



## Children's Services Advisory Board Meeting

March 23, 2022

A meeting of the Children's Services Advisory Board of Manatee County, Florida, was held at the Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday March 23, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present** (In Person): Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Hon. Scott Brownell, Jennifer Hamey, Charlie Kennedy, Susan Miller Kelly, Jannon Pierce, and Rita Smith (Virtually): Kimberly Kutch, and George VanBuren. **Absent/Excused:** Xtavia Bailey, Carolann Garafola, and Kelly Hunt;  
**Absent/Unexcused:** None.

**Also Present:** County Staff: (In Person), Kristi Hagen, LaWanda Timmons, Chris Handy-Honeycutt, and Johanna Beville; Members of the Public: (In Person) Jonathan Evans, Char Young, Katrina Bellamare, Tony Stephens, Kelly Benford, Valerie Longo, Darrell King, Kerry Gaylord, Dawn Bryant, Bridget Harry, (Virtually) Ashley Williams, Drena Green, Andrea Drlicka, Ciara Cosby, Derrick Randall, Marquita Robertson, Kim Ross, Megan Smith, and Rachel Spivey.

### Call to Order/Welcome

Debbie Tapp, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

### Discussion of Investment Applications

CSAB Members had an open discussion on the review process and scoring. Programs (8) reviewed are listed below. Concerns or questions voiced are noted.

- Palmetto Youth Center – Helping Young People Excel (HYPE): *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed priority: Decrease the number of incidents of referrals for aggression, bullying/harassment, and out of school suspensions. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
  - *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it may be considered for an increase.*

**Susan Miller Kelly entered @ 3:12 pm**

**Jannon Pierce entered @ 3:19 pm**

**Rita Smith exited @ 3:51 pm**

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Minutes for March 16, 2022 **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Susan Miller Kelly, **Seconded by** Connie Shingledecker, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 7, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Debbie Tapp, Connie Shingledecker, Hon. Scott Brownell, Jennifer Hamey, Charlie Kennedy, Susan Miller Kelly, Jannon Pierce.

### Discussion of Investment Applications

- Palmetto Youth Center – Foundation for Excellence: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*

- *Program claimed priority: Youth reduce their existing literacy gap towards developmentally appropriate literacy skills as determined through use of an objective method. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
- *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it will not be considered for an increase by member consensus.*

**Kimberly Kutch entered @ 3:59 pm**

- Palmetto Youth Center – Seed to Serving: *This is a new program applying for funding from the Manatee County Children's Services Millage. Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed*
  - *Program claimed priority: Youth reduce their existing literacy gap towards developmentally appropriate literacy skills as determined through use of an objective method. CSAB will not consider as a priority by member vote. **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 6, No = 2, Abstain = 0). **Public Comment:** Tony Stevens, Palmetto Youth Center, spoke on the parental component of the program and the importance of their buy-in and support of the program. Reviewed program items that would be procured to run a successful program. Described the reading component of the program as needing to read and learn to garden, follow recipes or cooking instructions, and how to read a nutrition label. Mr. Stevens further explained the different age group this program.*

**George VanBuren entered @ 4:20 pm**

- Educational Consultants Consortium – Iron Sharpening Iron: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed priority: Youth decrease symptoms of behavioral health issues as identified objectively by a measure of level of functioning as determined by the program. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
  - *Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB determined it may be considered for an increase by member consensus.*
- Early Learning Coalition – Play and Learning Strategies: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *No priority claimed.*
  - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Early Learning Coalition – Nemours Reading BrightStart!: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed priority: Youth reduce their existing literacy gap towards developmentally appropriate literacy skills as determined through use of an objective method. CSAB will consider as a priority by member consensus.*
  - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Early Learning Coalition – Early Care and Education Childcare Subsidy & Match Program: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *No priority claimed.*
  - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*
- Early Learning Coalition – Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH): *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *No priority claimed.*
  - *Program is not requesting a funding increase.*

## Staff Updates

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations:
  - Parenting Matters – Chosen Families
  - Educational Consultants Consortium, Inc. – Iron Sharpening Iron
  - HOPE Family Services – Children's Counseling (standards review)

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Batch 1 final scores are to be submitted on Friday, March 25, 2022.
- Batch 3 will be sent tomorrow, questions for Batch 3 are due on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, to LaWanda Timmons.
- No Small Matter screening, April 3 – April 8, per your schedule. Flyer will be emailed to CSAB members per Connie Shingledecker's request.

## New/Old Business

None.

## Public Comment

Agency representatives who verbally provided a public comment during the meeting were:

(In Person): Katrina Bellamare, Valerie Longo, Kerry Gaylord, Darrell King; (Virtually): Ciara Cosby.

- Katrina Bellamare, Parenting Matters: Spoke on her upcoming move and plans to step down from Parenting Matters as a result. Spoke on the leadership that will continue to run the organization. Thanked CSAB for all they have done and will continue to do. CSAB Members expressed their thanks to Katrina for all she has done for Manatee County and best wishes for her future success.
- Valerie Longo, Parenting Matters: Noted the Parenting Matters Executive Board has met and have a transition committee who are actively seeking a replacement for Katrina. Valerie offered to answer any questions throughout the process.
- Kerry Gaylord, Early Learning Coalition: Clarified funding request for PALS program, children served are 4-48 months, the curriculum is from University of Texas and is a nationwide program. The CATCH program includes parents receiving education on healthier food choices as well. It is a wraparound wellness program that includes fitness and nutrition components.
- Darrell King, Early Learning Coalition: Thanked the members and staff for the support provided over the last months. Assured members the ELC is acutely aware of the size of budget and the state dollars they are awarded. Spoke on being good stewards of all funding received from the Children's Services Millage and they continuously strive to diversify the funding sources for their programs.
- Ciara Cosby, Educational Consultants Consortium: Thanked the board for viewing the Educational Consultants Consortium application and providing feedback. Clarified the program's desire is to extend program hours at all centers by utilizing the extra time to accommodate and engage with the clients' parents to address behavioral, academic, or personal concerns or goals the parents may have.

### Next Meeting

March 30, 2022 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

### Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

### Approved

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Debbie Tapp, Chair

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Date