



Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

April 6, 2022

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 April 6, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present (In Person): Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Hon. Scott Brownell, Jennifer Hamey, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Susan Miller Kelly, Carolann Garafola, Kelly Hunt, Jannon Pierce, Xtavia Bailey, and Rita Smith (Virtually): None. **Absent/Excused:** George VanBuren;
Absent/Unexcused: None.

Also Present: County Staff: (In Person) LaWanda Timmons, Chris Handy-Honeycutt, and Johanna Beville, (Virtual) Kristi Hagen; Members of the Public: (In Person) Jonathan Evans, Gemma Clayson, Deirdre Guilloton, Tari Allen, Kelly Benford, Patrick Ryan, Doug Gillen, Nicole Murby, Char Young, Laurel Lynch, Katrina Bellemare, Ebony King, Kelly Benford, Elena Cassella (Virtually) Shpresa Kaletsch, Bill Grenier, Jeffery Lilley, Becky Canesse, Ashley Williams, Renee Simon, Dawn Bryant, Rebecca Blitz, Drena Green, and Susan Ford.

Call to Order/Welcome

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

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for March 30, 2022, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kimberly Kutch, **Seconded by** Carolann Garafola, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 8, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Hon. Scott Brownell, Jennifer Hamey, Kimberly Kutch, Susan Miller Kelly, Kelly Hunt, and Xtavia Bailey.

Discussion of Investment Applications

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

- Foundation for Dreams– Dream Oaks Camp: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed no priority.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*

Charlie Kennedy entered at 3:06pm

Jannon Pierce entered at 3:07pm

Rita Smith entered at 3:10pm

- Easter Seals of Southwest Florida– Children's Therapy: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed no priority.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and may be considered for an increase.*

- Easter Seals of Southwest Florida– Family Support Services: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed no priority.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Sarasota Manatee Association for Riding Therapy– Therapeutic Riding and Equine Assisted Services: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed no priority.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and will not be considered for an increase.*
- Centerstone of Florida– Children's Community Action Treatment (CAT) Team: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed priority: Youth decrease symptoms of behavioral health issues as identified objectively by a measure of level of functioning as determined by the program. The CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and yes/may be considered for an increase.*
- Centerstone of Florida– Mental Health Evaluation – Baker Act Youth: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed priority: Youth decrease symptoms of behavioral health issues as identified objectively by a measure of level of functioning as determined by the program. The CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Centerstone of Florida– Sexual Assault Child Advocacy and Therapy: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed no priority.*
 - *Program is requesting a funding increase and will not be considered for an increase.*
- Meals on Wheels Plus– Emergency Family Food Baskets & Baby Baskets: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
 - *Program claimed no priority.*
 - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*

Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- All CSAB Member questions should be sent in to LaWanda Timmons. Even if staff know the answers it is best to get the answers directly from the agency.
- Questions and initial scores for Batch 4 are due today.
- Batch 3 final scores are due Friday, April 8, 2022.

Johanna Beville provided the following updates:

- Observed Early Learning Coalition's Subsidy and Match Program for a compliance review visit, nothing of concern noted during the observation.
- Observed From Cradle to College's Operation WIT Program for a compliance review visit, there is ongoing concern the program is being provided 1:1 when the program is designed to be delivered as a cohort.

New/Old Business

Debbie Tapp thanked members for submitting their initial scores in a timely manner.

Charlie Kennedy shared the SOAR in 4 event is occurring this evening at Bishop Planetarium at 5:30pm.

Connie Shingledecker shared Manatee County for Safe Kids is partnering with Sarasota County to host an event on April 15, 2022 from 12pm to 3pm at University Town Center Mall.

Xtavia Bailey shared the Angel Watches is presenting their inaugural fundraising event for gap funding on May 18, 2022 at the Manatee Performing Arts Center from 11:30 am to 1pm.

Public Comment

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

(In Person): Patrick Ryan, Nicole Murby, Deirdre Guilloton, Tari Allen, Ebony King; (Virtually): Bill Greener, and Shpresa Kaletsch.

- Patrick Ryan, *Easter Seals of Southwest Florida*: Clarified concerns members raised during review for the gross revenue of Easter Seals from 2 years ago and 1 year ago being due to the acquisition of In Stride Therapeutic Riding Center and adding their assets to Easter Seals, as well as there being an increase in state funding.
- Nicole Murby, *Easter Seals of Southwest Florida*: Addressed the funding application for the program as they are asking for an increase in funds, what it will provide for children including 130 hours of therapy, the different types of therapy services, 70 children on the waitlist and the need for those children who are under insured or not insured. Thanked the members for their work.
- Deirdre Guilloton, *Centerstone of Florida CAT Team*: Spoke on the increase in chronic symptoms of clients being admitted and it is increasing the length of treatment time. Also, spoke on how the increase in funding would improve services.
- Tari Allen, *Centerstone of Florida Sexual Assault and Advocacy*: Thanked the members for all they do. Also, spoke on the services provided by the program, on advocacy services provided and that it doesn't meet the criteria for results. Spoke on the number of clients served for the therapy program and reasoning for the lower client consensus for the last 2 years.
- Ebony King, *Centerstone of Florida*: Thanked the members for all they do and allowing the programs to provide services to the community members. Addressed the incident a member was concerned about and shared there is a 6 youth to 1 staff member with 15-minute checks for clients on the children's crisis unit. Also spoke on how the agency responds if an incident arises. Spoke on the program being critical care within the 72-hour window and the step-down appointments services provided.
- Bill Grenier, *Meals on Wheels Plus*: Thanked the members for their consideration of the grant application. Spoke on the dental benefits which caused confusion during review as it was an error when completing the application.
- Shpresa Kaletsch, *Centerstone of Florida*: Addressed the concerns voiced by members during program review and spoke on Mental Health Evaluation program having safety being the number 1 priority. Reviewed the building houses numerous programs with different types of staff which allows programs the flexibility to adjust ratios as needed.

Next Meeting

April 20, 2022 – 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 5:51 p.m.

Approved

Debbie Tapp, Chair

Date