

THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF IDAHO
BOISE**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2022-01

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CHILDREN AT RISK

WHEREAS, Idaho's children are her most valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of all Idahoans to provide a community system of support and protection for these children; and

WHEREAS, the protection of children from abuse and neglect is in the best interest of all Idahoans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brad Little, Governor of the State of Idaho, by authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Idaho, do hereby order the continuance of the Governor's Task Force on Children at Risk.

The Task Force is responsible for developing, establishing, and operating programs designed to improve:

- a. The assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases, including cases of suspected child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child and the child's family;*
- b. The assessment and investigation of cases of suspected child abuse-related fatalities and suspected child neglect-related fatalities;*
- c. The investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation; and*
- d. The assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.*

The Task Force shall continue to support a statewide child fatality review team to allow comprehensive and multidisciplinary review of deaths of children younger than 18 years old to identify what information and education may improve the health and safety of Idaho's children.

The Task Force shall be composed of eighteen (18) members appointed by the Governor. The Task Force may request the Governor to provide additional members if it is determined that certain interests are not adequately represented. The membership shall include, but will not be limited to, the following with consideration of geographical representation:

- A member of the law enforcement community;*
- A criminal court judge;*
- A civil court judge;*
- A prosecuting attorney;*
- A criminal defense attorney;*
- An attorney for children;*
- A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) representative;*

- *A health professional;*
- *A mental health professional;*
- *A member of a child protective service agency;*
- *An individual experienced in working with children with disabilities;*
- *An adult who is a former victim of child abuse or neglect;*
- *A member of the Administrative Office of the Courts;*
- *An individual experienced in working with homeless children/youth (as defined in section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a));*
- *An individual experienced in working with victims of abuse;*
- *A person who is a parent and/or a representative of a parent group;*
- *An education representative; and*
- *A juvenile justice representative.*

The members of the Task Force shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor for a four- year term. Members of the Task Force shall elect their chair from among their members.

The Task Force shall submit a written report by June 1 of each year to document its efforts.

The Department of Health and Welfare shall be the lead agency, providing support for the Task Force, and shall monitor contracts/or staff to carry out the activities directed by the Task Force as funding is available.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho on this 13th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two.



BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE