



HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS DIVISION / Children's Services Administration

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Broward County Board of County Commissioners
Children's Services Board Needs Assessment Committee Meeting
Minutes February 7, 2024

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M.

Committee Members in attendance: Maria Juarez Stouffer, Monica King and Joel Smith in person.

CSB Members: Malena Mendez and Brenda Fam present; Veda Hudge and Cara Malave via TEAMS.

Committee Members absent: Evan Goldman, Dan Schevis.

Staff members in attendance: Cassandra Evans, Assistant Director of Community Partnerships Division (CPD), Dr. Tiffany Hill-Howard Children Services Administrator (CSA), Sterling Parrish (CSA), Sandra Meza Hernandez (CSA).

II. Approval of minutes

Approval of October 4, 2023, Needs Assessment Committee meeting minutes.

Motion: To approve the October 4, 2023, Needs Assessment Committee minutes as presented by staff.

First: Brenda Fam

Second: Joel Smith

Declaration of Conflict: None

Discussion: None

Result: Passed

III. Chair Report

Members of the Board discussed on the Mission and Goals of the Needs Assessment Committee Keep apprised of program performance and utilization and monitor services trends and gaps Ensure good collaboration and coordination with the other community funders that also service similar services and population.

Broward County Board of County Commissioners

• Mark D. Bogen • Lamar P. Fisher • Beam Furr • Steve Geller • Robert McKinzie • Nan H. Rich • Hazelle P. Rogers • Tim Ryan • Michael Udine
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2024 Presentation Schedule

Members of the Board stated that the Needs Assessment Committee (NAC) serves as the space that helps Board Members gain clarity on emerging or unmet community needs. Service providers who are doing the work are encouraged to share their successes and challenges so that recommendations developed at NAC are well-informed.

Members of the board discussed different kinds of community needs and partnership opportunities to help identify priorities, and challenges and understand gaps in the services.

The different topics for the presentation schedule include presentations from various Human Services Departments or sections:

Homelessness and challenges with housing
Health Section,
FASD,
CISD, including juvenile justice population,
Diversion,
Baker Act
State Attorney's Office (parent responsibility),
Public Defenders Office,
Special Needs,

It would be helpful if the presentations highlighted successes, challenges, viable solutions, recommendations, and next steps. NAC would like to understand if other funders are involved or interested in funding these initiatives and how to enhance community partnerships. The frequency of the meetings will be determined once the first presentation is done.

CSB Liaisons

The tentative liaison reports for consideration are:

Behavioral Health – Elida Segrera
DJJ – Chief Teves Bush
Special Needs – Ally Walford
School System - Brenda Fam and Veda Hudge
DCF – Traci Schweitzer

IV. Section Administrator's Report

Strategic Plan Update

Dr. Tiffany Hill-Howard presented an overview of the updates of the Strategic Plan, approved by the CSB last November, acknowledging all the suggestions and recommendations from the Board. Staff is continuing to seek out input from providers and consumers, working collaboratively with partners to ensure there is no duplicative funding and staying in track. Staff will analyze during the quarterly utilization meeting if mid-year adjustments would be necessary.

Cassandra Evans mentioned that a recommendation was made in the RFP process to address the bundle of wellness of all these children with what is considered core services. This may allow providers to have an opportunity to create and craft a very comprehensive family plan.

Dr. Hill-Howard mentioned that our provider forum was an invitation to all providers, not only to the ones we do business with, and information about the flexible funding was also shared during this space.

Members of the Board and Staff discussed this update.

V. Public Comments

Shawn Preston, ARC Broward, thanked for the one-on-one monthly meeting with providers, and asked if Staff will go back to the group provider meetings. She commented on the benefits of this group format. Ms. Preston asked if Robert (Bob) Mayersohn is still a member of the CSB and NAC since he is a source expert regarding special needs.

Cassandra informed Members that Bob, who was an active member, is no longer with the Board because of his new position. It is recommended that Ally Walker consider being the SNAC liaison since she is personally knowledgeable of services for children and youth with special needs. Staff is looking to reopen the administrative code to update the CSB to specify a particular person to be the SNAC liaison.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 am.

The next Needs Assessment Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 9:00 A.M. at 2300 W Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309.