

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR MANATEE ROOM
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida
June 25, 2025**

Present were:

Jannon Pierce, Vice-Chairman
Heather Felton
Carolann Garafola
Patricia Miner
Connie Shingledecker, (Entered during meeting)
Debbie Tapp

Absent were:

Xtavia Bailey, Chairman
Hon. Scott Brownell
Constance Charles-Logan
Nina Romeu
Rita Smith

Two seats are vacant.

Also present were:

Tracie Adams, Deputy Director, Community and Veteran's Services
Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator
Melissa Bomar, Human Services Analyst
Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst
Mark Dillon, Senior Human Services Analyst
Lorrie Ruggiero, Administrative Specialist Temp
Hannah Bishop, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

1. Vice-Chairman Pierce called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

AGENDA/SIGN-IN SHEET

CS20250625DOC001

2. **ROLL CALL**

Due to lack of a quorum, a work session was declared.

5. **BOCC MEETING**

Recommendations to present to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC).

Discussion ensued regarding items for discussion for the Work Session with the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), Children's Services ordinance, overview of this Board, the recommendation, review and scoring process for each program, results, notify the BOCC how many Members have full time jobs on top of being on this advisory board, the work session has been changed to August 20, 2025, and establish a subcommittee to create an agenda for the work session.

(Enter Member Shingledecker)

A quorum was declared.

3. **MINUTES**

CS MB FY24-25/74

A motion was made by Member Tapp, seconded by Member Shingledecker, and carried 6-0, with Chairman Bailey and Members Brownell, Charles-Logan, Romeu, and Smith absent, to approve the minutes of May 14, 19, and 21, 2025.

4. **CSAB RATIONALE**

Programs that did not receive a recommendation for investment.

AMIkids Manatee Prevention Program

A motion was made by Member Garafola, seconded by Member Shingledecker, and carried 6-0, with Chairman Bailey and Members Brownell, Charles-Logan, Romeu, and Smith absent, to recommend investment in the amount of \$80,000, for AMIkids Manatee Prevention Program. Rationale: Good location, better leadership, and needed program.

Lynnique Richardson spoke on the purpose of the program, and thanked the Board for the reconsideration.

A participant in AMIkids shared his experience from the program.

There being no further public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

Big Dreams Through Small Steps, Aqualibrium Drowning Prevention Program

Rationale: No commitment from Preschools, a lot of traveling for little kids, and not competitively priced.

There being no public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

Selah Freedom, Empowering Youth: Prevention Education to Combat Sex Trafficking

Rationale: Needed more collaboration with similar services.

There being no public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

Pace Center for Girls Manatee, Healthy Habits to Success

Rationale: Not ready to provide services to clients yet, too many vacant positions, and would like to see results before providing funding.

There being no public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

Prodigal Daughters Journey Home, Pathways to Restoration Children's Program

Rationale: Lack of providing partnerships, poorly written application, and provide explanation of distribution of funds.


There being no public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

Family Initiative, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Continuum of Care

Rationale: Unclear of services being offered, low scored program, lack of partnerships, and needed program.

There being no public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

6. **SUBCOMMITTEES**

 Discussion ensued regarding the October retreat, two to three members to be a part of each subcommittee, planning for the BOCC work session, retreat date, and the total subcommittees for this Board.

7. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/UPDATES**

There were no Commissioner comments or updates.

8. **STAFF UPDATES**

Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst, observed Early Learning Coalition (ELC), Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH), ELC, Nemours Reading Bright!, Step Up Suncoast, Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH), and Step Up Suncoast, Whole Child, with no concerns found, and attended the Safe Children Coalition (SCC) Reunification Day, and saw the program's observed client in attendance at the event.

Melissa Bomar, Senior Human Services Analyst, completed compliance visits for AMIKids, and Iron Sharpening Iron, with no concerns found, and the Palmetto Youth Center, Helping Young People Excel (HYPE), is under corrective action and will need to submit a Corrective Action Plan for implementation in an effort to correct issues.

Discussion ensued regarding Palmetto Youth Center, Hype action plan being corrected and implemented.

Mark Dillon, Senior Human Services Analyst, had no updates.

Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator, stated Johanna Beville has officially transferred all programs to staff, interviews for the fourth staffing position occurring soon, discussed terms that are up for the Board, and virtual attendance being allowed, starting this month until January, as needed.

Member Garafola stated she visited the Creative Arts Academy program.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dawn Stanhope, Boys and Girls Club, encouraged the Board to visit the campuses in the County, and additional 55 staff members were hired to assist with the Summer.

There being no further public comments, Vice-Chairman Pierce closed public comments.

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will occur August 27, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., in the Manatee County Administrative Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue W, Bradenton, in the 5th Floor Manatee Room.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Pierce adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes Approved: _____

June 25, 2025

(Continued)