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, 5th Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday April 5, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call


Also Present: County Staff: (In Person) Tracie Adams, Kristi Hagen, Johanna Beville, Melissa Bomar, and Brenda Marquez Facio (Virtually) LaWanda Timmons, Members of Manatee County Commission: (In Person) Amanda Ballard; Members of the Public: (In Person) Drena Green, Barbara Harvey, Dawn Stanhope, Catrese Estes-Allen, Reggie Bellamy, Dawn Bryant, (Virtually) Michael Wood, Kaylen Hage, Melissa Washington, Kimberly Kutch, Susan Ford, Zoya Shcherbinina, and Becky Canesse.

Call to Order/Welcome

Connie Shingledecker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Minutes for March 29, 2023, Action: Approve, Moved by Xtavia Bailey, Seconded by Susan Miller Kelly, Vote: Motion passed (Summary: Yes = 7, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person): Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Kelly Hunt, Debbie Tapp, Susan Miller Kelly, Carolann Garafola, (Virtually): None.

Discussion of Investment Applications

The CSAB members had an open discussion on the review process and scoring. Six programs reviewed and listed below.

- The Club Teen Program (Ages 13 - 17) - Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County: Initial CSAB members’ scores were reviewed.
  - Program claimed priority: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning. CSAB members will consider as a priority by consensus.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB members determined, by consensus, the consideration for the requested increase will be tabled until after public comment in hopes the program will address the questions CSAB members voiced.

Jannon Pierce entered at 3:06 pm
• **Iron Sharpening Iron - Educational Consultants Consortium, Inc.** *Initial CSAB members’ scores were reviewed.*
  - Program claimed priority: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning. CSAB members will consider as a priority by consensus.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB members determined it may be considered for an increase by consensus.

• **Helping Young People Excel (HYPE) - Palmetto Youth Center** *Initial CSAB members’ scores were reviewed.*
  - Program claimed priority: Children demonstrate improved behavioral functioning. CSAB members will consider as a priority by consensus.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB members determined, by consensus, the consideration for the requested increase will be tabled until after public comment in hopes the program will address the questions CSAB members voiced.

• **Great Futures Start Here (Ages 5 - 12) - Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County** *Initial CSAB members’ scores were reviewed.*
  - Program claimed priority: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills. CSAB members will consider as a priority by consensus.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB members determined it may be considered for an increase by consensus.

Discussion ensued about the universal student identifier number work the Early Learning Coalition had previously reviewed during a past presentation to the CSAB members. Staff will contact Early Learning Coalition staff to obtain an update on their progress and provide an update for CSAB members at a future meeting.

*Rita Smith entered at 3:42 pm*

• **Healthy Eating and Learning Program (HELP) - Palmetto Youth Center** *This is a new program applying for funding from the Manatee County Children’s Millage. Initial CSAB members’ scores were reviewed.*
  - Discussion ensued amongst CSAB members concerning the priority claimed by the program and if the services provided align with the priority.

  **Motion:** To not accept the program’s selected priority, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Jannon Pierce, **Seconded by** Kelly Hunt, **Vote:** Motion failed (Summary: Yes = 2- Kelly Hunt and Jannon Pierce, No = 7-Connie Shingledecker, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Debbie Tapp, Rita Smith, Susan Miller Kelly, Carolann Garafola, Abstain = 0). **Public Comment:** Reggie Bellamy, Palmetto Youth Center.
  - Program claimed priority: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills. CSAB members will consider as a priority by consensus.
• **Foundation For Excellence - Palmetto Youth Center:** Initial CSAB members’ scores were reviewed.
  - Program claimed priority: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills. CSAB members will consider as a priority by consensus.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase and CSAB members determined it may be considered for an increase by consensus.

**Staff Updates**

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- Reviewed recent compliance visit conducted for Parenting Matters - Chosen Families and Parenting Matters - Parent Partner Program and there was nothing of concern noted during either of the observations.

**New/Old Business**

Susan Miller Kelly re-visited the Foundation For Excellence - Palmetto Youth Center funding application and shared information on FY23’s funding application results and the number of clients they anticipated to serve and reviewed FY24’s funding application results and the number of clients they anticipated to serve.

Xtavia Bailey re-visited Every Child Counts – Early Learning Coalition funding application and voiced additional concerns and clarification needed on the services program is proposing to provide as compared to services the Department of Children and Families provides. Connie Shingledecker provided information on the responsibilities the Department of Children and Families is required per state statute unless there is another entity that has taken over that function in their county. It was determined by CSAB member consensus to revisit the program during the buffer meeting.

**Public Comment**

Agencies who verbally provided a public comment during the meeting were:


- **Dawn Stanhope, Boys and Girls Club:** Spoke on The Club Teen program and how an increase in funding would extend program hours to increase in the number of clients participating in the program and receiving services. Shared it would also allow the program to pilot additional supports for clients served. Addressed the concerns about member fees in the application budget.
- **Catrese Estes-Allen, Boys and Girls Club:** Spoke on the Great Futures Start Here program MOU with the School District of Manatee County and reviewed the data received is aggregate and it blocks the access of individual clients. Shared program is planning to pilot two other reading literacy programs over the summer as a means of researching and determining another system to measure our own data versus counting on the district’s data.
- **Reggie Bellamy, Palmetto Youth Center:** Spoke on the errors within the funding applications submitted for both currently funded programs. Provided additional information on the results for each of the programs and his openness to collaborate with
staff on the result wording. Addressed the CSAB members’ concerns about the 60% attendance rate for clients and spoke on the challenges of having some clients consistently attend the program. Also spoke on the error in the additional 18 clients they would be serving as they do not plan to be serving those additional clients.

**Revisit of Programs Requesting Funding Increase**

The Club Teen Program (Ages 13 - 17) - Boys & Girls Clubs of Manatee County: CSAB members reviewed the program’s funding increase request and determined it may be considered for an increase by member consensus and will be discussed further at the Buffer Meeting.

Helping Young People Excel (HYPE) - Palmetto Youth Center: CSAB members reviewed the program’s funding increase request and determined it may be considered for an increase by member consensus and will be discussed further at the Buffer Meeting.

**Next Meeting**

April 12, 2023 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5th floor.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

**Approved**

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Connie Shingledecker, Chair  

Date