



ADOPTED - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE: Citizens Advisory Committee on Health and Human Services (CAC/HHS)

MEETING DATE and TIME: June 9th, 2016 at 9:00AM

MEETING LOCATION: Basement Conference Room – 810 Datura Street, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

PERSON PRESIDING: Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Patrick Halperin (Vice-Chair), Sharon Greene, Randy Palo, Sandra Chamblee, Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock, Dr. Christine Koehn, Barbara Jacobowitz, Anne Gerwig

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Nate Nichols, Edward Holloway, Houston Tate

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Bolton, Channell Wilkins, Taruna Malhotra, Sonja Holbrook, Stessy Cocerez, David Rafaidus, Helene Hvizd, Amalia Hernandez, Randy Paul, Richard Radcliffe (Executive Director for League of Cities), Seth Bernstein (Boystown), Jennifer Rey (AVDA), Karis Engle (The Glades Initiative), David Lin (Palm Beach Habilitation Center), Danielle Hanson (United Way of PBC), Clay Walker (DCF), Nancy Osbourne (Boystown), Paula Girard (Palm Tran), Amy Simpson (Boystown), Jared Greene (Boystown), Julie Swindler (Families First of PBC), Dr. Mark Weist (Professor at University of South Carolina)

DISCLOSURES: Sandra Chamblee commented on The Glades Initiative and let the members and attendees know that she served on their Board.

CHAIR & STAFF COMMENTS: Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson reminded everyone that there will be no CAC meeting in July; David Rafaidus said Dr. Avossa, Superintendent of Palm Beach County School District, will be the keynote speaker at the August CAC meeting; and she congratulated Taruna Malhotra for completing her Leadership Palm Beach County course and Dr. Christine Koehn for her Leadership Excellence Award nomination.

CONSENT ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: ***2.A/B. Additions, Deletions, Substitutions / Adoption of Agenda***

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion to approve the agenda by Dr. Halperin. Second by Sharon Greene. Agenda approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

REGULAR BUSINESS - ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: ***3.A. Adoption of CAC Regular Committee Minutes (May 12th, 2016)***

Discussion: None

Action Taken: Motion to approve the minutes by Sandra Chamblee. Second by Sharon Greene. Minutes were approved and adopted by unanimous vote.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: ***3. B. Financially Assisted Agency Update Report (Channell Wilkins & Sonja Holbrook)***

Channell Wilkins gave an update on the FAA RFP process and status of funding for this upcoming fiscal year. The Community Services Department has requested a 3% increase in funding. The funding recommendations will be presented to the Board on the August 16th meeting. Channell touched upon the funding crisis that Center for Family Services (CFS) is currently going through; CFS went before the BCC on Tuesday, June 7th to ask for allocation of emergency funds to keep Pat Reeves open.

- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock pointed out that the amount of monies available in the Economic Stability/Poverty service category is not enough for such an important category. She also mentioned that

the Funding Recommendation spreadsheet was difficult to understand and if it will be released to the public, she recommended changing the ranking to reflect 1 as the first priority and 9/10 as the lesser priority.

- Randy Palo asked if the staff ever allocates less funding than what is requested and Channell informed him that recommendations may be less than what is requested. Mr. Palo also asked how the decision on which agencies to fund is decided and Channell stated that staff looks primarily to the proposal scores and uses the ranking scores as a tie-breaker.
- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock asked if it could be assumed that funding will cover agencies in the Economic Stability/Poverty category through the first page of the Funding Recommendation spreadsheet. Channell said that is possible but the hope is to fund more depending on the money available.
- Karis Engle from the Glades Initiative commented on the Funding Recommendation spreadsheet stating that their agency had in fact been funded by the County although the spreadsheet said they received \$0 funding last fiscal year. Channell explained that the agency, along with two others, was not in the Economic Stability / Poverty category and had been in the “New/Continuing” category. The “New/Continuing” service category is sun-setting this year. Agencies were informed of this decision four years ago and have been encouraged to apply to other service categories.
- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock asked if the County was planning to fund The Glades Initiative this year. Channell told her that according to the information presented, that it will be difficult to justify funding for the agency.
- Dr. Nate Nichols mentioned that all of this information will be presented in front of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and they have final say. The spreadsheet and the results presented are from the established review process completed by the panelists.
- Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson expressed concern about not being able to fund agencies established by the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and that these agencies provide necessary services in underserved areas; she also said she hopes that everyone will attend the August meeting to show they are active in the process and not just agreeing with everything that is presented.
- Barbara Jacobowitz stated that she served on the Senior Services RFP panel and she expressed concern with the low score that Glades Initiative received. Channell informed her that this was because only one of the panelists actually scored the proposal. The remaining panelists determined the proposal was non-responsive.
- Barbara Jacobowitz said she was very worried about these results because there is only one member from the CAC that serves on each panel and she did not feel that was enough representation on their part. Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson stated that the committee is appointed to make recommendations and if the CAC members are not in agreement, then they can make that known prior to going before the BCC. She is worried that currently it will be presented without everyone being on the same page in terms of funding priorities.
- Channell Wilkins clarified that the decision to sunset the New/Continuing category occurred four years ago because the Commissioners expressed a need to focus on outcomes and decided they wanted programs funded by service categories. At the same time, staff was working on the Indicator Report and every category was reflected in the report with the exception of the New/Continuing programs. These programs did not fit in to the other service categories.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: **3.B. FAA Update Report Section – Response from Members**

Discussion: Dr. Patrick Halperin wanted Dr. Christine Koehn to draft a letter explaining to the BCC what should be done to resolve the lack of available funding, including the possibility of creating a new service category. Dr. Nate Nichols suggested adding “Draft” to the current Funding Recommendation spreadsheet and he also added that a cover letter be drafted (which he also volunteered to do) to present along with the Funding Recommendation Spreadsheet and this letter to give more of an explanation on how the document was compiled in terms of language used and historical information. Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock also said she felt they should add another note on why The Glades Initiative received a score of 16.

Action Taken: Motion by Dr. Patrick Halperin to address all the discussion items mentioned by Committee members and ex-officio members. Second by Dr. Christine Koehn. Motion approved.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: **3.B. FAA Update Report Section – Creating a New Service Category**

Discussion: Randy Palo mentioned that if we want to create a new category, then the members need to define the category so there can be a process set in place with parameters; Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson suggested holding an Executive Committee meeting before taking the current recommendation to the BCC. Anne Gerwig opposed this motion, because she felt the solution is not to create a new service category, but rather the focus should be on demonstrating the necessity of this program and how to seek other ways to fund it. Barbara Jacobowitz suggested adding a defined category for initiatives of the CAC.

Action Taken: Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson asked if all were in favor; Anne Gerwig opposed.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: **3.B. FAA Update Report Section – Overview of County Funding Throughout the Years**

Discussion: Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock wants the staff and CAC members to include a longitudinal picture of what the county has funded, through FAA money, in terms of Health and Human Services including Senior Services and Economic Stability/Poverty over the period of 1995 through 2015 and parallel to that, include the population change in Palm Beach County and the perceived funding needs as identified in the Health & Human Services Element.

Action Taken: Motion by Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock. Second by Dr. Patrick Halperin.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **3.C. Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative Evaluation Overview (Dr. Mark Weist, Professor at University of South Carolina)**

Amy Simpson from Father Flannigan's Boystown gave an overview of their collaborative. She stated they have been receiving funds from the County since 2014 and they have served about 975 children in that time frame. The collaborative consists of five key partners: Boys Town South Florida, Center for Child Counseling, Families First of Palm Beach County, NAMI of PBC, and FAU Community Health Center. They have received additional funding from the Quantum foundation and the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department. Dr. Mark Weist from the University of South Carolina, and his colleague, Joni Williams Splett from the University of Florida, have teamed up to do an extensive evaluation of the Children's Behavioral Health Collaborative. Dr. Weist presented a brief overview of their goals and explained that they are doing this evaluation based on a two-year window from May 2015 through April 2017, in which interim reports have been done and the final evaluation report will be released March 2017. Several trends were found in terms of County funds and are as follows: the county provides services to younger children, of which 60% tend to be male; the county serves a higher diversity of clients; the county funds service times that are longer than other sources. There is an overall concern with the high level of prescription medication use but Palm Beach County actually funds the least of this. Children are being measured using their CFAR scores and this is being augmented with the Pediatric Symptom Checklist. In conclusion, Dr. Weist and his colleague have found continuing and substantial evidence for this strong collaboration and commitment to helping our youth. David Rafaidus mentioned that he will post the PowerPoint presentation in PDF form on the CAC/HHS web page.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **3.D. Indicator Report Updates (David Rafaidus & Dr. Nate Nichols) on Hunger/Food Security (Danielle Hanson, United Way of PBC), Public Transportation (Paula Girard, Palm Tran), Developmental Disabilities (David Lin, PB Hab Center), Domestic Abuse/Sheltering (Jennifer Rey, AVDA)**

Several presenters gave updates on the indicators.

Danielle Hanson from United Way stated that despite increased efforts, there is still a problem with hunger and food security in our county. The hope is that the Hunger Relief Plan will assist in turning this around and aiding to achieve the goal of reducing the number of potential food insecure households to less than 6.7%.

Paula Girard from Palm Tran updated the attendees on the status of Public Transportation in the county; their goal is to increase ridership and improve accessibility and affordability to their services as well as upgrade transportation options with newer technological advances.

David Lin from the Palm Beach Habilitation Center painted an unfortunate picture for everyone in the room to raise awareness about the continuing issue with the lack of funding and resources for those members of our community suffering from developmental disabilities. Studies have shown that community programs fare better for these individuals in terms of overall results (in regards to health and general well-being) and financial benefits (less money is spent keeping them in the community than placing them in institutional care).

The final presentation was by Jennifer Rey of AVDA on the topic of Domestic Abuse/Sheltering with a goal to reduce the number of domestic abuse-related homicides in the county. Although occurrences of domestic violent murder offenses in Palm Beach County are decreasing, and are actually lower than the state average, the rate itself is still high above the national average. The key is to focus on providing shelters as safe retreats but also provide prevention education to young adults about how to respect one another and your significant others.

David Rafaidus noted the extensive work that is being done to update the report and the wonderful collaboration with experts on the different categories.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **3.E. CAC/HHS Membership (David Rafaidus)**

David Rafaidus provided an update on the CAC Membership. He informed everyone that there is a limit of three consecutive three-year terms that a committee member can serve. Based on this information, all four committee members, whose memberships are due to expire in September 2016, can reapply. Those members are Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock, who will not be submitting reappointment but is interested in an ex-officio position, Elizabeth Hernandez Cayson, who has not submitted paperwork yet, Sandra Chamblee and Sharon Greene, both of who have already submitted their paperwork. Dr. Nate Nichols is also seeking appointment as an official member of the CAC. The Board of County Commissioners have been informed of the CAC/HHS membership and they will hopefully give David their information by June 20th in regards to the members and possible appointees; they are expected to review the CAC membership information at their September 13th meeting. According to the Resolution R2013-1563, the Executive committee must meet to review the applications and this will take place on August 11th at 8:00 am in the Community Service Department Administration East meeting room.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **4.A. Staff Information Updates**

- Channell Wilkins reminded everyone that Wendy Tippett was appointed the new Director of Human Services.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **4.B. Member Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

- None

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **4.C. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

- None

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **4.D. Good News Item(s)**

- Anne Gerwig mentioned the Wellington Splash Event that was recently held in order to raise awareness for drowning prevention and how to act in emergency situations.
- Jennifer Rey announced that AVDA has been integrating the idea of prevention within our local schools. One case is with the Boynton Beach High School respect program in which they aim to teach athletes how to respect each other and their significant others.
- Houston Tate announced that Office Depot has recently taken it upon themselves to update Lake Worth West Park by adding two new parts, fixing the landscaping, and improving the gardens.
- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock wanted to shed some appreciation on Boystown and Families First for doing a great job at working with our schools.
- Dr. Patrick Halperin announced the death of his colleague, Dr. Jerome Bruner from Harvard University. He was an outstanding scholar in the field of cognitive psychology and his impact in the field was tremendous. He will be greatly missed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: **4.E. Potential Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- David Rafaidus noted that the upcoming meetings will be very busy due to updates from the Indicator report, FAA information that is being requested by CAC members, and Dr. Avossa's presentation in August; if members had any particular subjects that they would like Dr. Avossa to present in August, they should let David know. Additionally, there have also been several interested parties who wish to present in front of the CAC and David has been trying to schedule them accordingly so they coincide with the committee's current focus.
- David Rafaidus also announced the upcoming CAC officer elections will be held in October

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING: *August 11th, 2016*

DATE OF NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING: *June 23rd, 2016, August 11th, 2016*

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: **5. Meeting Adjournment**

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion by Sharon Greene. Second by Sandra Chamblee. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

THESE MINUTES APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the CAC Executive Committee on *August 11th, 2016.*

Elizabeth H. Gayson, CHAIR _____

Prepared by SC - 06/10/2016
Revised by SH - 06/15/2016
Revised by DMR - 6/15/2016
Revised by DMR - 7/8/2016
Revised by DMR-7/26/2016
Revised by DMR - 8/1/2016