



Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

March 6, 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, 5th Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday March 6, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Debbie Tapp, Carolann Garafola, Patricia Miner, Susan Miller Kelly, Jannon Pierce **Absent/Excused:** Hon. Scott Brownell, Melissa Leslie, Gina Messenger, and Constance Charles-Logan **Absent/Unexcused:** None.

Also Present: County Staff: (In Person) Tracie Adams, Johanna Beville, Melissa Bomar, and LaWanda Timmons (Virtually) Brenda Marquez Facio and Kristi Hagen; Members of the Board of County Commissioners: Amanda Ballard; Members of the Public: (In Person) Barbara Harvey, Char Young, Jonathan Evans, Drena Green, Michael Wood, Beth Clark, Omar Edwards, Valerie Green, Kelly Bedford, Catrese Estes-Allen, (Virtually) Becky Canesse, Scott Brownell, Susan Ford, Francesca Ricciardo, Rachel Spivey, Dawn Bryant, Pepper Sellars, Zoe Slavsén, Denise Jordan, and Ciara Crosby.

Call to Order/Welcome

Connie Shingledecker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for February 28, 2024 **Action:** Approve, with noted edits **Moved by** Susan Miller Kelly, **Seconded by** Carolann Garafola, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 7, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Debbie Tapp, Carolann Garafola, Patricia Miner, 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.

AMIKids Manatee- AMIKids Manatee Prevention Program: Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.

- Program claimed priority:
 - Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.
- Program is not requesting a funding increase.

Rita Smith entered at 3:14pm.

Boys & Girls Club of Manatee County- Great Futures Start Here: 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.*
- *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is requesting a funding increase.*

Boys & Girls Club of Manatee County- The Club Teen Program: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
 - *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is requesting a funding increase.*

Educational Consultants Consortium, Inc- Iron Sharpening Iron: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
 - *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is requesting a funding increase.*

Just for Girls- Girls Alternative Program for Success: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
 - *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is requesting a funding increase.*

Just for Girls- Stepping-Up to Success: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
 - *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is requesting a funding increase.*

Next Generation Academics- Alternative Path to Success: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority:*
 - *Priority D: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning.*
- *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*

Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Wear Blue next Wednesday, March 13 and Manatee County's Information Outreach team will take some photos to show support. CSAB, Staff, Agency and Community members in attendance please plan to wear blue and consider participating in the photo.
- Batch 3 application final scores are due on Friday, March 8.
- Batch 4 application initial scores are due on Monday, March 11.
- Reminded the CSAB Members that they may need to occasionally remove cookies on their computer because of the number of reviews they are completing. If any members do not know how to do this reach out to the Children's Services team for assistance. After the cookies have been removed, it helps to restart the computer as well.

- The Sleep Baby Safely Committee held a public meeting to gain information from Early Learning Coalition staff. Early Learning Coalition staff provided details of the services that they plan to implement. This contract is planned to go before the Board of County Commissioners during their April 20, 2024 regular meeting for their approval and execution of the contract.
- When a program submits an application with multiple results in an effort to obtain an increased investment and receives that request, the number of results needs to be maintained. Staff will work with the agency to edit the results, milestones, and verifications as needed.
- If a CSAB Member needs another copy of the agency year-end report packet, let Kristi know and she will provide one digitally. This was provided in hard copy in a previous meeting.

Brenda Marquez Facio provided the following updates:

- No New Updates

Melissa Bomar provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visit for the following program:
 - Healthy Teens- compliance review was conducted, and program was determined to be out of compliance. Contract Manager will be in contact with program staff to schedule a follow-up.

Johanna Beville provided the following updates:

- The Children's Services Team is working to make revisions to the Children's GAP Survey and would appreciate all the CSAB Members, and programs, assistance with sharing the survey. Flyers will be passed out in the coming weeks and the survey will be available from March 25 through May 24.

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- No New Updates

Commissioner Comments/ Updates

Commissioner Ballard reports that State Bill 544 was sent to the Governor for approval. This bill would assist community members, that fall below 200% of the poverty line, with access to swim lesson vouchers.

New/Old Business

Rita Smith reported that she is on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Manatee County as secretary and gains no financial benefit from holding this position.

Public Comment

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

(In Person): Omar Edwards, Beth Clark, Drena Green, Jonathan Evans; (Virtually): Becky Canesse, Ciara Crosby.

Manatee County Children’s Services Advisory Board Minutes – February 28, 2024

- Omar Edwards, School District of Manatee County: Provided further support for the Boys & Girls Club.
- Beth Clark, Boys & Girls Club of Manatee County: Responded to inquiries posed by the CSAB Members concerning the program’s average attendance, acquisitions of local statistics, and availability of summer swimming lessons.
- Drena Green, Just for Girls: Expressed gratitude to the CSAB Members and Children’s Services Team. Ms. Green provided answers and explanations to the CSAB’s questions regarding declining attendee numbers and present COVID obstacles.
- Jonathan Evans, Healthy Teen Educators: provided a program overview and responded to inquiries regarding a recent observation visit, clarifying their non-compliance status.
- Becky Canesse, Just for Girls: Offered clarification on staffing challenges, obstacles related to COVID, commitments from community partners, and the rising of costs associated with programming.
- Ciara Crosby, Educational Consultants Consortium: Addressed the CSAB Member’s comments and questions regarding daily attendance and program staffing.

Next Meeting

March 13, 2024 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5th floor.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Approved

Connie Shingledecker, Chair

Date