



Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

June 21, 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, June 21, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present (In Person): Xtavia Bailey, Debbie Tapp, Carolann Garafola, Melissa Leslie (Virtually): Connie Shingledecker, Kelly Hunt, Jannon Peirce. **Absent/Excused:** Hon. Scott Brownell, Gina Messenger, Janet Vestal. **Absent/Unexcused:** Rita Smith, Susan Miller Kelly.

Also Present: County Staff: (In Person) Tracie Adams, Johanna Beville, Melissa Bomar, and Brenda Marquez Facio; (Virtually) LaWanda Timmons, and Kristi Hagan; Members of Manatee County Commission; (In Person) Amanda Ballard; Members of the Public; (In Person), Kimberly Kutch, Nathan Scott, Dawn Bryant; (Virtually), Susan Ford, Drena Green, Pam Hodge, Francesca Ricciardo, Melinda Thompson, Becky Canesse, Sandra Richendollar, NAMI SRQ Manatee, Char Young.

Call to Order/Welcome

Xtavia Bailey, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Member Introduction

Melissa Leslie was introduced as The Department of Children and Families Children's Services Advisor Board representative.

Approval of Minutes

No Motion, *no quorum present*.

System Advocate Program Update

Nathan Scott provided an update on the Child Welfare System for fiscal year 2023. Topics of discussion:

- Trauma Screening and Foster Children's Rights
- Imminent Changes!
 - Child Protective Investigations to transition back to the Department of Children and Families on August 11, 2023.
- Community Based Care Core Funding Update
- Child Abuse Death Review - Snapshot in Manatee County
- 2023 Legislative Updates

Mr. Scott fielded questions from CSAB members.

CSAB members requested a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation.

Review of NPA Recommendation Process

Johanna Beville shared that agencies were given the opportunity to complete a survey regarding the investment recommendation process. The results will be gathered and provided to the CSAB members for review.

Emergency Funding

Staff recommendation for the CSAB to provide the Board of County Commissioners with recommended amount designated for anticipated emergency funding requests during FY24.

Xtavia Bailey provided her understand is that the reserve is set aside and takes care of Emergency Funding requests. Open discussion ensued between the CSAB members and they determined the topic to be tabled until the next meeting as additional information is needed prior to making a motion and decision.

Consideration of Submitted "Sleep Baby Safely" Initiative

Connie Shingledecker provided a summary on the proposed "Sleep Baby Safely" initiative for Manatee County. The goal is to prevent and eliminate infant sleep-related suffocation deaths. Discussion ensued between CSAB members, and it was determined there is a need for the initiative and it is an appropriate initiative for Children's Services Millage. Mrs. Shingledecker will provide additional information during a future meeting and next step will be determined at that time.

Rationale for non-funding

Connie Shingledecker provided a summary on the research she conducted pertaining to the comments noted during the CSAB discussion concerning the failed motions for FY24 investment through the Children's Services millage for Healthy Eating and Learning program and Every Child Counts. The rationale is outlined here:

- Health Eating and Learning Program, Palmetto Youth Center
 - Ranked 54 of 56 with a score of 66.33. Not enough information on how the results will be achieved. Unsure how literacy will be measured with this program as the services are described. Outcomes need more work. Would like to see the agency's other programs achieve their goals before funding a new one with questionable measurable outcomes.
- Every Child Counts, Early Learning Coalition
 - Ranked 49 of 56 with a score of 73.44. Does not serve all daycares in Manatee County, only the ones operating under the ELC. The ELC already has a quality assurance program funded by Children's Services Millage, this program could be added as an enhancement with an increase request. The targeted number of daycares to serve was only 50 with 35 maintaining or increasing their quality of care (would prefer to show improvement). Not contracting with DCF for this program, perhaps an agreement between the two would ensure a referral for the coaching of the daycare in violation. Daycares voluntarily participate, there is no guarantee that daycares in violation will volunteer to be coached.

Connie stated if the other CSAB member responses were not included to please let her know so those thoughts could be shared and discussed.

Open discussion ensued between the CSAB members. Debbie Tapp expressed that for the programs that were not funded, it had to do with the submitted proposed program budget being unclear.

Staff Updates

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations:
 - Parenting Matters, Parent Partner Program
 - Parenting Matters, Chosen Families

Johanna Beville had no new staff updates.

Melissa Bomar had no new staff updates.

Brenda Marquez-Facio, provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations:
 - Myakka City Community Center, MAC
 - Step Up Suncoast, CATCH
 - Step Up Suncoast, Hippy
 - Step Up Suncoast, Whole Child
 - Salvation Army, Family Shelter – Case Managed Program
 - Centerstone, Sexual Assault Child Advocacy and Therapy
 - Step Up Suncoast, Parents as Teachers
 - Step Up Suncoast, Head Start/ Early Head Start
 - Centerstone, Baker Act Youth

Kristi Hagen, provide the following updates:

- Dr. Logan, from West Coast Pediatric, will be applying for consideration of the vacant physician representative seat on the Children's Services Advisory Board.
- There was a meeting on June 14, 2023, between staff from Manatee County School District and Children's Services to determine what data can be provided from the School District that correlates to additional gains for students in programs receiving investment from Children's Services millage to those who do not participate in the programs.

New/Old Business

No new or old business.

Public Comment

Susan Ford, (virtually), stated regarding Enhancing Youth Programs and Opportunities, Manatee County Government, the Children's Services Ordinance (91-42) does not support supplanting, specified this in not a new program, and they have money in their budget for the program.

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Next Meeting

July 19, 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 5:09 p.m.

Approved

Connie Shingledecker, Chair

Date