



## Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

February 28, 2024

A meeting of the Children's Services Advisory Board of Manatee County, Florida, was held at the Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday February 28, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present** (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Debbie Tapp, Carolann Garafola, Rita Smith, Patricia Miner, Constance Charles-Logan, Susan Miller Kelly, Jannon Pierce  
**Absent/Excused:** Hon. Scott Brownell, Melissa Leslie, **Absent/Unexcused:** Gina Messenger.

**Also Present:** County Staff: (In Person) Tracie Adams, Kristi Hagen, Johanna Beville, Melissa Bomar, and LaWanda Timmons (Virtually) Brenda Marquez Facio and Lee dePalo; Members of the Public: (In Person) Char Young, Kelly Benford, Rebeka Prieto, Marcus Francis, Karlee Hudson, Alexandra DeMartino, Evelyn Almodovar, Lane Ruise, Allison Minardi, Katie Becker, Jonathan Evans, Drena Green, (Virtually) Becky Canesse, Beth Clark, Scott Brownell, Sean Stafferi, Susan Ford, Tari Allen, Katrina Bellemare, Francesca Ricciardo, Rachel Spivey, Sandra Richendollar.

### Call to Order/Welcome

Connie Shingledecker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Minutes for February 21, 2024 **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Susan Miller Kelly, **Seconded by** Carolann Garafola, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 8, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Debbie Tapp, Carolann Garafola, Patricia Miner, Constance Charles-Logan, Jannon Pierce, Susan Miller Kelly.

### Discussion of Investment Applications

CSAB Members engaged in an open dialogue regarding the review process and scoring. Five programs were reviewed. Concerns or questions were open for discussion.

Creative Arts Academy: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
  - *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is a new applicant.*

**Rita Smith entered at 3:30pm**

Isaiah House 117: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
  - *Priority A: Children in foster care gain a permanent, stable, and nurturing home withing 12 months of entering care and remain there.*
- *Program is a new applicant.*

Manatee County Government- Summer Blast Camp Scholarship: Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.

- Program claimed priority:
  - No priority claimed.
- Program is a new applicant.

Parenting Matters- Musical Motion: Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.

- Program claimed priority:
  - Priority C: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills.
- Program is a new applicant.

UnidosNow- Future Leaders Academy: Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.

- Program claimed priority:
  - No priority claimed.
- Program is a new applicant.

### Staff Updates

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- No New Updates

Johanna Beville provided the following updates:

- No New Updates

Melissa Bomar provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visit for the following program and there was nothing of concern noted during the observation:
  - Manatee Childrens Services; Kids Personal Safety

Brenda Marquez Facio provided the following updates:

- No New Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Manatee Health Care Alliance – Healthy Living Subcommittee is searching for volunteers to join the efforts.
- Batch 2 application final scores are due on Friday, March 1.
- Batch 3 application initial scores are due on Monday, March 4.
- Manatee County Government does have a nepotism policy and Ms. Hagen will send it to the CSAB Members via email.

### New/Old Business

Ms. Shingledecker shared that the Manatee County Community Baby Shower was held on Saturday, February 26. Ms. Shingledecker showcased a safe sleep booth and provided valuable information to new and expecting mothers in attendance.

**Public Comment**

Agencies were verbally provided a public comment during the meeting were:

- Allison Minardi, Manatee County Government; Summer Blast Camp Scholarship: Ms. Minardi addressed the concerns of the CSAB Members regarding the program’s budget, operational procedures, client reading requirements, and field trips.
- Katie Becker, Parenting Matters; Musical Motion: Ms. Becker briefed the CSAB Members on plans for expanding the program’s class locations, the aim to upload participation numbers, and emphasized the importance of upholding program quality.
- Evelyn Almodovar, UnidosNow: Ms. Almodovar offered the CSAB Members a more comprehensive explanation regarding the program’s budget and how their finances are utilized.

**Next Meeting**

March 6, 2024 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

**Approved**

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Connie Shingledecker, Chair

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Date