

Children's Services Council  
**PROGRAM REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, January 22, 2015 - 4:30 p.m.

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**1. Call to Order**

Chair Langowski called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

Present: Vince Goodman; Greg Langowski; Debra Robinson, M.D.; Shelley Vana; and Thomas Weber (arrived 4:43 p.m.)

**2. Minutes of December 4, 2014 PRC Meeting**

**A motion by Goodman/Vana to approve the Minutes of the December 4, 2014 Program Review Committee Meeting was approved by unanimous vote.**

**3. A. Consent Agenda:**

- a) Additions, Deletions, Substitutions: None
- b) Items to be Pulled from Consent Agenda – there were no Agenda Items pulled for discussion
- c) Adoption of Consent Agenda

**A motion by Goodman/Robinson to approve the Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.**

- 1. Warrants List-Program Reimbursements – Approved by Consent
- 2. Resolution #15-001 Authorizing Budget Increase for Children's Case Management Organization, Inc. dba Families First of Palm Beach County (Families First) – Approved by Consent
- 3. Resolution #15-002 Authorizing Tiered Reimbursement for Strong Minds Network – Approved by Consent

**B. Business Agenda – N/A**

**C. Investing for Results Update**

- 1. Annual CPPA Update – Debra Gotlib, Director of Program Performance

Debra Gotlib, Director of Program Performance, stated that there were 51 programs that went through the CPPA process for FY 13/14. 29 programs have been designated “green”, meaning very good. Ms. Gotlib went on to say that there were no programs “in the red” which was also excellent, and that there were only four programs “in the yellow”, three of which were currently on a level one improvement plan. Ms. Gotlib stated that one of the programs did not need to go on an improvement plan because it had already resolved the problem by the second two quarters of the year. She stated that there were 18 programs which had been assessed using the short form CPPA

which were more supportive types of programs. Ms. Gotlib advised that these programs were reviewed for all contract deliverables and that all deliverables were being met.

Ms. Gotlib stated that several months previously there was a report to PRC regarding a corrective action plan for the Children’s Home Society, Bridges Program. She stated that the Children’s Home Society had resolved all issues and has been designated “green” in the year end CPPA.

Ms. Gotlib stated that the CPPA process originally begun in 2012 with a review of FY 10/11. She stated that, at that time, CSC reviewed 48 programs, of which only 16 were designated “green”. She stated that 24 programs had been “yellow” (requiring improvement), and 8 had been designated “red”, and were ultimately shut down. She stated that in two short years the results had dramatically improved with zero programs in the “red”, and only 4 programs in the “yellow”.

Ms. Gotlib stated that the Providers are now aware that CPPA is here to stay, and that it was important. She stated that the Providers know what is expected of them, and they take the CPPA process very seriously. She stated that the Providers monitor themselves on a regular basis, and are always working to ensure that they meet their own program’s expectations. She stated that, although the process was not always popular, the CPPA process had pushed Providers to have ongoing quality improvement.

Ms. Gotlib stated that in supporting CSC’s program officers to perform the ongoing monitoring, CSC’s IT department was in the process of developing reports in the Healthy Beginnings data system. She stated that each program has the capability to look at a single report with a single performance measure, and see how it is faring, on a live basis. She stated that the Provider is able to see its percentage of compliance and measure it against its contractual targets and judge their own performance.

Ms. Gotlib stated that CPPA was fulfilling its intended purpose of ensuring that programs were accountable, and that the programs demonstrated fidelity to the program models and outcomes, with continuous quality improvement along the way.

#### **D. System of Care Update**

##### **1. Quality Childcare New System Launch Update** – Karen Brandi, Director of Program Performance

Karen Brandi, Director of System Performance stated that a recommendation had been made to the Council at the 2013 Planning Session to revise the Quality Counts quality rating system. She stated that the Quality Counts system had begun in 2003, and that the Council had last received an update on the system in March, 2014. She stated that the Quality Counts program was sunset December, 2014, and had been replaced with a new system entitled Strong Minds. She stated that 130 of 211 participating agencies had applied to the new Strong Minds system. She stated that there had been a need to focus on increasing child outcomes so that more children were school ready, and focus on adult-child relationships and instructional supports, which research had indicated were the key strategies necessary for achieving positive child outcomes. She stated that they had also streamlined and simplified the processes, with provision of more automation, and updating current data systems. She stated that the move to Strong Minds also included a

redirection of investments and resources to those child care programs that were intentional about increasing their quality, ensuring that children would enter school ready.

Ms. Brandi stated that the system continued to provide professional development supports including: technical assistance, scholarships and other salary supplements to child care program staff. She stated that additional training focused on instructional support, meaningful interactions, and curriculum development would be added. She stated that they now included a child-level formative assessment (Teaching Strategies GOLD), and the environment assessment had been changed to focus on adult-child interactions and instructional support. She stated that the two assessments were necessary to measure a child's gains and program quality, in addition to informing the system of the child care community's needs with regard to additional training and professional development.

Ms. Brandi stated that the quality enhancement payments had been changed to a tiered reimbursement supplement which would assist those child care programs that had met benchmarks indicating high quality. She stated that it was provided to help programs continue to improve and sustain their quality levels. She stated that some administration of the system had been taken in-house within CSC, allowing CSC to keep abreast of the issues and the needs of the child care community. She stated that many old processes had been automated for ease of use. She stated that the changes were based on current research and feedback from national experts who were hired as consultants.

Ms. Brandi stated that research supported the new system design and they were very confident in the changes that had been made. She stated that they had received positive feedback from local stakeholders and colleagues at a national level.

**E. Evaluations – N/A**

**F. Presentations – N/A**

#### **4. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.