

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR MANATEE ROOM  
1112 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, Florida  
April 8, 2025**

Present were:

Xtavia Bailey, Chairperson  
Jannon Pierce, Vice-Chairperson  
Hon. Scott Brownell  
Heather Felton  
Kristin Gallagher  
Carolann Garafola  
Michelle Laughrey  
Connie Shingledecker  
Debbie Tapp  
Rita Smith, (Entered during meeting)

Absent was:

Cassandra Mitchell

Two seats are vacant.

Also present were:

Tracie Adams, Deputy Director, Community and Veteran's Services  
Melissa Bomar, Interim Children's Services Coordinator  
Mark Dillon, Senior Human Services Analyst  
Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst  
Johanna Beville, Program Analyst  
Hannah Bishop, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Chairperson Bailey called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Bailey

**AGENDA and SIGN-IN SHEET**

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3. **ROLL CALL**  
A quorum was declared.  
(Enter Member Smith)
4. **MINUTES**  
A motion was made by Member Tapp, seconded by Member Garafola, and carried 10-0, with Member Mitchell absent, to approve the minutes of April 1, 2026.
5. **REPLAY OUTREACH, SUCCESS4LIFE**  
Program claimed C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. Program is requesting a funding increase, and eligible for tier one.

6. **REPLAY OUTREACH, THE ASCEND PROJECT**  
Program claimed C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. This is a new program requesting funding. The priority was not recognized by the Board.
7. **REPLAY OUTREACH, REPLAY MENTORING**  
Program claimed C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. This is a new program requesting funding.
8. **SUNCOAST YOUTH FOR CHRIST, JUVENILE JUSTICE MINISTRY**  
Program claimed C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. Program is not requesting a funding increase.
9. **AVENUE941, SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM**  
Program claimed B, Children develop literacy skills necessary to be successful in school. Program is not requesting a funding increase. The priority was not recognized by the Board.
10. **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTER OF THE SUN COAST, ONE TO ONE MENTORING**  
Program claimed C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. Program is requesting a funding increase, and eligible for tier three.
11. **TRULY VALUED, INC., I AM ACADEMY**  
Program claimed A, Children are safe in their homes, free from abuse or neglect. And C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. Priority A, was not recognized by the Board. This is a new program requesting funding.
12. **HEALTHY TEENS, TEEN HEALTH EDUCATOR**  
Program claimed C, Children have the skills necessary to function appropriately in all environments. Program is requesting a funding increase, and eligible for tier two.
13. **STAFF UPDATES**  
Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst, had no updates.  
  
Melissa Bomar, Interim Children's Services Coordinator, requested Board Members submit their meal selections for the first recommendation meeting to staff.  
  
Mark Dillon, Senior Human Services Analyst, conducted compliance observations for Take Stock, Mentoring Matters, and All-Star Children's Foundation, no concerns were identified.  
  
Johanna Beville, Program Analyst, had no updates.
14. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/UPDATES**  
There were no Commissioner comments or updates.

15. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

Member Tapp suggested changing the start time of the recommendations meetings to 2:30 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding the start time of the recommendation meetings.

A motion was made by Member Garafola, seconded by Member Felton, and carried 10-0, to consider starting the recommendation meetings at 2:30 p.m.

Member Shingledecker provided an update regarding the Water Safety events she attended.

Member Garafola addressed a statement made during a private meeting concerning undocumented children served by agencies supported through Board funding.

Discussion ensued regarding the agenda item from the April 7, 2026, Board of County Commission meeting, regarding services provided to illegal immigrants.

16. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Anne Servian, Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, addressed attendance, performance measures, and milestones.

Tim Frost, Walter Lous, and Lawrence Rose, Replay Outreach, addressed the mentoring component, timeframes, youth engagement and empowerment efforts, participation numbers, and session structure.

Carlos Portillo, and Marc Wiles, Suncoast Youth for Christ, provided an overview of the program and addressed enrollment numbers, funding, parental waiver requirements, program development, and expenses.

Debra McNeal, Avenue941, addressed the spiritual component of the program, commitment letters, quarterly results, student's grades, attendance at each of the 13 sites, and performance measures.

Kamala Martinez and Jeanie Baik, Big Brother, Big Sister, addressed the increase in requested funding, program goals, compliance metrics, and the waitlist.

Leslie Harrell, and Shavonne Johnson, Truly Valued, addressed the curriculum, attendance, performance measures, and school-year structure.

Valerie Green, and Pat Greco, Healthy Teens, addressed overall results, reflection forms, funding, and shared examples of program outcomes.

Becky Canesse, Just for Girls, addressed letters of commitment and contractual agreements.

There being no further public comments, Chairperson Bailey closed public comments.

17. **NEXT MEETING**

**April 8, 2025**

(Continued)

The next meeting will occur April 15, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., in the Manatee County Administrative building, 1112 Manatee Avenue W, Bradenton, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Manatee Room.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairperson Bailey adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Minutes Approved:

