

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 27, 2012 BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Board Members in Attendance: Mr. Stockton Whitten, Board Chair, Judge Kelly McKibben, Board Vice Chair, Mr. William Ryder, Mr. Mel Broom, and Ms. Kathleen Rich-New, Ms. Christa Bailey, Officer Michael Cadore and Mr. Eric Smith.

Board Members Absent: Reverend Scott Elliott, Mr. Samuel Gutierrez, Board Treasurer and Mr. Leo Roselip.

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. Michele Scott, CHS, Ms. Janet Thompson, DCF, Ms. Brean'a Parker, Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and Ms. Lydia Joyner, Ms. Katie McGuire and Chief Ron Krueger, Rockledge Police Department.

Mr. Whitten called the meeting to order and indicated that it was a very exciting day with many positive things to discuss. He then welcomed Ms. Christa Bailey as our newest board member and indicated we were very happy to have her here with us.

Motion: Mr. Broom moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Ms. Rich New and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Whitten then reminded members that if they had a conflict with any agenda item, to please complete the Conflict of Interest form (available at meeting) and provide to Ms. Randall. He indicated that this is an action item at each of our meetings.

Mr. Whitten then asked all in attendance to state their names for the record. Ms. Lydia Joyner was introduced and she introduced her producer Ms. Katie McGuire. Mr. Whitten stated that we were very excited to have them both here and are looking forward to her presentation.

The next agenda item was the recognition of Ms. Debbie Davidson-Cook, Chief Compliance and Utilization Officer for her five (5) years of service to the agency. Dr. Nellius shared that Debbie was hired in advance of the agency's preparation for COA accreditation and that she took the agency to an expedited accreditation. She shared that Debbie has provided strong leadership to the agency and has been responsible for multiple functions and has done a great job. She commended Debbie for her five years with the agency and reminded the board that we are once again in the process of COA recertification.

Motion: Ms. Judge McKibben moved to approve the August 23, 2012 board meeting minutes. This was seconded by Officer Cadore and the motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Nellius then introduced Chief Ron Krueger of the Rockledge Police Department and stated that it is a privilege to have both Chief Krueger and Ms. Lydia Joyner at the meeting today. Dr. Nellius gave some background as to how she became aware of Ms. Joyner and shared that they have had multiple discussions about her mission and her return to Brevard County to do her film.

Ms. Joyner addressed the board and expressed her excitement about being able to speak with the Board members. She expressed that she is committed to imparting a positive message about foster youth and is working to use her own life story as an example of hope and inspiration as she raises funds to produce a movie.

She shared that when she requested to obtain the documents of her case file that she was overwhelmed that her life was contained in six (6) bankers' boxes. She indicated that receiving this much data and having to go through it was traumatizing and took her over four (4) years to accomplish. Ms. Joyner then began her power point presentation detailing her early life; adverse experiences, placements and challenges from age one (1) through her high school graduation. She stated that after high school she worked as a camp counselor for underprivileged youth and became a motivational speaker. She commented that that she is now in the process of raising funds in order to have her film produced. She shared two (2) upcoming events to which she invited the board and others to attend. One is this Sunday at the Cocoa Beach Library and a red carpet event scheduled for October 18, 2012 at Café Unique in Cocoa which has an admission fee of \$35.00.

Action Item: Mr. Ropert will provide the link on the website to the October 18, 2012 event. Ms. Joyner's website will also be provided to the board members by Mr. Ropert.

The board applauded Ms. Joyner and thanked her for her time, the presentation and her inspiration.

Officer Cadore then was asked to introduce Chief Krueger and he commented to Ms. Joyner that she is "an earth angel." He then spoke about Chief Krueger and that prior to working with the Rockledge police Department that he had worked in Melbourne Beach as a Chief. He commented that this Chief is one who is involved and "on scene." He referred to Chief Krueger as a family man, a Christian and a friend.

Chief Krueger addressed the board and shared that he and Officer Cadore had worked together for 2-3 years. He shared that he had started in law enforcement career in Detroit, Michigan for 25 years in the Sheriff's department. He indicated that he believes it is important for law enforcement to see the big picture and understand the behind the scenes information and that it is all too easy to see something illegal or wrong and just make the decision to incarcerate the offender. He spoke about his belief in the Civil Citation Program where jail time can be averted by having the parents become involved or by obtaining services to help the situation rather than having someone become categorized as a felon for the rest of his or her life for a minor offence. Chief Krueger spoke about the upcoming Police Information Officer meeting on October 9, 2012 and that he is very excited to bring local law enforcement together for this community event. He shared that he believes it is essential for this group to become knowledgeable about the local system of care and all the programs and agencies that work to support youth and families. He applauded the good work of these organizations but felt that law enforcement organizations really need to understand more clearly what this group does and how they can all work more closely with law enforcement to support the needs of these children and families. The board thanked Chief Krueger for his time and involvement.

Chief Krueger and Officer Cadore left the meeting.

Mr. Ropert then provided more information to the board on the upcoming event on October 9th. He shared that the Police Department Public Information Officers would be in attendance to educate this group about the system of care, Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and the specific roles and functions of DCF, Case Management agencies, Brevard C.A.R.E.S. and Brevard Family Partnership. He also shared that Chief Krueger is also asking other Chiefs to attend,

Ms. Goldfarb inquired if this would be a good forum for Ms. Gayle Cordell's agency and Ms. Rich New asked if this was open to the public or if board members should plan to attend. Dr. Nellius indicated that she thought including the broader community in a subsequent meeting would be an excellent idea and that this initial meeting is focused on education specifically for the law enforcement group.

Consent Agenda:

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

Staff Reports:

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

New Business:

Ms. Hensler then reviewed the August financials. The members were provided with the August Statement of Financial Position and the August Statement of Activities. She reported that she had reviewed the data with Mr. Gutierrez earlier in the week. Ms. Hensler shared that through August the agency financials are on budget with approximately 83% of the budget remaining. She referred to the expenses in the foster room and board line where historically the agency had run a surplus but for this month there is a deficit. She reported this was a result of having to close one residential facility as the building had significant issues and that two (2) of the youth had been placed in high-end placements. One of these youth will age out shortly and it is anticipated that the other youth will be moved to a lower placement level pending room availability. She then spoke about the service dollars for case management and indicated that this expense is running higher than expected and that BFP meets monthly with our subcontractors to address and evaluate the costs.

Old Business:

Dr. Nellius spoke about a proposal made in April 2011 that the board had approved when it was decided to create a National Center of Excellence beginning with the purchase of the Center for Community Leadership. She indicated that the opportunity did not come to fruition at that time, but the intent remained as approved. She indicated that the development of the National Center of Innovation and Excellence is based on the same premise. She shared that Dr. Munoz has agreed to serve as the Chief Advancement Officer and Research Scientist of this new entity which is scheduled to ramp up in January 2013. She indicated that funds to launch this endeavor will initially come from the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative and the Skillman Foundation. She commented that Kellogg has also stated its intent to fund this project but had not yet determined the funding amount and timing. Dr. Nellius expressed the need to diversify but to find alternative funding rather than to compete with partners for the limited local resources. She expressed that this initiative would expand upon our strengths and positions us to achieve this objective. Dr. Nellius reviewed the functions and activities that will be conducted under the National Center for Innovation and Excellence and how this will position the agency on many fronts. She indicated that Dr. Munoz will officially begin in January 2013. She shared that it is projected that in April 2013 the final study for Brevard C.A.R.E.S. will be completed in order to become evidence based and that we are working with another CBC as a possible replication site in January.

Mr. Whitten stated that he saw this as a huge accomplishment for the agency and that it is a tribute to Patricia and her commitment and passion for what she does that BFP will be in a position to have a national model. He commented that Patricia and her staff have worked very hard on this initiative and that he is very proud of Patricia.

Judge McKibben then spoke about the proposed amendments to the By Laws and that upon further discussion and consideration regarding the ITN and COA activities, that it is proposed this will be deferred to the springtime, after COA.

Motion: Judge McKibben moved to postpone making amendments to the By Laws until the springtime after COA. This was seconded by Ms. Goldfarb and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Whitten asked if there were public comments. Ms. Miles expressed congratulations to the agency on the exciting developments with the National Center of Innovation and Excellence. Mr. Broom remarked that Ms. Joyner's story was very touching.

Ms. Goldfarb wondered how we can help to create more success stories such a Ms. Joyner's. Patricia elaborated on the impending Positive Youth Development and Trauma Informed Care Initiative that will launch with a summit in the winter with several successful young adults as speakers. Ms. Miles commented on a study from Search Institute that indicated each child was found to require 11 adults active in that child's life in order to be successful. Dr. Nellius commented that the study was actually based on the 40 developmental assets that Dr. Munoz had developed while at Search Institute.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie M. Randall
Recording Secretary

Approved at October 25, 2012 Board of Director Meeting