Kentucky Multidisciplinary Commission on Child Sexual Abuse

Regular Meeting
Video Teleconferencing
August 11, 2026
10:00 a.m. EST

I. Roll Call and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair, Laura Kretzer, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The Commission welcomed Jason Reynolds, Governmental Affairs Liaison for the Administrative Office of the Courts, who was recently appointed by the Chief Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court.

Roll Call (All members and guests appeared virtually)

Commission Members:
Melanie Taylor, Child Protection Branch, Department for Community Based Services (designee for the Commissioner)
Jessica Jones, Department for Community Based Services
Captain Jeremy W. Smith, Department of Kentucky State Police (designee for the Commissioner)
Christina Weeter, Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Student Success (designee for the Commissioner)
Erica Paske, Office of the Attorney General, Office of Victims Advocacy
Jason Reynolds, Administrative Office of the Courts, Office of Governmental Affairs
Brittany Barber, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (designee for the Commissioner)
Susan Rhema, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, University of Louisville
Shericka Smith, Fayette County Public Schools, Department of Student Support Services
Laura Kretzer, Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Jacqueline Sugarman, Physician, Medical Director for Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Trena Floyd, representing survivors
Sergeant Betsy Brushway, Lexington Police Department, Crimes Against Children Unit

Guests:
Cassie Wilde, FBI Victim Specialist
Jackie Kuryla, Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Serah Wiedenhoefer, Office of the Attorney General
Debbie Abreu, Office of the Attorney General

II. Approval of June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Paske seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.

III. Presentation from Cassie Wilde, CSW, FBI Victim Specialist

Cassie Wilde, FBI Victim Specialist, provided information on Violent Online Networks (VON), including the group known as 764, which exploits minors through online platforms and livestreamed self-harm and other harmful content. Cases involving these networks have been reported across Kentucky. Children as young as 8–12 may be both victims and offenders, requiring specialized intervention approaches beyond traditional trauma therapy due to their desensitization to violent content. The Commission was invited to attend VON training opportunities on August 25 and September 18. Those interested in scheduling additional training may contact Ms. Wilde at cnwilde@fbi.gov or 502-795-4309.

IV. Review and Approval of Local MDT Protocols

The Commission considered the local multidisciplinary team protocols for Logan County. The protocol contained the required language without modifications or additions. The protocol contains the required language without modification or additions. Appropriate signatures are listed for all team members and include agency affiliations and roles served on the multidisciplinary team. Dr. Sugarman made a motion to approve the Logan County protocol as submitted. Ms. Barber seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Update on Data Collection Tool for Fiscal Year 2026

Ms. Kretzer provided a preview of data collected from local multidisciplinary teams for fiscal year 2026. Most teams are facilitated by local children's advocacy centers, meet monthly, and review their protocols at least annually. Data also included how teams orient new members and themes of specific training needs.

Ms. Kretzer requested volunteers to assist with reviewing the raw data and developing key insights to share with the Commission at the next meeting. Dr. Sugarman and Dr. Rhema volunteered to participate, and Ms. Kretzer will coordinate the meeting.

VI. Discuss Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2026

Ms. Kretzer requested volunteers to assist with drafting the Commission's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2026. Dr. Sugarman and Ms. Jones volunteered to assist. Once drafted, the report will be presented to the Commission for review and approval. Ms. Kretzer will coordinate the meeting.

VII. Review of Open Records Requests & Communications

No open record requests were received since the Commission's last meeting.

The Commission was advised of a recent inquiry seeking information about the investigation of child sexual abuse cases and the multidisciplinary team process and protocols. The response directed the individual to the Commission's website for general information, governing statutes, and current protocols and appendices, and advised that concerns regarding specific investigations should be directed to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

VIII. Partner Updates

Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky is working on the Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE-P) course, which will begin later this month. Enrollment is being finalized, with space remaining for interested nurses.

A modular training for hospital emergency department staff on responding to sexual assault victims of all ages, including pediatric patients, has been developed by the Kentucky Sexual Assault Response Team Advisory Committee in collaboration with the Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs (KASAP). The curriculum was developed in response to House Bill 219 and allows staff to complete modules applicable to their specific roles.

Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky, in partnership with the Training Consortium, continues to provide training to Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) workers on child sexual abuse that includes the MDT protocol, medical guidance, joint investigations, collaboration, and effective case review. Plans are being considered for 2027 to expand this training for existing workers and supervisors. A condensed version of the training is also provided at the Kentucky State Police Academy.

Ms. Kretzer and Ms. Dallam, from the Office of the Attorney General, will also present *Protocol to Practice* at the Kids Are Worth It Conference. The presentation will provide an overview of the MDT model protocol, its application through case scenarios, and the role of the Commission in developing the protocol.

Ms. Weeter provided an update on the 2019 School Safety and Resiliency Act which requires school districts to develop and submit trauma-informed plans. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is working with the UK Center on Trauma and Children to provide training on trauma-informed practices, including how to respond to trauma and incorporate trauma-informed practices into district plans. These trainings are available at no cost to districts and staff.

KDE has also been invited to provide more intensive support to districts participating in a regional cooperative cadre focused on enhancing their trauma-informed plans. Commission members were encouraged to share information or messaging that would be helpful to include in training and outreach efforts.

Ms. Barber reported that the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (BHDID) is also providing training on trauma-informed care. To date, BHDID has trained 509 individuals statewide. The training provides a general overview of trauma-informed care. An additional two-day Train-the-Trainer session is planned for October.

Ms. Paske highlighted the upcoming Kentucky Prosecutors Conference, scheduled for August 19–20, which includes a victim advocate track attended by advocates from across the state. Local prosecution-based advocates are invited to participate.

IX. In-Person Meeting Reminder – October 13, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

The next commission meeting will be held in-person on October 13th from 12:00-2:00 p.m. at the Attorney General's office at 1024 Capital Center Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601 with a virtual attendance option available.

X. Adjournment

Ms. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Barber seconded. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

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