



Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

March 8, 2023

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 8, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Gina Messenger, Rita Smith, Susan Miller Kelly, Carolann Garafola, (Virtually): Debbie Tapp, Kelly Hunt. **Absent/Excused:** Janet Vestal, Jannon Pierce; **Absent/Unexcused:** None.

Also Present: County Staff: (In Person), Kristi Hagen, Johanna Beville, Melissa Bomar, and Brenda Marquez Facio, (Virtually) LaWanda Timmons; Members of the Public: (In Person) Amanda Ballard, Drena Green, Dawn Bryant, Molly White, Elena Cassella, Amy Middleton, Claudia Glover, Doug Gillum, Amanda Corcoran, Marcus Francis, Amy Yount, (Virtually) Bridget Harry, Becky Canesse, Peter Murawski, Laurel Lynch, Char Young, Susan Ford, Zoya Shcherbinina, and Sean Staffieri.

Call to Order/Welcome

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for March 1, 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Xtavia Bailey, **Seconded by** Carolann Garafola, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 9, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Gina Messenger, Rita Smith, Susan Miller, Carolann Garafola, (Virtually): Debbie Tapp, Kelly Hunt.

Discussion of Investment Applications

The CSAB Members had an open discussion on the review process and scoring. Six programs reviewed and listed below. Concerns or questions voiced are noted.

- Creative Arts Academy – Creative Arts Academy: *This is a new program applying for funding from the Manatee County Children's Millage. Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- EASTER SEALS SOUTHWEST FLORIDA – Family Support Services: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it may be considered for an increase by member consensus.*
- Foundation for Dreams – Dream Oaks Camp: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it may be considered for an increase by member consensus.*

- Manatee County Government – Enhancing Youth Programs and Opportunities: *This is a new program applying for funding from the Manatee County Children's Millage. Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Sarasota Manatee Association for Riding Therapy – Adaptive Riding (formerly known as Therapeutic Riding) and Equine Assisted Services: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it will not be considered for an increase by member consensus.*
- Step Up Suncoast– Collaborative Action Therapy for Children's Health (CATCH): *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it may be considered for an increase by member consensus.*

Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Next week is spring break and there is no CSAB meeting.
- Questions for programs being reviewed in Batch 4 (March 22) are due on Tuesday, March 14.

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visit conducted for HOPE Family Services and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations.

Melissa Bomar provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visit conducted for Manatee Children's Services Residential Program and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations.

Johanna Beville provided the following:

- CSAB Members are encouraged to note programs they are interested in observing and reach out to the assigned contract manager to indicate their interest. CSAB Members will be able to accompany contract managers on compliance review observations once the funding review meetings and recommendation meetings have concluded.

New/Old Business

None

Public Comment

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

(In Person): Amanda Corcoran, Marcus Francis, Elena Cassella, Doug Gillum; (Virtually): None.

- Amanda Corcoran, Easter Seals: Clarified the clerical error made in the result statement. Shared the program reached 100% of goals and 100% satisfaction from parents. Expanded on the respite

services provided through the program and voiced appreciation CSAB Members acknowledged the significant role this plays in parent lives.

- Marcus Francis, Manatee County Government: Acknowledged the application is 2 programs in one and provided guidance on the budgets submitted with the application. Shared the scholarship application would be based on household income. Clarified the program's definition of at-risk.
- Elena Cassella, Foundation for Dreams: Thanked the CSAB members for their thoughtful review of the funding applications for all the programs who have applied. Commented there are items that could be added to their application and other services provided through the program. Spoke of the benefit of the programs who serve those children who may not have an opportunity to attend camps.
- Doug Gillum, Foundation for Dreams: Thanked CSAB members for all they do for the children and families of Manatee County.

Next Meeting

March 22, 2023 – 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 4:54 p.m.

Approved

Connie Shingledecker, Chair

Date