



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 May 3, 2023

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at 9:00 A.M.

Committee Members in attendance: Robert Mayersohn, and Paige Patterson-Hughes.

Committee Members absent: Monica King, Dr. Andrea Keener, Dan Schevis, Evan Goldman, and Joel Smith.

Staff members in attendance: Efrem Crenshaw, Director of Community Partnerships Division (CPD) – via Teams; Cassandra Evans Assistant Director of CPD, Sandra Meza Hernandez Children Services Administration (CSA).

II. Approval of minutes

Approval of February 1, and March 1, 2023, Needs Assessment Committee (NAC) meeting minutes.

Motion: To approve the February 1, and March 1, 2023, Needs Assessment Committee minutes as presented by staff.

First: Paige Patterson-Hughes

Second: Robert Mayersohn

Declaration of Conflict: None

Discussion: None

Result: Passed

III. Chair Report

Providers presentations: (refer to attached provider presentations)

Children Diagnostic & Treatment Center (CDTC) presentation by Melissa Bottge White, Associate Executive Director and Alana Dunlap O'Connor, Program Manager.

Melissa Bottge White confirmed Robert Mayersohn's question if CDTC gets their overall funding just from grants. Robert suggested that CDTC look for funding from the State or Federal government.

Mr. Mayersohn asked what their recommendation to the NAC would be, Melissa replied they would like to have some administrative dollars to cover some of the unfunded programs and training for staff. Also, they would like to have between 15 and 30 days to complete the intake/case plan development requirements.

Cassandra Evans suggested to all the providers to stay and listen to the other presentations as a learning and networking opportunity. A standing invitation to the NAC meetings held on the first Wednesdays of every month at 9 am. at the Traffic Building was extended.

Covenant House Florida – CHF presentation by Renee Trincanello, CEO and Betsy Syrien, Chief Program Officer

Chair Mayersohn asked the percentage of vacancies and turnovers at the organization. CHF informed that has 22 vacancies now and turnover is about 22%. Other providers are recruiting for more positions and able to raise pay.

JAFCO presentation by Annmarie Jordan, Director of Child Enrichment

Robert Mayersohn asked what is the current percentage for vacancy and turnover? JAFCO is working with part time staff working 30 hours to fill shifts, they are not having challenges in terms of staffing. They are having challenges with the demand of clients needing respite and not being able to accommodate them because of staffing shortages. They are working to fill the advocacy positions with the right person to meet their client needs.

Broward Children’s Center (BCC) by Theresa Spurlock, Operations Officer and Julnyca Cadet, Social Services Director.

Robert Mayersohn suggested to approach Broward County Schools to solicit any of their educational advocates, as a volunteer opportunity, are continuously searching for more staff.

Community Based Connections, Inc. (CBCI) by Mick Desrameaux, Clinical Director

One of the challenges is staffing turnover which is between 20-25%. Michael replied to Chair Mayersohn question that CBCI is funded through the County, CSC, Childnet. Robert Mayersohn suggested as a recommendation to approach for state/federal funding to increase their base.

Chair Mayersohn thanked the providers for participating in the NAC meetings, and he informed them that there will be a strategic planning retreat where the Board will look at all the provider related information, the valuable services provided in the community, and find out how to assist with the delivery of those services.

Cassandra Evans invited providers to the planning retreat which is scheduled to be a day long activity on June 9th starting at 9:00 am, in the Traffic Building’s training room. The public and providers will get a chance to see the entire CSB work together to provide guidance on the FY2025 RFP funding opportunity.

IV. Section Administrator's Report

FY24 RFP – Supported Employment Services

CPD Assistant Director Evans informed all that the details of FY24 RFP are in the agenda package and on the website. This small procurement (\$385k) is the monies originally allocated through Commissioner Barbara Sharif for supported employment. CSA will be doing a one-year-pilot for one primary purpose which is capacity building. For those participating in the program, the applicant will have the opportunity to utilize flex funds up to \$1,000 per person participant.

CSA YTD FY 23 Utilization update and Contract Reallocation Recommendations.

Cassandra Evans presented the utilization report based for the quarter ending March 31st. CPD is at just under 40% but it should be at 50% utilization.

The contract reallocations analysis is pending completion. However, CPD's is to expend all of the allocated funds. The plan is to shift the money in June, so the receiving providers have enough time to draw down the funds before the end of the fiscal year.

Chair Mayersohn requested a copy of the slides to be sent to the Board members.

Chair Mayersohn thanked the providers for participating in the NAC meeting which help members of the Board as well as staff, to understand not only the needs of the children but the needs of the providers.

V. Public Comments

None

VI. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn at 10:47 A.M.

First: Robert Mayersohn

Second: Paige Patterson-Hughes.

Declaration of Conflict: None

Discussion: None

The next Needs Assessment Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at 9:00 A.M.