Forensic Interviewer, of First Witness Child Advocacy Center in Duluth and sponsored by LCO Social Services through the Children's Justice Act.

Child Forensic Interviewing Training is designed for investigative teams of law enforcement officers, social workers, prosecutors, child protection attorneys and forensic interviewers. Participants receive training on Interview Protocol, child development, memory and suggestibility, testifying in court, legal issues and preparing children for court. The purpose of a forensic interview is to provide a neutral, defensible, non-duplicative, child centered interview. These interviews are conducted when there are allegations of child sexual abuse, physical abuse, drug endangerment and exploitation

or trafficking of a child.

First Witness is the closest Child Advocacy Center to Lac Courte Oreilles and Hayward. Jane Flygstad, Children's Justice Coordinator at Lac Courte Oreilles Social Services, through the CJA grant has been working on establishing the MDT and getting training for agencies involved so that our families and children do not have to travel out of our community to get this type of specialized services.

Agencies represented at the training were:

LCO Indian Child Welfare (LCO ICW), LCO Police Department (LCOPD), Sawyer County Health and Human Services- Child and Family Services (SCHHS), Sawyer County District Attorney's Office (DA), Sawyer County Sheriff's Office(SCSO), Red Cliff Indian Child Welfare(Red Cliff ICW), Washburn County Sheriff's Office(WBSO), Birchwood Police Department (Birchwood PD), and Oakwood Haven Women's Shelter(Oakwood) Essentia Health - Hayward and Marshfield Clinic - Hayward.



Pictured from left to right, starting with front row: Laura Gapske, Dianne Sullivan, Tiffany Leach, Rachel Teschendorf. Second Row: Nick Riedell, Adam Brunclik, Jeff Johnson, Darin Jensen, Nate Frey, Jane Flygstad, Sara Ross Poquette, Bruce Poquette. Third Row: Lisa Stark, Ian Hall, Lucas Shenard, Tibissum Rice, Susie Taylor, Nick Raley, Chally Tonnino-Thompson.

LCO Officers Receive Body Cameras

The LCO Indian Child Welfare Department is in their final year of a 3-year grant provided thru the Department of Justice. This grant was given for the sole purpose of improving how LCO-ICW in conjunction with Sawyer County Human Services, Sawyer County Sheriff's Department, the District Attorney's Office and the LCO Police Department in handling joint child abuse and neglect investigations. It was through this funding that we were able to purchase Body Cameras for two LCO Police Officers.



These recording devices will be used when interviewing children that may have been victims of physical, sexual or other forms of abuse and/or neglect. We look forward to continue working with the Multi-Disciplinary Team to not only educate how to prevent child abuse and neglect from occurring, but to also prosecute offenders that have abused children to the highest extent of the law!

April Is Proclaimed As Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month

The Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (LCO) Tribal Governing Board has proclaimed April “Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month” affirming its commitment to help protect children from neglect and abuse on the LCO Reservation.

Joined by members of the Tribal Governing Board, local law enforcement, LCO Child Services Personnel and Children’s Justice Coordinator Jane Flygstad, LCO Chairman Michael Isham Jr. held an official proclamation signing event at the tribal office Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

According to the signed proclamation, American Indian children experience a high rate of child abuse and victimization at a



worse, when a parent exposes their child to drug abusing environments,” said Flygstad.

Education and training of adults is an effective method to help prevent child abuse, with strategies that succeed through partnerships between law enforcement, business, human

STRENGTHS

Tons of resources – physical and knowledge of where to find what you need

Core group of dedicated people who support each other and the DEC/MDT idea

More/better communication between agencies

You WILL learn from each other

Resource Information

Wisconsin Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

<http://www.wisconsindec.org/>

National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

<http://www.nationaldec.org/>

Wisconsin DEC Contact Information:

DEC Statewide Coordinator-
Cindy Giese, Special Agent in Charge
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Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Programs



Wisconsin Counties DEC Program Status

- Active
- Developing
- Non-Active

Tribal Designated Area

Active

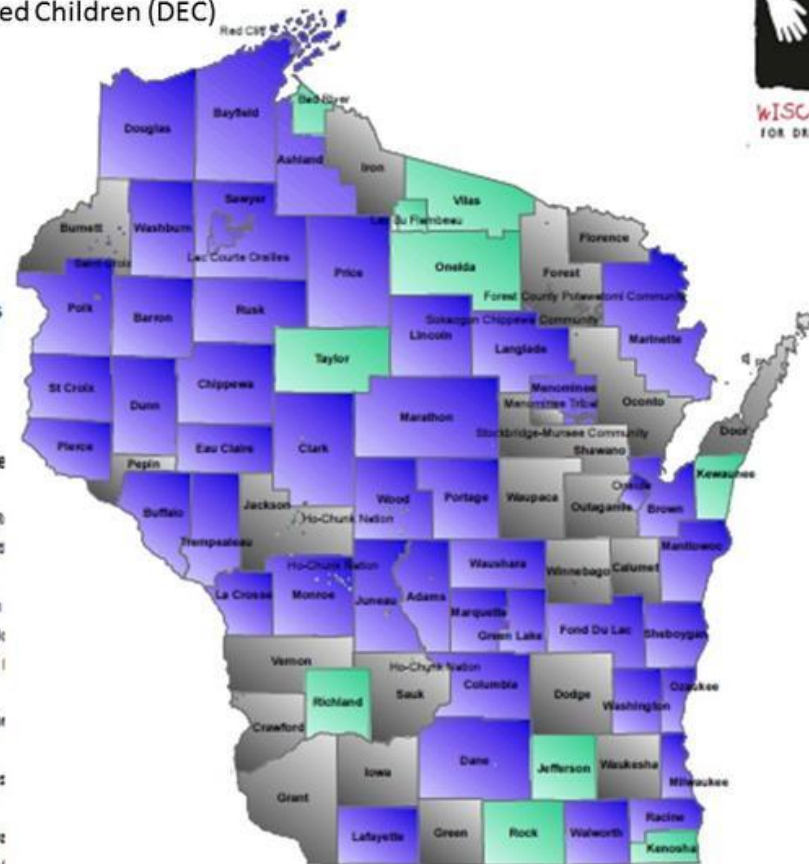
- Lac Courte Oreilles R
- Menominee Reservati
- Oneida Reservation
- Red Cliff Reservation
- Saint Croix Reservati
- Sokaogon Chippewa I

Developing

- Bad River Reservati
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Lac du Flambeau Res

Non-Active

- Forest County Potawat
- Stockbridge-Munsee I



**OUR CONTACT
INFORMATION**

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QUESTIONS?

"Social Services can't do it alone. Law enforcement can't do it alone...We're looking at the approaches as far as social change...This is a holistic approach that's going to take all of us working together...."

Lori Moriarty, Former Executive Director, National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (NADEC)