



Children's Services Advisory Board

May 12, 2021

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 May 12, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Amy Diss, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Kelly Hunt, Jannon Pierce, Rita Smith, George Van Buren (Virtually) Gail Wynne; **Absent/Excused:** None; **Absent/Unexcused:** None.

Also Present: County Staff: Kristi Hagen, Lawanda Timmons, Chris Handy-Honeycutt, Johanna Beville; Members of the Public (In Person): Kelly French, Julia Showers, Todd Markel, Sean Staffieri, Katrina Bellemore, Kelly Benford, Kelly Stasurak, Char Young, Stacey McKee, Drena Green, Bridget Harry, (Virtually) Andi Watson, Beck Canesse, Celeste Martens, Cheryl Andrews, Connie Keehner, Jennifer Powers, Julia Roberston, Kathleen Cowan, Kimberly Griffin, Kimberly Treharne, Krista DiTucci, Kristie Skoglund, Kristina Tincher, Lauren Olmsted, Marcella Lacy, Stacey Schaeffer.

Call to Order/Welcome

Debbie Tapp, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for May 5, 2021, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kimberly Kutch, **Seconded by** Jannon Pierce, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 12, No = 0, Abstain = 0). Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Amy Diss, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Kelly Hunt, Jannon Pierce, Rita Smith, George Van Buren (Virtually) Gail Wynne

Discussion of Investment Applications

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

- Manatee Children's Services- Residential Program:
 - o *Program claimed priority: At-risk youth demonstrate age-appropriate social and behavioral skills and result. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*

George VanBuren entered @ 3:07 p.m.

- Manatee Children's Services- Child Advocacy Center:
 - o *Program claimed priority: At-risk youth demonstrate age-appropriate social and behavioral skills and result. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus and will revisit to review during the buffer meeting.*

- Parenting Matters (Exchange Club Family Partnership Center of Manatee County, Inc. d.b.a. Parenting Matters) - Chosen Families:
 - o *Program claimed priority: Families formed by adoption are stable and remain intact. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
- Parenting Matters (Exchange Club Family Partnership Center of Manatee County, Inc. d.b.a. Parenting Matters) - Partners in Education and Support:
 - o *Program claimed priority: Children (birth-Pre-K) demonstrate age-appropriate literacy skills predictive of becoming successful in kindergarten. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
- Safe Children Coalition, Inc.- In-Home Child Welfare Prevention and Diversion Program:
 - o *Program claimed no priority. However, the CSAB Members feel the program does have a priority and that the results speak to the priority of "Children remain in their homes free of abuse and neglect and not re-enter foster care."*

Motion: Change the priority from none to priority of "Children remain in their homes free of abuse and neglect and not re-enter foster care"; **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Connie Shingledecker, **Seconded by** Kimberly Kutch, **Vote:** Motion passed (Summary: Yes = 12, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Amy Diss, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Kelly Hunt, Jannon Pierce, Rita Smith, George Van Buren (Virtually) Gail Wynne. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.

- Safe Children Coalition, Inc. - Family Preservation and Reunification Program:
 - o *Program claimed priority: Children do not re-enter foster care within 12 months of moving to a permanent home. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
- The Florida Center for Early Childhood- Early Childhood Court:
 - o *Program claimed priority: Children do not re-enter foster care within 12 months of moving to a permanent home. However, the CSAB Members feel the program the results speak to the priority of "Children in foster care gain a permanent, stable, and nurturing home withing 12 months of entering care and remain there."*

Motion: Change the priority from none to priority of "Children in foster care gain a permanent, stable, and nurturing home withing 12 months of entering care and remain there"; **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Connie Shingledecker, **Seconded by** Jannon Pierce, **Vote:** Motion passed (Summary: Yes = 12, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Amy Diss, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Kelly Hunt, Jannon Pierce, Rita Smith, George Van Buren (Virtually) Gail Wynne. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.

Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Emails have been sent to all agencies that requested an increase in investment to gather additional information for CSAB to review prior to the recommendation meetings. Some have started coming back in. These will be available for the buffer meeting.
- Scores for Batch 7 are due Friday, May 14
- Final Scores are due May 21, 2021
- May 27, 2021 Buffer Meeting

- June 11, 2021 Recommendation Meeting 1
- June 14, 2021 Recommendation Meeting 2

Johanna Beville provided the following updates:

- Healthy Teens Coalition of Manatee County and its Teen health Educators were recognized by the Board of County Commissioners for their work to address teen pregnancy prevention and associated health problems. The Board of County Commissioners proclaimed that May 2021 shall be known, designated, and set aside as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month in Manatee County, Florida.

Old/New Business

Xtavia thanked all the agencies and programs who applied and voiced her appreciation for the many programs focusing on reading. Xtavia shared she has received verbal reports of improvement on what these programs are doing and that there are children reading at advanced levels as a result of program efforts.

Public Comment

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

(In Person): Kelly Fetch, Katrina Bellemore (Virtually): Connie Keener, Tari Allen, and Stacey Shafer

In Person:

- Kelly Fetch, Salvation Army: Apologized for missing last week's meeting and wanted to provide the CSAB Members with the opportunity to ask any additional questions. There were none. Thanked the CSAB Members.
- Katrina Bellemore, Parenting Matters: Thanked the Board for the kind comments. Addressed the program grouping that the CSAB had recommended in previous years being the reasoning behind how they applied for funding this year. Thanked the CSAB Members for their time and dedication to review all the applications.

Virtual:

- Connie Kenner, Manatee County Sheriff's Office for Child Protection: Spoke on the in-home diversion program and their pleasure at the assessments that the Safe Children's Coalition is conducting and the improvement from previous agency that was facilitating the program. Thanked the program and the CSAB Members for their ongoing work and applauded all.
- Tari Allen, Centerstone Trauma Services Manager: Spoke on Centerstone's Certified Rape Crisis Center for Manatee County and provided information on all the different services the program provides, and in what capacity, throughout the recovery process. Spoke on the application for funding and reviewed the results that are served with the funding.
- Stacey Shafer, Safe Children's Coalition: Thanked CSAB Members for their consideration for the upcoming funding and spoke of her appreciation for the emergency funding that was previously granted by the CSAB Members for the diversion program. Provided an update on serving 600 children and collaboration with Law Enforcement as a result.

Next Meeting

May 27, 2021 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5th Floor Manatee Room.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Approved

Debbie Tapp, Chairwoman

Date