



ADOPTED – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

MEETING DATE and TIME: March 9, 2023 at 9:00 AM

MEETING LOCATION: Virtual & First Floor Conference Room – 2300 Vista Parkway, West Palm Beach, FL 33411.

PERSON PRESIDING: Dr. Merlene Ramnon (Chair) (IP).

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: “Virtual” = (V) & “In-Person” = (IP): Dr. Merlene Ramnon (IP), Dr. Christine Koehn (IP), Dr. Thomas Cleare (IP), Randy Palo (IP), Dr. Constance Siskowski (IP), Inger Harvey (V), Anne Caroline Valtin (V), Charlotte Leonard (IP), Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock (IP)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Scott Kannel (IP), Aruna Gilbert (V), Marie Presmy (V).

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Helene Hvizd (V), Dr. Joanna Reid (IP), Stessy Cocerez (IP), Adam Reback (IP), Maybe Alfau (IP), John Hulick (IP), Malik Harvey (IP), Shantel Drayton (IP), Diana Cardona (V), Ashley Pfister (V)

DISCLOSURES: None.

CHAIR & STAFF COMMENTS: Dr. Merlene Ramnon welcomed everyone in attendance. She then thanked staff for the quick work that was done to gather all the necessary material for the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

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

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion was made to adopt the agenda by Dr. Christine Koehn. Second by Dr. Thomas Cleare. All in favor. Motion passed.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: *3.A. Adoption of CAC/HHS Regular Committee Meeting Minutes (January 12, 2023)*

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion was made to adopt the agenda by Dr. Thomas Cleare. Second by Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock. All in favor. Motion passed.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: *3.B. Birth to 22 Presentation (Randy Palo)*

Discussion: Randy Palo presented on what Birth to 22 is, including its mission, goal and a brief history on how Birth to 22 started. He also shared a survey with the members that included findings on what the youth needs in order to succeed and thrive. He then provided some of the accomplishments of Birth to 22, its 2022 timeline, an

update on the Youth Master Plan (YMP), and lastly he spoke on the alliance priorities from 2016 to 2022 and how they are shifting from 2023 to 2026.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 3.C. Child Care Presentation (Aruna Gilbert)

Discussion: Aruna Gilbert presented on the importance of childcare and the Palm Beach County Ecosystem of Opportunity. She spoke on the goal for PBC with childcare, the backbone organizations associated with childcare in Palm Beach County, how funding is integrated within childcare (school readiness, scholarships, VPK, and Early Head Start), and how agencies coordinate their services. She also added that there is a focus on kindergarten transition to a higher school level.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 3.D. CAC Membership Matrix, Recruitment, Reappointments (Dr. Christine Koehn)

Discussion: Dr. Christine Koehn shared what it actually entails to be an expert in a System of Care Domain. She then asked the members to review the Matrix Area of Expertise as well as the Domain Definitions. Furthermore, Dr. Christine Koehn advised on the current process and required documents for membership application; she also mentioned that the recruitment process has been updated to match the current matrix. Additionally, Dr. Joanna Reid mentioned that there will be a Birth To 22 seat designated within the CAC and that there is a possibility of Randy Palo being the appointee for that chair.

Action Taken: Motion was made to approve the updated composite Membership Application package by Dr. Constance Siskowski. Second by Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock. All in favor. Motion passed

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 4.A. Staff Information Updates

- Dr. Joanna Reid welcomed Angela Cruz as the new Program Evaluator for the Strategic, Planning, Research and evaluation (SPRE) team. Ms. Cruz will be primarily responsible for evaluating the Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI).

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- Dr. Constance Siskowski alerted staff to a few grammatical errors in the January minutes.
- Dr. Merlene Ramnon shared that Dr. Alina Alonso retired from her post as the Health Officer for the Palm Beach County Department of Health in February 2023 and the new director, Dr. Jyothi Gunta, would start in April 2023.
- Dr. Christine Koehn mentioned that the new location for the Riviera Beach Health Initiative is moving forward with its opening, however in the meantime they are providing access to services through FoundCare at the Greenwood location next to St. Mary's Hospital.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- None

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item: 4.D. Good News Items

- Dr. Constance Siskowski shared that March 15, 2023 would be the Ides of March Young Cares Action Day and the American Association for Caregiving Youth is collaborating with other organizations to assist caregivers with specific illnesses.
- Dr. Barbara Cox Gerlock reminded the board about the Youth Summit hosted by the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department on April 29, 2023 at Palm Beach Central High School at 9:00 AM.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- Dr. Joanna Reid mentioned the possibility of having a presentation from CareerSource on Employment and also having someone present on the topic of transportation.
- There was also a suggestion to have a presentation on Safety as a result of the situation that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and to talk about the Aware and Care initiative.

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: 5. Meeting Adjournment

Discussion: None.

Action Taken: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dr. Merlene Ramnon.

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR CAC/HHS MEETING(S):

May 11, 2023 (9:00 AM)

&

June 08, 2023 (9:00 AM), if needed

DATE OF NEXT EXECUTIVE CAC/HHS MEETING(S):

May 11, 2023 (10:00 AM)

&

June 08, 2023 (8:15 AM), if needed

Reviewed by Stessy Cocerez on May 9, 2023

Prepared by Maybe Alfau on May 4, 2023