



Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

March 29, 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 29, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Also Present: County Staff: (In Person) Kristi Hagen, Johanna Beville, Melissa Bomar, and Brenda Marquez Facio (Virtually) LaWanda Timmons, Members of Manatee County Commission: (In Person) Amanda Ballard; Members of the Public: (In Person) Drena Green, Kerry Gaylord, Megan Smith, Kelly Beavers, Cori Perry, Liz Brin, Char Young, Laurel Lynch, Kim Ross, Maribel Garcia, Jonathan Evans, Rachel Spivey, Linda Hedrick, Beth Clark, Amy Yount, (Virtually) Tammy Dillon, Lizzy Lane, Tina Trivers, Kaylen Hage, Peter Murawski, Janet Maxham, Zoya Shcherbinina, Katelyn Disbro, Kimberly Kutch, Susan Cord, and Robin Carbone.

Call to Order/Welcome

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for March 22, 2023, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Xtavia Bailey, **Seconded by** Susan Miller Kelly, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 11, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Janet Vestal, Kelly Hunt, Gina Messenger, Debbie Tapp, Rita Smith, Susan Miller Kelly, (Virtually): Carolann Garafola, Jannon Pierce.

Discussion of Investment Applications

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

- Nemours – Early Learning Coalition: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed priority: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Early Care and Education Child Care Subsidy and Match – Early Learning Coalition: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*

- Every Child Counts – Early Learning Coalition: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is a new program applying for funding from the Manatee County Children's millage.*
- Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) – Early Learning Coalition: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *No priority claimed.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Whole Child Manatee – Step Up Suncoast: *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.*
- Healthy Families Manatee – Step Up Suncoast: *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

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visit conducted for Early Learning Coalition- Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations.

Johanna Beville provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations:
 - Take Stock in Children – Mentoring Matters Program
 - PACE Center for Girls – Pregnancy Prevention Program
- Children's Home Society of Florida requested to reschedule their fiscal review. Working with program and assigned fiscal staff to reschedule.

New/Old Business

Susan Miller Kelly thanked the Children's Services Staff and gave kudos for their diligence and hard work as meeting minutes are always perfect and for providing information that is up to date, for being so accommodating, and for all they do and go through to prepare CSAB members and agencies and programs for the meetings and throughout the year. Other CSAB members voiced their appreciation as well.

Xtavia Bailey is asking what services there are for long-term care there is locally for children who have long-term and severe disabilities. Xtavia suggested the idea of a partnership be created with Sarasota and Manatee County to build a local facility or hospital locally to serve those

members of the population, so parents are not forced to place their children in another county and must drive out of county to be involved in their children's lives.

Public Comment

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

(In Person): Rachel Spivey, Linda Hedrick, and Kim Ross; (Virtually): None.

- Rachel Spivey, Early Learning Coalition: Reviewed Every Child Counts program and Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) program. Provided to the advisory board that recommendations provided by CSAB members and Children's Services staff are taken seriously and implemented.
- Linda Hedrick, Step Up Suncoast: Clarified the number of families served during fiscal year 2022. Thanked CSAB members for their comments during the program application review and for understanding the importance of the program. Thanked the CSAB members for their time.
- Kim Ross, Whole Child Manatee: Spoke on the structure of the program and the close collaboration with Step Up Suncoast as the fiscal agent for the program.

Next Meeting

April 5, 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 4:11 p.m.

Approved

Connie Shingledecker, Chair

Date