

Minutes
Children and Families Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Volusia County Historic Courthouse
2nd Floor Training Room
125 W. New York Ave., DeLand

Board Members

Dr. Kadie Hayward Mullins, Chair
Carrie Baird, Vice-Chair
Karen Bagley
Dr. Mary Bruno
Kevin Connolly
Joyce Cusack
Marjorie Johnson
Dr. Tammy Ryan

Staff Present

Diana Phillips, Operations Manager
Corry Brown, Special Projects Coordinator
Jill Marcum, Grants Coordinator

Dr. Kadie Hayward Mullins called the meeting to order at 1:30 and Corry Brown called the roll. Member Kevin Connolly was absent. There was a quorum.

Public Participation

There was no public participation.

Item 1 – JAG FY 2020

Dr. Mullins reviewed the process of JAG and reminded the board that the funding amount and timeframe were uncertain.

Corry Brown explained that the program applicants would give a short presentation on the programs funded by JAG and after the presentations the board would score the applications submitted.

Jennifer Nadelkov, representing The House Next Door, reviewed *Success by Design* a program targeting students at high risk of school dropout and criminal activity. She stated that, if approved, the JAG funding would be used to help support the program.

Ms. Nadelkov explained that the SW Middle School in DeLand, which is the usual location for the program, will not be available for the upcoming year. She stated that the House Next Door was currently looking into moving the program to either DeLand Middle School or Campbell Middle School. She explained that they were trying to determine where the greater need is at this time.

Joyce Cusack asked why SW Middle School was unavailable. Ms. Nadelkov explained that the school just did not have the space for a full time staff member. She went on to explain that the Counselors need a private place to meet with the students.

Ms. Cusack stated that DeLand Middle School would be a good location.

Jennifer Stephenson, representing Stewart Marchman Act Behavioral Healthcare (SMA), reviewed the *Adult Drug Court Counseling* program that provides counseling services to eligible defendants with substance use disorders. She explained that in addition to counseling services they use a medication that aids clients with severe opioid or alcohol addiction.

Ms. Stephenson stated that the participants are also required to receive regular drug tests and perform community services hours throughout their time in the program.

Dr. Tammy Ryan asked what kind of community service was performed. Ms. Stephenson stated that they work with multiple organizations, including The House Next Door, Our Father's Closet and some SMA Campus'.

Marjorie Johnson asked how SMA handled repeat offenders. Ms. Stephenson explained that keeping track of the arrest records was easy, but that keeping up with further drug use was a difficult task. She stated that 75% of people who completed the program did not offend again.

Dr. Ryan asked what age group was served. Ms. Stephenson responded that the program served ages 18 and up, but that the average age of participants was 25.

The board members submitted their scoresheets to staff for entry into the scoring matrix.

Item 2 – CFAB Annual Report 2019

Dr. Mullins reviewed the 2019 Annual Report explaining the documents and reports attached.

Dr. Bruno made a **motion** to approve the Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cusack. The motion passed unanimously.

JAG Scoring

Ms. Brown reviewed total board member scores for the JAG applications, explaining that the agencies scores were nearly tied.

The board discussed scenarios of recommending funding, with the actual funding unknown.

Ms. Baird made a **motion** to approve both applications at 100%, with the understanding that if the program received less funds than expected both requests would be reduced by the same percentage and if they received more than expected the funds would be split proportionately between the two applicants. Karen Bagley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 5 – Summer Camp 2019

Ms. Brown informed the board that the changes they approved the previous year were very positive and that the families seemed to like the new voucher system. She explained that the new system had caused a few problems for staff, since the calculations on the back end rather than the front it was necessary to send out a three/four page list of providers and fee scenarios which confused some of the parents.

She also explained that not all the funding had been expended, due in part to the camp period being seven weeks rather than the usual eight.

Ms. Brown reviewed the proposed changes staff was recommending to make for the upcoming summer camp cycle to better serve the applicants. Ms. Brown explained that the proposed changes would create two poverty levels rather than four and that the scholarships would be a flat award rather than percentages. With the change poverty level one (0% - 125%) would receive \$60 and poverty level two (126% and above) would receive \$40. With this change the only calculations needed would be if the weekly fee was less than the amount awarded. She acknowledged that it was a big change, but that she thought it would really benefit the participants.

Ms. Brown told the board that staff planned to do more advertising in hope of getting more participants and more providers.

Ms. Brown stated that staff scoring unintentionally had a negative effect on the provider scoring the previous year, so much so that in the end they had to be disregarded. She stated that rather than scoring the applications this year, staff was proposing to complete an eligibility checklist for each applicant.

Ms. Cusack asked if there was a discount for multiple children. Ms. Brown explained that if the changes were approved the multi-child discount and registration fees would no longer be a part of the program. She said that after review of the new plan it showed that every poverty level benefited from the proposed changes.

Ms. Baird asked if the board could review only the applications for providers that met the eligibility requirements rather than all applicants.

Ms. Bagley said that she wanted to see all of them, stating that sometimes a needed provider might be denied for small reasons like being a first time provider.

Dr. Bruno agreed and stated it went the other way too, that a provider may be technically eligible, but on further review it came out that they didn't have proper staffing or location.

Dr. Hayward Mullins said she saw it as a vetting process.

Ms. Baird asked if staff budgeted for attrition. Ms. Brown said that they usually over budgeted by 10%.

D.J. Lebo from the Early Learning Coalition stated that they would be glad to help advertise the program.

Ms. Bagley asked if providers would be turned away because they operated outside of the timeline set by the program. Ms. Brown explained that they would not be disqualified, they just wouldn't be paid for those dates.

Dr. Bruno made a **motion** to approve the changes to the Summer Camp Scholarship program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Baird. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Participation

There was no public participation

Discussion from board members

Ms. Johnson said that she would like the schedule to be changed to meet in Daytona Beach. Ms. Brown explained that the meetings were scheduled and approved for the entire year.

Ms. Johnson made a **motion** to reschedule the next meeting to a location in Daytona Beach. There was no second. The motion died.

Staff

Ms. Brown informed the board that Diana Philips had been appointed to the position of Community Services Operation Manager and would not be as involved with CFAB as she previously was, but would still be helping with RSQ.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.