

Minutes  
Children and Families Advisory Board Meeting  
June 26, 2017  
Historic County Courthouse  
125 W. New York Ave.  
DeLand, Florida

**Board Members Present**

Dr. Mary Bruno, Chair  
Dr. Kadie Hayward Mullins, Vice-Chair  
Karen Bagley  
Marjorie Johnson  
Maria Mills-Benat  
Eddie Molina

**Staff Present**

Diana Phillips, Manager,  
Housing and Grants Administration  
Jill Marcum

Dr. Kadie Hayward Mullins called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and Jill Marcum called the roll. Ms. Mullins noted that Dr. Mary Bruno would be absent due to car trouble. There was a quorum.

There was no public participation.

**Item 1 – Minutes**

Marjorie Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 10, 2017. Maria Mills-Benat seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Item 2 – Contingency agency presentations**

Bev Johnson, President/CEO of Easterseals of Northeast Central Florida gave a short presentation describing the two project applications.

**Center for Autism**

Ms. Johnson explained that the contingency funds provide scholarships for potential clients who need diagnostic testing or treatment. She stated that the average age in Volusia County for autism diagnosis is 7 ½ years, while the national average is 4 ½ years. She stated that Easterseals are doing all they can to provide early diagnosis for children with autism so that they can start treatment earlier. The requested funding helps families remove the financial barriers for testing.

**Child Development Centers**

Ms. Johnson explained that this program provides scholarships for children ages 12 months to 5 years with special needs. The scholarships allow families that may not have the funds available to be able to participate in the program. She went on to say

that the classrooms at the development center are inclusive, but that the scholarships themselves are only for children with special needs.

Maria Mills-Benat asked staff for clarification regarding the risk factors for scoring the applications.

Diana Philips explained that the risk factors and scope of work that are included in the RSQ do not include the contingency issues.

Marjorie Johnson asked how many children participated in the Easterseals autism programs. Bev Johnson stated that last year they served 126 children, 26 of which were funded by the contingency funds.

Karen Bagley asked staff for clarification on number 6 on the scoring sheet.

Ms. Philips explained that the intent of question was to find out if they disclosed that funding was suspended or they had any issues.

Steve Parris, Community Health and Outreach Supervisor for Healthy Communities, thanked the board for the funding provided over the years. The Safe for Kids program was started in the mid- nineties as a result of the number of children entering the medical centers for water related injuries. It was decided that the best way to address the problem was by providing swim scholarships to children from low-income families that could not afford swimming lessons for their children. He stated that children from low income families are four times more likely to drown than children from families with greater resources. He noted that the program has made a real difference, over the years they have provided more than 15,000 scholarships. Healthy Communities partners with the YMCA and City of Daytona Beach. They are working with the Spring Hill Chisholm Center and hope to partner with them within the next year.

Ms. Bagley asked when the program took place. Mr. Parris explained that the program takes place during the summer months.

Dr. Mullins asked if they had tried to partner with the Kiwanis. Mr. Parris said the Kiwanis gave Healthy Communities \$400.00 for the program this year.

Bill Hinebaugh, Executive Director of the Volusia Literacy Council said that it was the Council's 30<sup>th</sup> year of working with Volusia County and he thanked Board for their service. Mr. Hinebaugh began by discussing the agency's history. He stated that statistics indicate 1 in 4 adults aged 16 and older read at or below a fourth grade level. He went on to describe the difficulties facing someone unable to read such as the inability to apply for or hold a job, get a loan from a bank or use a computer, things that most of us take for granted. Mr. Hinebaugh said that the Literacy Council's goal is to get students to a 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. The program tutors about 200 – 250 students per year and is projecting 15 GEDs this year.

Eddie Molena asked about the long wait period of 2 – 4 months to get enter the program. Mr. Hinebaugh said that the wait was due to the need for more volunteer tutors.

Ms. Mills-Benat asked if there was a way for the Council to hire people to tutor. Mr. Hinebaugh stated that they do not have the funds to hire anyone full time.

Ms. Johnson asked where they obtained their students. He answered that most came by referral, he went on to say that the problem wasn't getting students rather it was getting volunteers to tutor them.

Ms. Johnson asked what age group participated in the program. Mr. Hinebaugh said that the age range was 16 and up.

Mr. Hinebaugh mentioned that they also offered tutoring for English as a second language.

### **Item 3 – Contingency funding for fiscal year 2017 - 2018**

Dr. Mullins requested that the board complete and hand in their score sheets.

Ms. Phillips suggested the board identify their minimum score for cut off prior to seeing the final scores.

Ms. Mills-Benat stated that she felt that 80% was a fair cut off.

Ms. Phillips restated to the Board that anyone scoring less than 4 points in a line item should not be considered for funding.

Ms. Johnson said that she thought 80 was too high.

Ms. Johnson made a motion that the agencies must score at least 3 points in each line item equaling 70% to be considered for funding. Mr. Molena seconded the motion. The motion was passed 4 - 1 with Ms. Mills-Benat voting no.

Dr. Mullins asked staff how long they thought they would need if there were any errors in the applications that needed to be addressed. Ms. Phillips stated that she thought two weeks would be sufficient.

Ms. Johnson made a motion to set July 10, 2017 as the due date for submission of technical corrections. Ms. Mills-Benat seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Phillips stated that there had been a mathematic error and that to meet 70% they must score 3.5 points in each line item.

Ms. Bagley made a motion that the agencies must score at least 3.5 points in each line item equaling 70% to be considered for funding. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Mullins called a recess for scoring to be completed.

Dr. Mullins reconvened the meeting. She informed the room that all 3 applicants met the 70% requirement.

After discussion it was determined that the funding would be split between the 3 agencies as follows:

Easterseal's Child Development Center - \$18,497

Easterseal's Pediatric Therapy Center - \$18,863

Healthy Communities - \$10,000

Volusia Literacy Council - \$32,207

Ms. Mills-Bennat made a motion that funding be distributed as recommended. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Item 4 – Approval of risk factors and scopes of work relating to the RSQ service category for staff development and case management**

Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve the risk factors and scopes of work as outlined in the previous meeting. Mr. Molena seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Item 5 – Review of board schedule for fiscal year 2016-17**

Dr. Mullins reviewed the schedule with the board.

Ms. Phillips stated that the next meeting would be held in DeLand and the August meeting will be in Daytona Beach.

**Item 6 – Development of board schedule for fiscal year 2017-18**

Dr. Mullins introduced next year's calendar explaining that there were only 4 meetings scheduled at this time.

Ms. Phillips reminded the board that they had wanted the lead agencies to give a presentation regarding their services and asked them if they would like to schedule a meeting later this year.

Ms. Bagley said that she would like to schedule it soon, stating that she thought it would be very helpful.

Ms. Phillips said that there were 8 lead agencies and asked for guidance on the type of presentation they wanted to see and the time limit to set.

Ms. Bagley suggested splitting them up between 2 meetings so that there would be plenty of time for each presenter.

Dr. Mullins asked if the board wanted to include the presentations in the August meeting or schedule an additional meeting.

The board determined that 2 meetings be scheduled, September 12<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m., and that each agency be given 15 minutes for a presentation.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.