



Children's Services Advisory Board

January 23, 2019

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, Manatee Room, Bradenton, FL 34205, on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Xtavia Bailey, Sandra Stone, Amy Diss, Jeremy Giddens, Pierrette Kelly, Gina Messenger, Kimberly Kutch, Debbie Tapp, Gail Wynne.

Excused: Kelly Hunt, Cornelle Maxfield; **Unexcused:** George VanBuren M.D.

Also Present

County Staff: Susan Ford, LaWanda Timmons, James Slusser, Chris HandyHoneycutt;
Members of the Public: Karen Wessel, Aaron Lounsberry, Alexdrena Green, Rhiannon Blaney, Carolyn Griffin, Cindy Cavallaro-Day, Bronwyn Beightol, Beth Clark, Bridget Harry, Kelly Benford, Katrina Bellemare, Laurel Lynch.

Call to Order/Welcome

Xtavia Bailey, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for December 12, 2018, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Pierrette Kelly, **Seconded by** Gail Wynne, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 8, No = 0, Abstain = 0).

Jeremy Giddens entered @ 3:05 pm

Medicaid 101

Aaron Lounsberry and Karen Wessel from AHCA provided a presentation on Medicaid, a medical assistance program that provides health coverage to low-income families and individuals. They provided an overview on "Who Does What?", including the following agencies: Department of Children & Families (www.myflorida.com/accessflorida), Social Security Administration (www.socialsecurity.gov), Agency for Health Care Administration (<https://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid>) and DXC.Technology (www.mymedicaid-florida.com) who determines Medicaid eligibility. These websites provide data and access to Medicaid policies and providers. CSAB members were advised to contact the presenters with any questions they may have.

Grade Level Reading

Bronwyn Beightol and Cindy Cavallaro-Day from United Way Suncoast provided a presentation on their Campaign Grade Level Reading. The campaign is reaching 300 communities and focuses on children reading on grade level by 3rd grade. Three areas of focus are summer learning, school readiness and attendance. The desire is to set targets that are ambitious but also attainable. Statistics show only 32% of students in our low-income areas are reading on

level in 3rd grade. The Grade Level Reading campaign is also working with Manatee County on a GIS mapping system to track and collect data, which will demonstrate the need for transportation to summer reading programs. Parents surveyed stated transportation is needed to get children to the programs.

Susan Ford reported that Commissioner Trace is concerned about grade level reading and has communicated a desire for the CSAB to consider funding transportation during summer months to aid in avoiding the "summer slide". The board was asked to consider setting aside \$100,000 out of reserves to fund transportation for this purpose. Discussion ensued. The consensus was to bring the item back with more information at the February 20 meeting.

Blackbaud Application/Reviewer Portal

Susan Ford provided a handout and a brief overview of the Reviewer Portal. Technical difficulties prevented a demonstration. Prior to the funding process and the rating of the applications, Blackbaud representatives will provide a webinar to walk through the Reviewer Portal. Members will be able to attend over the internet using the computer they will be using for rating the applications. The members will be able to save the application as a pdf file and can print it out.

Staff Update

Susan Ford provided the following:

Deric Hanson resigned in December and has gone on to pursue a new career in Northern California. A replacement will be sought soon.

In an effort to reduce the dependency of non-profit agencies on county funding, we have required those who receive 50% or more of their program funding through us to attend a series of trainings to be provided by Manatee Community Foundation. These trainings are specifically tailored to assist them in expanding their funding base. A flyer with the specific training descriptions and when they will be provided was in a handout in the board packet. Each of these agencies are also required to submit a fundraising plan before September 30, 2019, which will be reviewed by subject matter experts at Manatee Community Foundation.

James Slusser provided the following:

He reported on the December Healthy Teens Coalition meeting, which had a speaker from UF/IFAS who spoke about the SMART Couples program. The thought behind the program is the stronger a couple is together, the stronger they will be as parents, thus giving their children a better foundation for success in the future. At the January meeting there was a speaker from Step Up Suncoast who spoke about Healthy Families Manatee. The program helps inform parents and give them techniques to strengthen them in their roles as caregivers and the child's first educators. They learn to give their children a strong home life and an increased chance of growth, development, and stability as they grow.

New/Old Business

Kim Kutch reported the effect of the federal government shutdown on benefits:

February benefits are to be posted on January 20 for most people. Please let your clients know to ration these benefits as they are February's and we do not know when the next release date will be. DCF will notify customers of the release of March benefits through social media and the DCF website. DCF cannot release March benefits as this is a federal program and they only

process applications and approve benefits. Medicaid is funded through 2019 so the shutdown will not impact Medicaid consumers.

Public Comment

None.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday February 20, 2019, Manatee Room of the County Administrative Complex, 3:00 p.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Approved

Xtavia Bailey, Chairman

Date