

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, August 10, 2017

Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County
546 NW University Boulevard, Suite 201 -- Board Room
Port Saint Lucie, Florida 34986
Commencement: 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

- I CALLED TO ORDER:** 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Kathryn Hensley.
- II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III MISSION STATEMENT** Read by Chairperson Kathryn Hensley; *"The mission of the Children's Services Council is to improve the quality of life for all children in St. Lucie County."*
- IV ROLL CALL:** Quorum established.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Chairperson **Kathryn Hensley** (*School Board Member*); **Michael C. Heisey** (*Circuit Juvenile Judge*); **Richard Del Toro** (*Governor Appointed*); **Wayne Gent** (*Superintendent of Schools*); **Amy Gregory** (*Department of Children & Families*); **Carmine Izzo** (*Governor Appointed*); **Marilyn Lawless** (*Governor Appointed*); and **Linda Bartz** (*County Commissioner*).

COUNCIL ABSENT: *Secretary Pat Alley (Governor Appointed); and Eric S. Finkel (Governor Appointed).*

OTHERS PRESENT: **Sean Boyle** (*Executive Director*); **Jim Dwyer** (*Director of Programming*); **Tonya Andreacchio** (*Capacity Building Coordinator*); **Erin Craig** (*Finance & HR Specialist*); **Paula Rivera** (*Office Manager / Transcriber*); **Glen Torcivia** (*CSC Attorney*); and two (2) members of Public in attendance. Reference attendance sheet for specifics.

NOTICE: *The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County maintains an audio record of all monthly Council meetings and public hearings. The written summarized minutes of the meetings are concise and become the official minutes after approval by the Council. Any person seeking to appeal any decision by the Children's Services Council, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, is advised that a record of the proceeding is required in any such appeal and that such person may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.*

V PUBLIC COMMENTS

(None of the public in attendance wished to address the board.)

VI CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Lawless motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes meeting minutes, Council Attendance Record for fiscal year 2016/2017, Budget Transfer Request for HPS Infant Family Resource Program \$15,930.00 and Financial Reports. Ms. Gregory seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 7/0 in favor.

Commissioner Linda Bartz arrived during the Executive Director's narrative; establishing quorum at eight members.

VII EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Mr. Sean Boyle, reported and updated Council as necessary referencing his report which was released in advance via the Council e-Packet.

Item(s) new to Mr. Boyle's report and/or requiring updates:

Contract Template for Roundtable Gang Outreach Initiative: Mr. Boyle reminded board members on the contract language associated with program requirements to follow state law of Level II background screening. At the recommendation of CSC counsel this concern and clarification was addressed on record. The concern lies with the Gang Outreach program employees work with existing and former gang members, and many of these program employees have been in gangs themselves in the past and/or have committed crimes in the past which would define them failing a Level II background check. The program does have its own screening process which stipulates that their employees have not committed crimes or been involved in any gang activity in the past six years and works closely with law enforcement as well. The CSC attorney has reviewed our contract language related to this concern. Findings are there is no conflict with the current contract language as the contract language is general in citing the program will follow 'state law' in regards to these screening parameters; and the program has measures in place to clearly follow state law. The remainder of CSC funded programs do follow more stringent Level II screening due to their own organization's mandated policies and their direct affiliation with school children. In summation, there is no amendment to contract language warranted and the Roundtable Gang Outreach Initiative program continues to be in adherence to contract obligations regarding employee background screening. This program has already been approved for funding for the coming fiscal year 2017/2018.

Grade Level Reading Community: Mr. Boyle informed board members that St. Lucie County is officially a Grade Level Reading Community. St. Lucie Reads is a partnership between Children's Services Council, School Board, Early Learning Coalition, Multi-Cultural Resource Center, St. Lucie County Libraries, Florida Community Health, and 211 of the Treasure Coast and has become one of sixteen Grade Level partners in the State of Florida and 540 nationwide. There is no grant funding associated with this designation, however it does provide for access to training and technical assistance, as well as peer reviews from other communities to learn from one another. CSCSLC was the last to become part of this network, however now all CSC's statewide are a Grade Level Community partner.

Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network (SFBHN): Mr. Boyle reminded board members that for the past two years there has been a cost shift partnership with the SFBHN organization. The first year approximately \$200,000 and the current year \$120,000 where CSC shares a contract with SEFBN to provide funding for the New Horizons Student Assistance Program. SFBHN was responsible for a larger share of funding due to federal grant dollars they were receiving; however these federal grant monies have ceased for this coming fiscal year. This partnership in past years has freed up CSC funds to be placed into

other priority investments and projects. Unfortunately going forward these dollars will no longer be available.

CASTLE Strengthening Families program: Mr. Boyle updated board members explaining last month's briefing on their low performance numbers and not meeting outcomes at the six month review and some other outstanding issues and concerns. CSC did address a letter in this regard to the program's management and has received a written reply. The letter was sent to each board member electronically via www.box.com for review in advance of today's meeting. The CSC Team is processing the details of the letter and still sorting through the specifics in regards to next steps. A meeting with the program is scheduled for Monday to resolve these other outstanding concerns associated with reimbursements and outcomes. The program letter did not furnish any concrete data, it did stipulate having data available, however did not provide those records. This program was developed in line with a best practice model. However the best practice model having a fourteen-week program and this program proposed a seven-week program. CSC having agreed to this shorter program duration as CASTLE had piloted it successfully in neighboring counties – that of Indian River County. Although numerous requests have been made to provide that data, CASTLE has not yet provided it. If these records are not furnished timely then the CSC Team will be forced to come to the board with a recommendation to cease contract funding for this agency.

Coffee Connections flyer: Mr. Boyle informed board members that each received a notice of the upcoming Coffee Connections event, scheduled for September 29th. This event will be slightly different in forum -- normally a networking opportunity for our programs -- as we will be offering a screening of the *Resilience – The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope* film followed up with a discussion led by Ms. Oppenheiser from Tykes & Teens. CSC funded programs as well as key community partners will be invited to this special informative session. CSC recently discovered that Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and New Horizons has trauma informed care trainers onsite, New Horizons having a dedicated trauma informed care specialist for after school programs. CSC's first priority is our funded after school programs, and accordingly has already been in communication with New Horizon's management for the possibility in partnering with regards to trauma informed training for our after-school programs.

Special Designation -- End It (Everybody is Not Doing It): Mr. Boyle reminded board members that CSC recently funded a special designation for End It performance equipment. This program teaches positive messaging through music and theatre performances. *End It* orchestrated a play called 'Daddy', written and performed by the program's youth, having to do with human trafficking. Mr. Boyle circulated some pictures of the recent performance to share with the board members.

VIII OLD BUSINESS

(None available - placeholder)

IX NEW BUSINESS

A) Special Designation: ELC Start Up Infant Care

Mr. Boyle provided a brief synopsis and history of the Council Action Item, Attachment #2 included in the e-Packet contents. Mr. Boyle informed board members that there were two members of Early Learning Coalition onsite at today's meeting if they had any inquiries related to this special designation. Early Learning Coalition has done an analysis of child care sites which resulted in a shortage of infant care slots available in the entire county, and priority lacking in Port St. Lucie. Seven providers meeting certain criteria have been selected to provide for these additional four (4) infant care slots per provider. These providers would be under contract obligations with ELC to provide these services for a minimum of one year's time in order to be able to inherit all furnishings, materials and equipment provided for this service for free. If their one year commitment is not honored and they retract prematurely they would be liable to return all items in satisfactory condition. Due to the ratio of provider to infant (best practice 1:3 ratio for one to three year olds category; state mandatory 1:4 ratio) being a factor many child care centers'

focus is on the older child population (1:20 ratio for 4 year old+) versus the infant population. Due to the cost shift with SFBHN explained earlier in this meeting there is currently \$48,443.37 available in Undesignated Allocation budget line item that may be utilized for this purpose. The CSC Team is recommending the funding of \$17,000 for this special designation where there is a need in the community. Superintendent Gent expressed concerns with regards to child care within the School Board population having similar issues with their school staff (teachers and administration). This funding is targeted to specific zip codes within St. Lucie County which have been identified as lacking in respect to infant child care slots, and funding will be dedicated to providing those select child care centers in these regions with these services to relieve these agencies of the 'start up' expenses required for this type of infant care. Perhaps future funding for expansion could be reviewed at a later time with ELC as a partner in this effort as compared to other employer models in the state.

Superintendent Gent motioned to approve the Special Designation for Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County Program in the total amount of \$17,000.00 as detailed in the Council Action Item. Ms. Lawless seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 8/0 in favor.

X COUNCIL & STAFF COMMENTS

(None)

XI FUTURE MEETINGS

CSC Public Hearing -- September 6, 2017 @ 5:15 pm

CSC Public Hearing & Monthly Meeting – September 13, 2017

XII ADJOURNMENT: 8:52 a.m.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

August 10, 2017

MOTIONS PASSED

1. **APPROVED** the **August 10, 2017 Consent Agenda**, which includes the following:
 - A. *The Agenda for August 10, 2017.*
 - B. *The **Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes** for July 13, 2017.*
 - C. *The **CSC Council Attendance Record for FY 2016/2017**– as of Aug 2017.*
 - D. *Cumulative Financial Report **FY 2016/17** – as of July 31, 2017.*
 - E. *Program Allocations Report **FY 2016/17** – as of July 31, 2017.*
 - F. *Transactions Report – as of July 31, 2017.*
 - G. *Summary of Fund Balance – as of July 31, 2017.*
 - H. *Budget Transfer Request: **Helping People Succeed Infant Family Resource Program \$15,930***

2. **APPROVED** the Special Designation for Early Learning Coalition of St. Lucie County Program in the total amount of \$17,000.00 as detailed in the Council Action Item.

Approved by: Patricia Alley
Pat Alley, Secretary

Date: 10/12/17