

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

August 3, 2017, 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair Weber called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Present:

Thomas Bean

Vince Goodman

Greg Langowski

James Martz

Dennis Miles

Thomas P. Weber

Excused: Robert M. Avossa, Ed.D; Paulette Burdick; Tom Lynch; Debra Robinson, M.D.

A. Invocation – led by Vince Goodman

B. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Chair Weber

C. Presentations

1. Farewell to Council Member Dennis Miles

Chair Weber thanked Mr. Miles for his years of service to the Council and presented him with a plaque. Mr. Miles thanked the Council members. He has been the Regional Managing Director of DCF for six years and is the longest serving Regional Director. His last day will be August 31st. He said it has been an honor to serve the community. He also praised CSC and its staff saying: "this particular CSC is just an outstanding operation. The Council members are fantastic, and the staff is so professional it just blows my mind."

Mr. Miles stated that he had given DCF plenty of notice and that they anticipated that a replacement would be named by the end of the month. He stated that once a replacement had been named there would be no need for an interim representative on the Council, and that there could be a smooth transition.

2. Five-Year Service Awards: Debra Gotlib, Director of Program Performance; and LaNita Sanders, Program Officer

Chair Weber recognized Debra Gotlib and LaNita Sanders.

3. Centering Pregnancy – Christine Walsh, Program Officer(CSC); Lisa Greenwood, Chief Program Officer, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Palm Beach County; Lucinda Colón, MC, Centering Program Manager, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Coalition of Palm Beach County

<p>Centering Pregnancy is group prenatal care addressing preterm births, which is one of CSC's goals. Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies (HMHB) has been the provider for the Centering Pregnancy program since 2007; HMHB is one of the entry agencies for the Healthy Beginnings System of Care.</p>	
<p>Centering Pregnancy is prenatal care in a group setting offering the traditional medical health care, but it also offers more time and attention. In addition to the medical component it offers education, and social and emotional support needed during pregnancy. Women of similar gestational age are grouped together in groups of 8 or 10 and they all attend the prenatal care appointment at the same time, as a group. They attend 9 prenatal appointments and one post-natal appointment/celebration. After a brief one-on-one with a medical provider the group sits in a circle and discusses diverse topics related to pregnancy such as breastfeeding, parenting, family planning, etc. This allows approximately two hours with the medical provider vs. 10 minutes in a traditional prenatal (individual) visit. Women are taught to monitor their own blood pressure, weight, and weeks of gestation in order to make them feel empowered about their care. Healthy snacks are provided. A shared relationship is developed with the Provider instead of a medical expert and a patient, it is better care, better health, at a lower cost. Women participating in Centering Pregnancy have a lower incidence of preterm birth, with an increase in the initiation of breastfeeding.</p>	
<p>A video of a Centering program in North Carolina was played. HMHB is currently working on producing their own video.</p>	
<p>Statistics were presented regarding all Palm Beach County births and Centering participant births: 7.6% of Centering participants had a preterm birth compared to 9.2% of all Palm Beach County births. The rates of Centering preterm births were compared to a matched comparison group: 7.6% of Centering participants had a preterm birth compared to 14.3% in a matched comparison group (mothers who match the Centering participants demographically but did not participate in the Centering program). The developer of Centering Pregnancy denotes that a participant must complete 6 sessions or more to be considered "complete". The rate of preterm births of those that were "incomplete" (i.e. 5 sessions or less) was 19.5% compared to a rate of 7.9% who were "complete". It was stated that men, husbands, spouses, etc. were always welcome to participate in the Centering Pregnancy program.</p>	
<p>A Centering Pregnancy participant, Barbara Braun, explained her experience with the Centering Pregnancy program. She stated that the program was preferable to the Health Department because you always saw a different doctor at the Health Department so you couldn't form a relationship. She explained that it had helped her to share her experiences with the group, and that the lessons learned along the way had helped keep her calm for her delivery. She stated that she was comfortable sharing her prenatal care with other women and would definitely recommend it to others.</p>	
<p>When you are in a group discussing problems, in which order did you discuss those problems?</p>	<p>The curriculum is delivered in measured amounts, incrementally. The provider would teach things like how to hold a baby, how a baby should sleep, how to avoid choking, and how to breastfeed. There were different topics covered at each visit which helped to make it less overwhelming.</p>
<p>Is the topic of co-sleeping on the curriculum?</p>	<p>Co-sleeping is definitely covered through the curriculum. In addition to the positive birth outcomes the program has measured, the benefits in infant care are also very great, there must be a reduction in infant deaths, although the program does not measure this data.</p>
<p>How much (educational) information did Ms. Braun share with friends or colleagues outside of the Centering group?</p>	<p>A friend of hers wanted to be in the group but couldn't attend the sessions because of her work hours so Ms. Braun carried all the things she learned back to her friend, so that she also could benefit from the information.</p>

4. Great Ideas Initiative Success Story – LaNita Sanders, Program Officer; Erin Udell, Founder, My Own Home Project, Inc.; Summer Carrington, High School Senior.

<p>October 1, 2016 was the beginning of the first year of CSC sponsoring the Great Ideas Initiative, and all projects will be complete as of September 30, 2017.</p> <p>Erin Udell described how she had started My Own Home Project, Inc. (MOHP) five years previously when it was apparent that there was a missing piece of the puzzle for kids (youths) aging out of foster care, leaving with a garbage bag of possessions. MOHP is an all-volunteer nonprofit with 6 Board members who are also the volunteers. All volunteers have full-time jobs in addition to volunteering. There are fundraisers and grant applications, and 85 to 86 young adults are served each year in Palm Beach County, from both Child Net and Vita Nova.</p> <p>Household items are provided for foster kids (youths) moving into their own home: the foster children get to pick out their own items such as a microwave, toaster, pots and pans, cutlery, dishes, glassware, bedding, towels, laundry basket, shower curtain, etc. Being able to pick their own items allows the youth their dignity, and results in true appreciation. Volunteers talk to the youth about their plans for their life, and being with their peers helps them think about their future in a different way.</p>	
<p>What percentage of female or male/Hispanic or Black use the program?</p>	<p>The counselors at Child Net or Vita Nova refer the youth, and those counselors refer them because they have exhibited that they are ready to go out solo (some kids run away, etc.) MOHP provides a service for the youth, and it follows the lead and referrals from the counselors to provide household items to the youth who are ready. An estimation was made that it was equally male and female, and from all demographics.</p>
<p>Please describe a success story.</p>	<p>Summer Carrington stated that she was entering her senior year at High School. She had been in foster care for 1½ years, and she had felt alone without immediate access to parents and friends. She had transitioned into Palm Place which was an individual apartment, a location where it was not necessary for her to have a roommate (or foster parents). MOHP had made her feel comfortable about being in her own place, with her own belongings.</p> <p>Ms. Carrington stated that she had attended a National Leadership Academy in June, and that it had helped her become a leader. She stated that she had learned to give and not to receive, and that she wanted to help the community, start a nonprofit organization, and help homeless people. She stated that the discussion about their future plans they had with the volunteers at MOHP was very important and that it helped the kids figure out what they wanted to do in life.</p>
<p>MOHP does its own fundraising, and also received \$25,000 from the Great Ideas Initiative at CSC. Erin Udell thanked the Council for the grant. Council members commended Ms. Carrington for her positive attitude. The intention to connect Ms. Carrington with the Birth to 22 team was noted.</p>	

2. Minutes

- A. June 22, 2017 Council Meeting – **A motion by Bean/Goodman to approve the Minutes of the June 22, 2017 Council meeting as presented was approved by unanimous vote.**

3. Public Comment – Agenda Items – N/A

4. Council Committees:

- Finance Committee

Thomas Bean stated that the Finance Committee recommended the Council approve the June 22, 2017 Finance Committee Minutes, and the June 30, 2017 Financial Statements. He stated that the Millage rate had decreased from 0.6605 to 0.6590 due to a higher tax base in the final figures from the Property Appraiser's office.

A motion by Goodman/Bean to approve the Finance Committee Report in full was approved by unanimous vote.

- Personnel Committee – No report

5. Consent Agenda

1. Additions, Deletions, Substitutions - None
2. Items to be Pulled for Discussion – Agenda item 5A(5) (Reference #6) was pulled for discussion purposes.
3. Adoption of the Consent Agenda and Walk-in Warrants List

A motion by Bean/Miles to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Agenda items 5A(5) (Reference #6), and approve the Walk-in Warrants list was approved by unanimous vote.

A. Program

1. Resolution #17-015 Authorizing Transportation Services – Approved by Consent
2. Non-renewal of Transportation Consultant Agreement – For informational purposes only; no action required.
3. Resolution #17-016 Authorizing an Agreement with Center for Study of Social Policy (CSSP) for Early Childhood- Learning and Innovation Network for Communities (EC-LINC) – Approved by Consent
4. Resolution # 17-017 Authorizing an Evaluation of the Child First Intervention in Palm Beach County – Approved by Consent
5. Resolution #17-019 Authorizing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between CSC United Way of Palm Beach County and Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners for Funding of 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast

Chair Weber stated that he was not familiar with 211 and wanted to hear more about it. Amy Blechman,

Program Officer, stated that 211 was a national organization and the local chapter is a nonprofit and is going into its 50th year of operation. The core focus is a helpline to assist local callers in crisis, or who need help. Staff are trained to assist with crisis intervention, suicide prevention, information regarding local resources, and sometimes they perform phone assessments in order to make referrals to local community resources. 211 is available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. If the local area is experiencing a hurricane the calls get shifted out of state until the local operation is back up and running. A directory of local community resources is maintained by 211 which is used to make referrals, and it is available in printed format, and on their website.

When should you use 211?	Any time you have a problem, are in crisis, or are in need. It is a resource to use instead of calling 911. Many people have not heard of 211, and the marketing of it is an area of work on which to focus.
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A motion by Bean/Langowski to approve Resolution #17-019 authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the United Way of Palm Beach County and the Board of County Commissioners in support of 211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast for the period October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$176,422 (subject to the Council's annual budget and TRIM approval process) was approved by unanimous vote.

6. Funding Increase for Early Learning Coalition for CSC Scholarship Program – For informational purposes only; no action required.
7. Subcontractors, Child Care Programs Serving Children Receiving CSC Scholarships (early childhood & afterschool), Staffing – For informational purposes only; no action required.

B. Business

1. Warrants List – Approved by Consent
2. Resolution #17-018 Authorizing 2017-2018 Media Expenditures in Excess of Annual Cumulative Total of \$100,000 – Approved by Consent

6. Non Consent Agenda

- A. Business – N/A
- B. For Informational Purposes Only – N/A

7. Walk-In Items – N/A

8. Chief Executive Officer's Report

1. Planning Session Follow Up – Data Stratified by Income – the CEO Report contains the requested data.
2. Healthy Beginnings Home Visitation Program Evaluation – the CEO Report contains information

regarding demographics used to determine a matched group.

3. CPPA Scoring Information – the CEO Report contains the requested information/table.
4. Great Ideas Initiative for 2017/18 Released – there had been two information sessions and over 90 participants in attendance. The deadline for submission is August 7, 2017.
5. Supports for Early Literacy – The CEO Report outlines all the CSC supports for early literacy with an investment of over \$2.7 million directed toward early literacy.
6. Palm Beach Post Editorial: Focus Services on Kids, not Bureaucracy – the CEO Report contains a copy of the Palm Beach Post's Editorial on the Birth to 22 initiative.
7. Community Events – CSC had conducted two Summer Safety Celebrations (pool parties), one in Belle Glade and one in West Palm Beach. Over 1,200 children and families participated, with some families waiting in line 90 minutes before the gates opened. Many partners and vendors participated. Safe Kids fitted more than 300 bike helmets, and 50 pool door alarms were also distributed (which had been donated by the Department of Children and Families).
8. CSC Day at the Zoo – August 5, 2017 – The CSC Day at the Zoo will encompass the public launch of the CSC Every Parent app. Parents will download the app on their smartphone and show it at the gate for free admission for up to two children with one paying adult. Free developmental screenings will be conducted in addition to discussions about child development, and T shirts will be distributed. Social media indicates that over 850 people will attend.
9. Leadership Palm Beach County Class of 2018 – Ron Bazil, Director of Audit, and Christy Potter, Director of Marketing, have both been accepted into the Leadership Palm Beach County Class of 2018. Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D., congratulated Mr. Bazil and Ms. Potter.
10. Resignation of Chief Financial Officer – Dr. Williams-Taylor stated that Jen Diehl, CPA, Chief Financial Officer would be leaving CSC to move to Colorado, but will stay through the TRIM hearings and until a replacement is in place.

9. Legal Reports

1. September Meeting Dates/Times

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Council Meeting 4:30 p.m.

TRIM Public Hearing 5:01 p.m.

Thursday, September 28, 2017

Council Meeting 4:30 p.m.

TRIM Public Hearing 5:01 p.m.

Prevention Partnerships for Children, Inc. Board Meeting – upon conclusion

Thomas Sheehan, General Counsel, stressed the importance of a quorum at the TRIM hearings, which would be 6 Council members, not including the Judge.

10. Individual Appearances – Non-Agenda Items – N/A

11. Council Comments

Vince Goodman thanked Dennis Miles for his service to the Council. He thanked Ms. Gotlib and Ms. Sanders for their service to CSC. He stated that his only son had passed away three weeks previously and that he had been devastated. He apologized for his absence.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.



~~Vincent Goodman, Secretary~~
THOMAS P. WEBER, CHAIR



Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer