



Board of Directors Meeting

June 11, 2009

Minutes – May 14, 2009

Item II.

PRESENT: Martha Lenderman, Secretary; Honorable Bob Dillinger; Dr. Julie Janssen; Maria Edmonds; Honorable Bernie McCabe; Elise Minkoff; Van Saylor; Judge Irene Sullivan; Commissioner Ken Welch; Colleen Flynn, Attorney

ABSENT: Joseph Smith, Chair; John Milford, Vice Chair

I. CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

II. CONSENT ITEMS

Approve Minutes for April 9, 2009 Board Meeting.

ACTION: Commissioner Welch moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds; motion carried.

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel Policies – Earl Reeves

Concerns voiced at the April 12, 2009 Board meeting (telecommuting, cell phone usage and the annual leave cash-out provision) were addressed, clarified and incorporated in the revised Personnel Policies. Mr. Saylor stated his opposition to the annual leave cash out. Mr. Dillinger would like the Domestic Violence guidelines to be consistent with state policy. Commissioner Welch mentioned the previous concern with the amount of time it takes to review and bill employees for personal cell phone use. Staff agreed the cell phone policy could be simplified, but the process adheres strictly to Federal IRS guidelines.

ACTION: Mr. McCabe moved approval of the Personal Policies, with the added statement in the Domestic Violence Guidelines to reflect state policy “employees will be asked to utilize leave; if leave is exhausted; leave may be granted with the approval of the Executive Director”; seconded by Commissioner Welch; Mr. Saylor opposed due to annual leave cash out; motion carried.

B. 2010 Budget Parameters – Lisa Sahulka

JWB staff requested Board approval to move ahead with the FY 2009-10 budget planning parameters, which include funding for programs, JWB administration and non-operating. Ms. Sahulka said foreclosures are higher in Pinellas County than anticipated, which will reduce JWB's budget by approximately \$1.5 million. Mr. McCabe wanted to know when the final figures would be available given the Finance Committee meets on May 27, 2009 to discuss the 2009-10 budget. Ms. Sahulka assured him the figures would be available by that time.

Additional options for balancing the budget would include: additional cuts to Central Florida Behavioral Health Network (CFBHN) and Out of School Time (OST); eliminate poor performing agencies, and eliminate funding to 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares. Board members expressed concern regarding additional reductions to child care. Mrs. Lancaster indicated child care has received the greatest financial boost over the past couple of years. Also, staff pointed out children will not be taken out of child care, but the waiting list will continue to grow. Services will continue for the children currently enrolled. Mr. McCabe asked if JWB was using the results of the Strategic Alignment Team's work as a guideline and asked to see the analysis by the committee.

ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to approve the budget parameters as recommended; seconded by Mr. Sayler; motion carried.

Revised Order of Agenda

IV. PRESENTATIONS

C. 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares (TBC) Update – Denise Groesbeck, HHSCC and Eddie Burch, JWB

Upon the decision of the Board in 2008 to eliminate funding to 2-1-1 TBC in FY 2009-10, the Board approved a joint JWB and Health and Human Services Coordinating Council contract to hire an outside consultant to evaluate current services and identify opportunities to improve efficiency and continue delivery of services. Civil Society Consulting Group (CSCG), LLC was chosen, following an Invitation to Bid process.

A number of recommendations pertained to cooperation and collaboration among funders that would allow 2-1-1 TBC to operate more proficiently. Specific recommendations for JWB are:

- Recognize and fund 2-1-1 TBC as integral to the human services infrastructure.
- Designate 2-1-1 TBC as the "partner/vendor of choice" for any of JWB's initiatives that require the support of a call center.
- Restore 2-1-1 TBC funding to at least the 2008-09 level (\$290,665).
- Recognize American Association of Suicidology (AAS) and Association of Information and Referral Services (AIRS) accreditations and exempt 2-1-1 TBC from future A.S.S.E.T certification.

Discussion

The Study stated a county the size of Pinellas needs an Information and Referral Source. Ms. Thompson, 2-1-1 TBC Executive Director, assured the Board she has taken fundraising seriously, but efforts have been unsuccessful. Ms. Lenderman reminded the Board they are not asked to take action at this point in time. A lengthy discussion ensued with each Board member stating their views. Mr. Dillinger and Mr. McCabe stated the Board already took action last year and the decision was not to

fund 2-1-1 TBC, however no consensus among the board members was reached. Mrs. Lancaster stated she believes there is a need for 2-1-1, and would like the opportunity to work towards a solution, regardless of the Board's decision to fund or not.

Ms. Groesbeck told the Board one of the recommendations from CSCG was to form a Strategic Planning Team for 2-1-1- TBC, with the goal of working toward regionalization of 2-1-1- services, and to identify and eliminate redundancy among funders' requirements and requests. She asked for a representative from the Board to participate on the Team. Mrs. Minkoff volunteered to serve in that capacity.

Returned to Order of Agenda

III. C. Teen Pregnancy Prevention – Contract with Health Department – Karen Sierra

The recommendation is to redirect funds for a Special Teen Outreach Program (STOP), (\$61,291 in FY 2009; \$180,720 annualized) per Pinellas County Health Department (PCHD) request. Last year the contract to provide the Adolescent Pregnant and Parenting Services (APPS) program at the YWCA was not renewed, and the Board directed staff to explore a replacement provider of services. Throughout this year JWB staff, school board personnel, and community agency staff worked to find an alternative location in which to continue services. However, all identified options were deemed too costly, by both JWB and the school system, due to transportation and renovation costs. Staff began to explore more cost efficient solutions, focused instead on prevention. The PCHD requested funding to implement a program that would address prevention of teen pregnancy, overall well-being of adolescent girls, and focus on providing services in minority communities in high risk areas, in order to be cost effective. Staff believes the methodology of the program addresses the needs not previously met.

MOTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to approve the recommendation; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds; motion carried.

D. Community Councils' Advocacy Plans – Trenia Cox, JWB; John White, Chair NCCC; Ray Neri, Chair MCCC; Judy Hall, Chair SCCC

Each Council developed a one-page Advocacy Paper indicating their 2009-10 work plan priority areas. The Board was asked to approve their Advocacy Plans. Although each Community Council has separate work plans, all three have expressed support for the Children's Zone concept as the initiative that could most adequately address the needs of youth and families in the most distressed neighborhoods.

Discussion

Commissioner Welch and Ms. Lenderman commended the Councils for their hard work. Ms. Lenderman encouraged Board members to attend Community Council meetings when possible. Commissioner Welch asked when and if the Board was going to meet with the Councils. The tentative date for that meeting is July 16, 2009. Detailed information will be provided as it becomes available.

MOTION: Mr. McCabe moved to “accept” rather than “approve” the recommendation; seconded by Judge Sullivan; motion carried.

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. Out of School Time System of Care (OST) – Paul Runyon, Coordinated Child Care (CCC) and Mike Stone, JWB

The OST System of Care has been up and running since October 1, 2008. The 6th Advisory meeting will take place next week as they move into the next phase, reimbursement for units of service. Coordinated Child Care has provided technical assistance with the new process. All programs are meeting the established goals. Mr. McCabe asked if there were minimum requirements for providers. Mr. Runyon said criteria are in place that must be met. Currently there are 2,600 slots available for summer programs, and many slots are already filled. Commissioner Welch requested a matrix of summertime programs/slots that are funded by JWB, and asked if there was a provision for WorkNet participants to receive child care. Mr. Runyon confirmed that WorkNet participants do get child care through the program.

B. Eckerd Community Alternatives (ECA) – Lorita Shirley, Senior Operations Director

A data report was distributed to the Board for their review. Ms. Shirley said there are three areas in which ECA continues to struggle: timeliness of adoptions, missing children, and children with failed reunifications. Currently there are 3,049 children in care. Mr. Sayler asked what had held up the adoptions. Mrs. Edmonds wanted to know how ECA secures the children and prevents runaways. Mrs. Lancaster offered additional information that was distributed by ECA at the Community Alliance Meeting earlier in the week. She pointed out the children in out-of-home care more than 12 months total 1,003 (over 20% of total cases) when the circuit target is 926; Camelot has 8 youth who will be aging out of foster care; and that the bulk of children placed out of Pinellas are in the 13+ age bracket because there aren't enough slots for this age group within the County.

Bob Henriquez, Department of Children and Families Circuit Administrator, acknowledged the concerns and introduced Ron Zykowski, the new Vice President of Community Services for ECA, who will be addressing the issues. Mr. Zykowski stated ECA is committed to the children in Community Based Care and will continue to be transparent by providing weekly data calls.

Judge Sullivan commended ECA on the data reports, but remains concerned about children being placed out of Pinellas County, and multiple placements. She understands behavior issues are a main reason for relocating children and asked what steps are being taken to improve the situation. Ms. Shirley said they are providing additional training and support for the foster parents and have behavioral analysts on staff to assist with difficult cases.

Mrs. Minkoff requested information in their monthly report on how ECA is addressing reunification failures, and asked that the information be included in the JWB Board Packet which is distributed prior to the JWB Board meeting.

Dr. Janssen stated the School System is very aware of the needs of children in community based care and provides special transportation to children to keep them in the same school.

Ms. Lenderman asked the Board to forward to JWB staff areas of interest they would like included in the monthly report.

C. 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares was addressed under ACTION ITEM III

D. Central Florida Behavioral Health Network (CFBHN) – Linda McKinnon, Executive Director & Marcia Monroe, Provider Services Director

CFBHN presented a power point addressing the change process, stages of change, contemplation of what a system of care could do for families in Pinellas County, preparation in changing relationships with key stakeholders, building an infrastructure and process, maintaining the evaluation and progress. Statistics thus far indicate: 115 out of 120 Pinellas County schools have referred families, 504 families have been assessed since November 3, 2008, and 729 referrals have been made to core providers.

Mrs. Edmonds requested information on the use of services by the Hispanic community. Mr. McCabe asked about the dollar amount recovered due to successful linkage of families with Medicaid/Insurance resources. JWB staff will address the questions and forward the information to the Board.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Pinellas Core Management Services Update

Mrs. Minkoff expressed her gratitude to JWB staff, Mrs. Lancaster and JWB Administration for their stellar assistance in stepping up and working with PCMS. She also thanked Neighborhood Family Center Directors and the Faith-Based Organizations for their support through the process. Mrs. Minkoff said they are working each day to improve the agency. The PCMS Board will meet that afternoon, and the providers will be meeting again in June.

B. Legislative Update

Ms. Lenderman requested a brief update on the State's Budget. Ms. Prewitt said the State passed a \$66.5 billion budget that does little more than keep the status quo through 2009-10. To balance the budget (\$6 billion shortfall) lawmakers utilized the \$5 billion in non-recurring federal stimulus funds, and put \$1.7 billion in reserves. Additional increases and trust fund sweeps include: \$980 million in cigarette user fees, \$1.25 billion in new and increased fees, and \$600 million from trust funds. Children's Policy staff is working with the Office of Resource Development to leverage JWB dollars with up coming stimulus dollars through the grant process. Ms. Lenderman stated JWB has a great Resource Center and encouraged agencies to tap into their expertise.

C. Child Welfare Advocacy Update

D. Calendar of Events

E. Financial Reports

F. Initiative Updates, Site Visit Schedule and Summaries

G. Personnel Report

H. Training Center Report

I. Media Items

VI. OPEN AGENDA

Mary Jo Monahan, Executive Director of Family Services Center and Barbara Daire, Executive Director of Suncoast Center for Community Mental Health, announced their Boards' decision to proceed with a merger, with a target date of October 1, 2009. The Board commended the agencies for seeking alternative solutions to assist with the budget issues, and still provide much needed services to the community.

Ms. Monahan also wanted to invite everyone to attend the “Family of the Year” Luncheon on May 29th, 2009 honoring Congressman Young and his wife. Please contact Family Service Centers if you would like more information.

Ms. Barnette, a HIPPIY employee, and Josie Lucas, a member of HIPPIY’S Advisory Board shared their support for the program. The Board was extended an invitation to the luncheon that was taking place that Saturday.

Ms. Lenderman thanked JWB staff for arranging the Sunshine Law training that took place at JWB on May 8, 2009.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Judge Sullivan moved to adjourn at 11:46 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Martha Lenderman
JWB Board Secretary

6/3/09