

BREVARD FAMILY PARTNERSHIP
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 22, 2010 BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Board Members in Attendance: Mr. William Ryder, Board Chair, Mr. Stockton Whitten, Treasurer, Mr. Leo Roselip, Ms. Irene Burnett, Judge Kelly McKibben, and Mr. Mel Broom and

Board Members Absent: Ms. Helen Voltz, Vice Chair, Ms. Leigh Holt and Mr. Sam Gutierrez. Mr. Roselip arrived prior to the meeting but had to leave and then returned. A quorum was present for all voting requirements.

Others in Attendance: Dr. Patricia Nellius, CEO, Ms. Valerie M. Randall, Chief Personnel and Administrative Officer, Mr. Chad Carnell, CFO, Mr. Geo Ropert, Director of Communications and Ms. Stephanie Stodtman, Executive Assistant. Also in attendance were Ms. Valerie Holmes, Brevard C.A.R.E.S., Dr. Andrew Munoz, Ms. Stacey Fox and Ms. Lynn Hendren of the BFP Training Department, Ms. Kimberly Bain, a consumer of Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Dr. Jack Sidoran, DCF Circuit Administrator and Mr. Fletcher Valentine, DCF Contract Manager.

Mr. Ryder requested that the agenda items be addressed in a slightly different order for the initial meeting as a quorum was not achieved at 8:30 AM.

Dr. Munoz was asked to address the members. He spoke about current activities nationally and with Brevard C.A.R.E.S. data validation process. He expressed great enthusiasm for not only the work and achievements, but for the impressive data validation garnered thus far. He indicated this is necessary to pursue the evidence-based model which will be critical for replication activities. He also spoke about a recent visit where the program was presented in Minnesota and their visit with Search Institute. He indicated that Ms. Holmes is expected to be invited to present at their next major conference and that this is a wonderful opportunity. He also spoke about BFP's attendance last fall at the Child & Youth Care Worker conference and that while he recognizes the economic climate, he is hopeful that two (2) representatives will be able to attend the International Congress conference of this organization to be held in September.

He then made formal presentations to two (2) of the three (3) trainers for BFP for their completion of the Child & Youth Worker training program where they were awarded Master Level Certifications. The recipients included Stacey Fox and Lynn Hendren. Although Lisa Nelson was unable to be present to receive her certificate, Dr. Munoz noted that Lisa obtained one of the highest scores ever made on the exam and that this is a great accomplishment and a reflection of the excellence BFP strives to achieve.

Ms. Valerie Holmes then made a presentation to the Board on the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. Agency and outcomes. She reported that since the inception of the program that over 6,800 children have been diverted from entering the dependency program as a result of the prevention and diversion program. She reported on outcomes from consumer satisfaction surveys that included, among other items, the focus on family strengths, the support of the program to family identified needs, the flexibility of scheduling FTC's to meet the family needs and their satisfaction with the FTC process. There were several hundred respondents and the results ranged from the 95% to 100% satisfaction. She also provided information on recidivism percentages at the 6, 12 and 18th month evaluation from graduation from the program. The results of families remaining intact were 90%, 93% and 86% respectively.

Dr. Nellius remarked based on discussion that we are one of several agencies working with Ounce of Prevention to develop a standard definition of recidivism that all agency's will use in order to track data in the same manner. Ms. Holmes then continued addressing the Family Resource Center which provides access to the state on line system to apply for needed services and spoke about the Alumni Group which is made up of those families who have successfully completed the program and that these families are serving as mentors to new families.

Dr. Sidoran interjected that individuals who have been incarcerated once released from jail do not have early access to the state information ACCESS system to apply for economic self sufficiency support through food stamps and that DCF is working to improve this.

Ms. Holmes then provided an overview of recent and upcoming activities at the Brevard C.A.R.E.S. site including the many areas of the community that are participating with this Agency. She then introduced Ms. Kim Bain who was a recent consumer of the program.

Mr. Whitten arrived. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Ryder indicated that he has been a GAL for 14 years. He remembers the days when a call to the hotline meant that a child would be removed from the home and the family would be addressed later. He remarked that the complete turnaround with the development of Brevard C.A.R.E.S. has made a huge difference in the lives of Brevard County's children and families and that it is exciting and such a positive step. He also clarified with Ms. Holmes that approximately 20% of the families are self-referring to Brevard C.A.R.E.S. which is also a significant improvement and change from the prior system. Dr. Nellius stated that as evidenced by the data and the recent open house Brevard C.A.R.E.S. The Program is clearly being viewed as a "community" organization which is garnering remarkable support.

Mr. Ryder then asked everyone to state their names for the record as a Board member had arrived providing a quorum.

Ms. Bain a former consumer of Brevard C.A.R.E.S. was introduced and provided a history of her background and involvement with the program. She shared that based on her training, education, experience and personal advocacy she knew what to do to address her family's needs yet she found herself in a position where she needed outside assistance. She spoke about her involvement with Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and focused first on the fact that the Care Coordinator really just "listened" to her and her family and for the first time she felt heard. She indicated that there were no excuses made, that the Care Coordinator took the time to understand what they needed and all the avenues they had explored in order to gain support and assistance and ultimately it was Brevard C.A.R.E.S. that opened the doors to provide the supports the family needed in order to achieve stability. At the conclusion of her presentation the board members thanked her to coming and for sharing such an inspirational story.

Dr. Sidoran asked to address the board. He indicated that in a meeting with the Region Administrator yesterday that there was a focus to define recidivism and to "close" a case based on the outcomes not a referral. He indicated that work will take place to clarify this and to establish outcomes in order to close a case. He stated that the CBC's will be invited to participate at a time in the future. He also reported that the Secretary is setting up state wide meetings and he will be holding a meeting in Brevard County on June 3, 2010 from 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM at Parish Hospital. He said that BFP will be invited to participate in the development of the agenda.

Dr. Nellius comment on the uniqueness of the BFP prevention initiative as mandated by legislation; and she shared the vision and role of prevention and diversion as envisioned by the local Brevard community upon inception. She shared that BFP's prevention program; Brevard C.A.R.E.S. was designed to be a full care coordination program and model that provides face to face support and documentation to ensure sustainability for families rather than a referral based program that simply contracts for prevention services and once the referral is made there is not follow up or tracking as in the past or more traditional child welfare systems.

A question was raised regarding mental health services and ensuring that those services are provided to those in need. Judge McKibben indicated that Judge Cathy Clark holds a mental health court and she offered to put Dr. Sidoran in touch with this judge.

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

Motion: Judge McKibben moved to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2010 meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Broom and the motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Nellius then addressed the Board to share about the time spent in Tallahassee with her peers and our partners as well as some BFP staff, consumers and board members. She thanked everyone for their participation A discussion took place on an SB 724 that was very close to being passed which may have had a potentially negative impact on the CBC's. It would have limited the CBC's from offering/providing direct services that represented more than 35% of the budget. She explained that, there are five (5) such CBC's now that would have been directly impacted. Dr. Nellius remarked that her concern was in the unforeseen event that a large contractor, for BFP, Case Management, would have to be re-procured immediately for non compliance that this amendment could effectively cause serious disruption to the children and families served. In that event, the Agency would prefer to bring it in house in order to effectively and appropriately re-procure which could take 6-9 months including transition. Dr. Nellius then commended the CFO for his excellent work in hosting the upcoming annual CFO conference. She remarked that each year it becomes more successful, includes more elements of the SOC and this year there is a CEO track as well. She also indicated that next month will be the initial meeting of the

Community for Change Best Practices workgroup which will help the Agency and its partners to identify continued areas for improvement.

The next item was the Consent Agenda which included:

The Board Report
The Operations Data Report

Motion: Mr. Whitten moved to approve the Consent Agenda. This was seconded by Judge McKibben and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Carnell then provided the Statement of Activities as of 3/31/10 and Statement of Financial Position to the members. He reported that the Agency is on track with the budget and that foster care room and board expense continues to reduce which is generating funds to cover deficits in the IL program. He indicated that there were funds in some administrative budgets that he would begin to evaluate as there is no carry forward this year. There were no questions from the board members. Dr. Nellius shared that there was current legislation that would create a separate line item in the budget for IL and it would require CBC's who had to cover IL deficits with other funds to obtain permission from the LBD – which meets twice annually. Mr. Ryder commented that he believed that this had been removed from current consideration.

Dr. Nellius then addressed the Strategic Objective 1b: Coordinating communication across agencies to become more effective. She spoke about the previously mentioned workshop – Community for Change Best Practices which will convene in the near future, referenced Ms. Holmes comment that Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and the PI's are communicating more frequently on referrals, and spoke about Mindshare technology which is also intended to provide timely and real time data to all those who need to have it. Mr. Carnell also mentioned that we are looking at creating sections of the website for forms commonly needed within the SOC.

Motion: Mr. Whitten moved to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Ms. Burnett and the motion was passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie M. Randall
Recording Secretary

Approved at the Board of Directors Meeting May 27, 2010