

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 23, 2012 BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Board Members in Attendance: Mr. Stockton Whitten, Board Chair, Judge Kelly McKibben, Board Vice Chair, Sam Gutierrez, Board Treasurer, Mr. Leo Roselip, Mr. William Ryder, Mr. Mel Broom, , and Ms. Kathleen Rich-New, Mr. Michael Cadore and Mr. Eric Smith.

Board Members Absent: Reverend Scott Elliott, and Ms. Brooke Deratany-Goldfarb.

Others in Attendance: Dr. Patricia Nellius, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Valerie M. Randall, Chief Personnel & Administrative Officer, Ms. Debbie Davidson-Cook, Chief Compliance & Utilization Officer, Mr. Jim Carlson, COO, Ms. Gloria Hensler, Finance Director, Mr. Geo Ropert, Director of Communications, Ms. Kelly Swartz, Staff Attorney and Ms. Laurie-Anna Blackburn, Executive Assistant. Also in attendance were Ms. Valerie Holmes, Executive Director, Brevard C.A.R.E.S., Ms. Teresa Miles, CHS, Ms. Susan Stead, Paxen Learning, Mr. Richard Semancik, Paxen Learning, Dr. Andrew Munoz, Ms. Amy Gregory, Representative Goodson's Office, Ms. Julia Irvin, and Ms. Brean'a Parker, Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Youth Liaison.

Mr. Whitten called the meeting to order and welcomed those present and thanked them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

Motion: Judge McKibben moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Mr. Gutierrez and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Whitten then requested the board members to review the agenda to determine if there are any real or perceived conflicts and if so to complete the Conflict of Interest form that was available at the meeting and provide it to Ms. Randall None were reported.

Motion: Ms. Rich New moved to approve the June 28, 2012 board meeting minutes. This was seconded by Mr. Broom and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Whitten then asked Dr. Nellius to present the guests in attendance. Dr. Nellius thanked Mr. Whitten and began introductions. She recognized Ms. Amy Gregory, from Representative Goodson's Office and stated she had first met Ms. Gregory when Dr. Nellius had been working with Representative Goodson on legislative language. She inquired if Ms. Gregory would like to address the board and Ms. Gregory indicated she was pleased to attend but did not have comments for the members. Next Dr. Nellius introduced the guests from Paxen Learning Corporation and announced that this entity had been awarded the grant to re-establish the former CBY25 initiative and that Ms. Julia Irvin was also in attendance and she has remained committed to the youth served by that initiative.

Ms. Stead addressed the board and introduced Mr. Richard Semancik. She expressed appreciation and indicated she felt fortunate to have been chosen to lead this local effort. She expressed her excitement about the program and indicated that the framework is being developed but that the actual program and implementation will be youth-driven. She reported that the youth board is being finalized at this time. Ms. Stead commented that the plan for long term sustainability for IL youth transitioning includes three (3) partner organizations including E-wareness which will be working to build a one-stop-shop website for youth. This is intended to provide information on resources, include opportunities for youth postings, social media platforms, etc. The second partner is the Suzoko Group which is a Brevard County PR firm. She indicated this organization will be responsible for press releases, success stories and will cover events and activities for the IL youth program. The last partner was the Community Foundation of Brevard which will focus on donor relations for the program sustainability. Ms. Stead stated that the first youth meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2012 and that she would leave her card and brochures for the members. There were no questions and Ms. Stead thanked the board for their time.

Ms. Holmes then introduced Ms. Breana Parker who is the new Youth Liaison for Brevard C.A.R.E.S.. Ms. Parker shared that she is attending UCF and studying psychology and she expressed that she is excited to be part of the organization.

Mr. Whitten then requested the guests to state their names for the record.

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Whitten asked the board members if there were questions or concerns on the Board Data Report. None were expressed and the next agenda item was discussed.

Staff Reports:

Dr. Nellius then referred to the Board Report and indicated there was considerable information upon which to report. She began informing the members about the Myron Rolle Camp that had been held and that six (6) youth in Brevard that had attended provided positive feedback. She shared the recent experience at the Georgetown Institute with Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and that this is a very competitive and highly prestigious conference. She reported that both the Friday and Saturday sessions conducted by Brevard C.A.R.E.S. was at the maximum allowable capacity and the sessions were closed as a result. Dr. Munoz commented that he heard conversations during the conference among participants that for those charged with taking back practical solutions and tools to their organizations they needed to attend the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. presentation. Dr. Nellius then updated the board on the dates for the upcoming ITN and oral presentation.

Dr. Nellius then recapped the work completed by Dr. Munoz during the summer involving the research on the Quality Assurance evaluation which is a DCF requirement. She reported that Dr. Munoz and she also met with Assistant Secretary Pete Digre in order to understand the direction the department is taking as well as to share the Brevard activities. She and Dr. Munoz also met with Mr. Don Winsted while in Tallahassee. Dr. Munoz and Don Winsted are both board members of Child Trends which is the organization conducting the evaluation on the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. program. Dr. Munoz commented that there had been hundreds of candidates for the board seat at Child Trends which had been awarded to Mr. Winsted and that this organization is the premier think tank in the child welfare arena. He remarked that Mr. Winsted is working with six (6) states on obtaining the IV-E waiver and that these would potential opportunities for the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. replication.

Dr. Nellius then reminded the members of the third and final community meeting scheduled for August 30th and that members should RSVP to Ms. Randall if they wished to attend. She shared that this meeting will focus on front line staff. Mr. Whitten encouraged any board members who had not attended the previous meetings to make efforts to attend this one. Dr. Nellius then indicated the next Regional CBC CEO meeting would take place on August 28, 2012. She also shared she had not renewed her office role with the FCFC and that Mr. Carlson had been selected to become a member of the Foundation Board.

Dr. Nellius then shared that Brevard Youth Transition Center would be closing and that six (6) youth had been moved. She reported that KLD is an impressive organization which may be losing its contract with DJJ and will have the capacity to take some of our more challenging youth. She reported that discussions with KLD are ongoing. Dr. Nellius then reported that a Candidate Forum is scheduled for September 14, 2012 and will be held at the Brevard Zoo starting at 7:30 AM. Discussion ensued on the importance of the agency and staff not endorsing a specific candidate, but rather this forum is for information only. Ms. Swartz interjected that we can not endorse or campaign for a specific candidate as it could jeopardize the agency's 501(c)(3) status. Judge McKibben recommended adding the candidates for both State Attorney and the Public Defender offices to the forum. Dr. Nellius then commended the staff with Intervention Services for their recent national adoption award and shared they will be attending the ceremony in September which will be in Washington, DC.

Dr. Nellius then reported that the Agency had received notification that DCF intends to enact the indemnification clause regarding the potential claim. It was reported that Morgan & Morgan intended to file against DCF and another agency but that the actual filing had not taken place. It was reported that the attorneys may be meeting to mediate the issue but that based on the contract should DCF be found responsible BFP may be required to pay. Mr. Roselip asked if BFP was specifically names, which it is not and Mr. Ryder inquired if our carrier had expressed a position regarding the renewal in this event. Dr. Nellius shared she expected the rates to increase in that event.

Mr. Roselip then inquired when the evidence based practice would be received for the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. program. Dr. Nellius responded that the process is lengthy and based on some feedback received for the peer review that the presentation it is a stronger position and is almost ready to be published. She reported that a second peer review is required for the higher level of certification and that the toolkit is being beta-tested currently with the new Head Start staff. She indicated that obtaining the feedback took longer than anticipated (approximately 3 months) but that it was worth the time as the feedback was meaningful and helpful with solid constructive feedback. Ms. Holmes commented that the study would be completed in March 2013 and finalized in July 2013 along with the toolkit.

Mr. Roselip inquired about the Brevard Health Alliance relationship and Mr. Carlson responded. He indicated that last October he and Ms. Powell met and identified a gap in consistent medical checks for youth entering care. He reported that since January 2012 the Brevard Health Alliance began delivering initial medical care for these youth including the required immunizations and that the agency has seen a dramatic increase in our performance in this measure.

Action Item: Mr. Roselip requested that a presentation on this be added to an upcoming board meeting.

New Business:

Ms. Hensler provided information to the board on the Surety Bond that is required. She shared that the value of the bond had to be 1% of the contract value and that the cost of this bond is \$4,200.00 which would have to be paid for by non-governmental funds. She reported this was required in the event the agency needed to file a protest in terms of the ITN.

Motion: Mr. Roselip moved to approve the purchase of the Surety Bond. This was seconded by Mr. Broom and the motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Hensler then spoke about the July financials. The members were provided with the July Statement of Financial Position and the July statement of Activities. She reported that as of August 20 the accounting function was still finalizing year end activities and that she and Mr. Gutierrez had not had the opportunity to discuss the financials prior to the board meeting. She indicated that the first month of the new fiscal year tends to be lower than the rest as there are many accruals but not as much financial activity. She commented that pre-pays in FY 12 are expensed in FY 13.

Action Item: Ms. Hensler will prepare a spreadsheet for the board members on these expenses.

Dr. Nellius reminded the board that as our current contract ends June 30, 2013 that the Agency will not have any carry forward funds moving into the new fiscal year. Ms. Rich New inquired about pre-paying expenses and Dr. Nellius shared the normal spend down and capacity building strategy employed by the Agency. Mr. Roselip inquired about the non-governmental budget.

Action Item: Provide a copy of the non-governmental budget to the board members.

Dr. Nellius then introduced Dr. Munoz to share the results of the Quality Assurance external evaluation which has been a new requirement of the department. Dr. Munoz shared that child welfare is a difficult

sector and based on economic conditions is in a generally depressed climate. He commented that during his many speaking engagements he generally cites three (3) agencies and programs that are doing exceptional work in the nation and that BFP, through the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Program is always one. He commented on the evaluation conducted by AED which is the largest study of its kind in child welfare on the Wraparound. He then commented that currently the Agency is required to complete 10 forms of evaluation to provide to DCF and now a new one has been added. He stated that the evaluation conducted was very rigorous and was based on the highest standards. He cited Debbie Davidson Cook, Amy Moseley and their staff for doing excellent work and he indicated that the evaluation demonstrated that the program is well managed and meets the required standards. He shared that he had invited Dr. Brad Rose to participate with him to validate his work and that Dr. Rose is the best-known evaluator from the Harvard Business School. He expressed that the evaluation addressed root cause analysis rather than the check the box approach and that this is the methodology utilized by the Agency which is why the evaluation was so strong.

Mr. Whitten thanked Dr. Munoz for his partnership and indicated that it was a tremendous benefit to the Agency to have his objectivity and involvement. Mr. Whitten also commended Dr. Nellius and her staff for an outstanding job and thanked Debbie Davidson Cook for her efforts as well. Dr. Nellius shared that Ms. Moseley leads the Quality Assurance team and that she and her team has done a great job

Action Item: E-mail the last final report to the board members.

Next, Mr. Gutierrez reported on a potential new board member. He shared that members of the Recruitment Subcommittee had met with Ms. Christa Bailey and she is being recommended to the board as a new member. He shared some information about the candidate and that members of the subcommittee and Ms. Rich New had met Ms. Bailey for a lunch meeting.

Motion: Mr. Gutierrez moved to accept Ms. Christa Bailey as the newest board member pending any required background screenings. This was seconded by Mr. Ryder and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Gutierrez then inquired if there would be a call in number for the Regional CEO meeting on August 20th and Mr. Whitten indicated that if members could call in to please do so.

Old Business:

Legislative Report:

Mr. Ropert then addressed the board and thanked Ms. Gregory for attending and shared that Representative Goodson has been supportive of the Agency. He shared that the regular sessions would occur this year, absent the redistricting and that the draft priorities were in the binders. During the Equity language discussion Dr. Nellius shared that in September a meeting with DCF, CBC's, Casey Family Foundation and CWLA (Child Welfare League of America) was scheduled to address the equity issue and hopefully find consensus on a model. She shared that the Secretary indicated that he would support a model with consensus from this meeting.

Dr. Nellius shared that for the current fiscal year BFP received a one-time appropriation which resulted in a reduction of \$432,000 however, absent this or a different model on equity that for the new fiscal year the impact to the Agency will be \$632,000 in addition to not having any carry forward funds. She also reported that we will not have the funds from Eckerd for the Guidance Counselor and the Magellan program is scheduled to sunset.

Dr. Nellius indicated that the Legal Party Status was another legislative item as well as the consideration of a review of CBC contracts with good performance rather than requiring a complete ITN which takes resources from the important work to support the children and families we serve.

She also commented on the Pre Paid Mental Health Statute that is scheduled to sunset and the new HMO privatization approach to initial medical screenings for youth entering care. She indicated that we are required to obtain services for youth within 72 hours of entry, but we have no control over the providers of the services.

Mr. Ropert identified the candidates who were confirmed for the Candidate Forum and added he will contact candidates for the State Attorney and Public Defender's Offices.

Action Item: Mr. Gutierrez requested that the board members be provided with the names and bios of the legislators who impact the Agency in a financial manner.

Next Judge McKibben spoke about the proposed changes to the By Laws as a follow up to the June 2012 meeting. She reviewed the proposed changes indicating some are housekeeping items and that she would request members provide Ms. Randall with additional changes requested. There was discussion on the six (6) year term limit, the concept of an Emeritus role and the function and terms of that. Judge McKibben also commented on Section 4.04 which currently does not coincide with the contract in terms of the residence of board members. She indicated the contract requires all members to reside in the geographic area served by the corporation. She stated the By Laws must be consistent with the contract. Judge McKibben then spoke about the current attendance requirement and wondered if the members would be interested in considering lowering the mandated number of meeting attendance. She continued under Section 4.09 regarding notice of meetings. She indicated that special meetings require "reasonable notice" rather than 48 hours.

Action Item: Put the By Laws on the portal for members to make comments.

Mr. Ryder commented that the six (6) year term needs discussion and he does not see an Emeritus role as having value. Mr. Whitten requested the topic be added to the September meeting. Judge McKibben and Ms. Swartz will review the By Laws to ensure consistency with other policies.

Dr. Nellius then presented the strategic goal for this month: Goal 14.

Goal 14: Improve the System of Care for youth ages 13-17 in foster care, and young adults ages 18 -23 formerly in foster care. Objective 14a: Improve the characterization of the challenges faced by young adults formerly in foster care in Brevard. (70 young adults are currently receiving services, while there are an estimated 180 young adults ages 18-23 formerly in foster care in Brevard.)

Objective 14a: Improve the characterization of the challenges faced by young adults formerly in foster care in Brevard. (70 young adults are currently receiving services, while there are an estimated 180 young adults ages 18-23 formerly in foster care in Brevard.)

Dr. Nellius referred to the initiative under Paxen Learning Corporation which will directly impact this goal. She then shared another initiative involving a former youth who exited the Foster Care system in Brevard County who now lives in Atlanta. She commented that this individual, Lydia Joiner, is interested in working on an anti-stigma campaign and focusing on the hope and value to engage the community in seeing foster youth in a very different way.

Dr. Nellius then spoke about the aggressive integration for the system of care of the Trauma Informed Care. She remarked that the Agency has done initial training in this area and now we will focus on system wide integration. Dr. Munoz commented that he is an advisor in TIC and that this is important work on a national basis. Dr. Nellius also shared that at a recent FCFC meeting she had been introduced to another youth who shared his story about foster care and that he now works with the Orlando magic. She indicated that it is her hope in working with Ms. Joyner and in other initiatives that the "stereotype" of youth in foster care will change so that the success will be the focus rather than the problems. She indicated that the "message" needs to change.

Judge McKibben then spoke about the previously scheduled quarterly subcommittee meeting to be held on September 22, 2012 and that based on the ITN it is recommended that the quarterly meetings begin in January 2013.

Action Item: Dr. Nellius is to follow up with Alan Abramowitz to inquire if he would attend the next board meeting.

Mr. Roselip thanked Ms. Gregory for attending and shared that he encouraged others to attend our meetings as well.

Mr. Ryder inquired of Ms. Powell if she thinks more youth are being removed since the Miami incident. Mr. Powell indicated she did not think that was the cause of the increase in the region. She did indicate that the causes of removal were reviewed and that there are no indicators that the current level of removals are not warranted. Dr. Nellius stated that there is a statewide committee (CBC's and DCF) looking into this.

Mr. Roselip inquired if we were developing questions with board members for the Candidate Forum.

Action Item: Provide the list of questions for candidates to the board members.

Ms. Miles commented that in a previous Candidate Forum that for each question the candidates were provided 2 minutes each and she agreed the questions should be provided to the candidates in advance.

Mr. Whitten asked if there were any further public comments and there were none.

Having concluded the board business Mr. Whitten adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie M. Randall
Recording Secretary

Approved at September 27, 2012 Board Meeting