CHILDREN’S SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR MANATEE ROOM  
1112 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, Florida  
May 1, 2024  

Present were:  
Connie Shingledecker, Chairman  
Xtavia Bailey, Vice-Chairman  
Carolann Garafola  
Susan Miller Kelly  
Patricia Miner  
Jannon Pierce  

Absent were:  
Hon. Scott Brownell  
Constance Charles-Logan  
Gina Messenger  
Debbie Tapp  
Melissa Leslie  
Rita Smith  

Also present were:  
Kristi Hagen, Children’s Services Program Coordinator  
Johanna Beville, Senior Human Services Analyst  
Melissa Bomar, Human Services Analyst  
Lawanda Timmons, Senior Human Services Analyst  
Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst – via Zoom  
Denise Nelson, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court  

Absent were:  
Commissioner Amanda Ballard  
Tracie Adams, Deputy Director, Community and Veteran’s Services  

Chairman Shingledecker called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.  

Johanna Beville, Senior Human Services Analyst, read opening comments and declared there is no quorum.  

AGENDA/SIGN-IN SHEET  

Due to no quorum, minutes for April 24, 2024 were not approved.  

REVIEW DISCUSSION  

• Step Up Suncoast – Head Start/Early Head Start: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.  
  o Program claimed priority: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills.  
  o Program is requesting a funding increase.  

• Step Up Suncoast – Collaborative Action Therapy for Children’s Health (CATCH): Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.  
  o Program claimed priority: No Priority applicable.  
  o Program is requesting a funding increase.  

• Step Up Suncoast – Healthy Families Manatee: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
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- Program claimed priority: Children remain in their homes free of abuse and neglect and do not enter or re-enter foster care.
- Program is requesting a funding increase.

- **Step Up Suncoast – Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters-HIPPY:** Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
  - Program claimed priority: Funders, systems, policies, and practice align to ensure that our children have developmentally appropriate literacy skills
  - Program is requesting a funding increase.

- **Step Up Suncoast – Parents as Teachers:** Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
  - Program claimed priority: No priority applicable.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase.

- **Step Up Suncoast – Whole Child Manatee:** Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
  - Program claimed priority: No priority applicable.
  - Program is requesting a funding increase.

**STAFF UPDATES**

Johanna Beville, Senior Human Services Analyst, provided the following updates:
- Second quarter requirements were due yesterday (4/30/2024).
- Staff is working to process and troubleshoot any issues, concerns or comments with the programs and agencies.
- Please do the survey

Kristi Hagen, Children’s Services Program Coordinator, provided the following updates:
- There is no meeting next week (May 8, 2024)
- Please make certain all of your scores are turned in
- A packet of information will be provided with increase requests/reasons and how it will be used for the next CSAB meeting on May 15, 2024
- Johanna will be working on recommendation booklet and asked if the Board prefers ranking order or alphabetical order

**MEMBER COMMENT/UPDATES**

Commissioner Ballard was not present for any updates.

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

- Kristi Hagen confirmed the buffer meeting is May 15, 2024.

**Genesis Health Agency**

Ms. Hagen referred to information the Board received regarding emergency funding request from Genesis Health Services. The agency representatives are here to present the request for the summer.

James McCloud, Genesis Health Agency, reviewed the summer program which would take place in Rubonia. It is a before and after school program, with 36 children involved.

Discussion ensued regarding what activities will take place, asked to do a summer and after school program, ensure kids are safe and have activities to do, adding life skills and behavioral health care training, focus on school suspension or expulsion students, need letters of commitment to provide information and conferences, risk factor, intense intervention, keeping kids out of criminal justice system, need commitment from the schools,
obtain permission from the parents, partnership with Rubonia Community Center, and Avenue 941.

Ms. Hagen stated since there is no quorum, the Board cannot make a motion to open the application; however, it can be an emergency funding recommendation on June 19th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Murawski, Chief Financial Officer, Step Up Suncoast, appreciates the support over the years. He addressed the budget, revenue numbers, and staffing.

Kathy Patreka, Head Start Director, Step Up Suncoast Inc., addressed the situation relating to the reduction of staff, and they were not able to serve the children on the waiting list because of their income levels.

Altagracia Lajara-Pareds, HIPPY program, Step Up Suncoast, thanked the Board for their support.

Anna Cismesia, Program Manager, Parents As Teachers, Step Up Suncoast, addressed the numbers in enrollment, and milestones.

Kim Ross, Coordinator, Whole Child Manatee, Step Up Suncoast, introduced Sara Torres, newest member of Whole Child Manatee program.

Sara Torres, Whole Child Manatee, Step Up Suncoast, stated she is happy to be a part of the team.

Claudia Glover, Speech and Language Specialist, CATCH, Step Up Suncoast, explained the basics of the CATCH program.

Amy Yount, President/CEO, Step Up Suncoast, stated we are a community action agency and discussed the change in scope and finances.

There being no further public comments, Johanna Beville declared public comments closed.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Children’s Services Advisory Board will take place on May 15, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., in the 5th Floor, Manatee Room, Manatee County Administrative Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Shingledecker adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

Minutes Approved: ___________________