

## **Minutes**

**Meeting:** Citizens' Commission for Children (CCC) Advisory Board

**Date:** September 22, 2017 – 8:30 a.m.

**Location:** Orange County Citizens' Commission for Children Division  
Mable Butler Building  
2100 E. Michigan Street  
Orlando, Florida 32806

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Melvin Rogers, Chairman; Dr. Katherine Clark, Ed.D.; Dr. Sylvia T. Caceres, Ph.D.; Mr. Demetrius Vashawn Smith; Dr. Carmel Munroe, Ph.D.; Ms. Nikki Covington; and Mr. Sean Bradford.

**Board Members Absent:** Commissioner Pete Clarke, District 3; Ms. Jennifer Smith-Felder; and Mr. Dewey L. Harvey.

**CCC Staff Present:** Ms. Angela Chestang, Manager; Ms. Danna Jackson-Carroll, Sr. Program Manager; Ms. Charise Liburd, Sr. Program Manager; Ms. Runnette Mitchell, Sr. Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator; Ms. Mary Davis, Sr. Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator; Ms. Lynnsey Hicks, Sr. Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator; Ms. Lasheena Williams, Family Services Program Manager; Ms. Toni Anderson, Monitoring and Research Specialist; Ms. Deja Barnes, Quality Assurance Coordinator; Ms. Lisa Watt, Quality Assurance Coordinator; Mrs. Lucy Gonzalez, Administrative Assistant; and Ms. Yessenia Chacon, Administrative Support Clerk.

**Presenters:** Ms. Dorcas Dillard, District Manager, POPS; and Chief Jill S. Wells, Department of Juvenile Justice

### **Welcome**

Chairman Melvin Rogers called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m., and addressed his concern about the victims of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. He informed the attendees that the meeting is public and subject to the Sunshine Law.

### **Approval of Minutes**

It was decided to move the approval of the minutes to after the presentations.

### **Professional Opportunities Program for Students, Inc. (POPS)**

"Professional Opportunities Program for Students, Inc. is a charitable organization, with a mission to enrich the life experiences for teenagers as they transition into adulthood and professional development opportunities..." (<https://www.popsinc.org>). Ms. Dorcas Dillard presented to the Board an overview of the POPS program. Ms. Dillard shared some of the experiences the POPS students have had through the years. The program started with five interns, and now has opportunities for 35 interns. Ms. Dillard reported to the Board that some students have been hired by Orange County after their internships.

Ms. Dillard continued providing information about the different skills and abilities the students obtain and develop through the POPS program. Questions from the Board were answered during the presentation.

#### **How New Law will Impact the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)**

Chief Jill Wells presented how House Bill No. 7059 impacted the DJJ. The new law made changes to the FL Statute – 985. The Amendment will provide some benefits to juveniles; it expands services for youth waiting placement and creates a designation of profiling offenders, among other things. Chief Wells informed that the majority of the youth read on a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level. The CCC will conduct a book drive to boost book donations for the DJJ. Chief Wells answered Board and CCC Staff questions during the presentation.

#### **Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present at the Board meeting.

#### **Approval of the minutes**

The approval of the minutes' item was moved to after the presentations. Chairman Rogers requested that the Board review the following Board meeting minutes for approval:

- March 31, 2017
- June 23, 2017

Upon a motion by Dr. Sylvia T. Caceres and second by Dr. Katherine Clark, the CCC Advisory Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes.

#### **Neighborhood Centers for Families (NCF) Update**

Ms. Danna Jackson-Carroll, Sr. Program Manager, informed the Board of the assistance the NCFs provided during Hurricane Irma. Ms. Jackson-Carroll continued by sharing information about how Amazon has a link to make donations directly to victims of the Hurricane. She commented that the NCF is looking into adopting this method. The CCC completed the Annual Evaluations in August and she will provide monitoring results during the next Board meeting. She informed the Board that today is the 16<sup>th</sup> NCF Conference where the staff obtains new strategies to continue their services to the community.

#### **CCC Updates**

Ms. Angela Chestang, Manager, provided a packet to the Board which includes an article entitled "The Dangers of Detention: The Impact of Incarcerating Youth in Detention and Other Secure Facilities" by Barry Holman and Jason Ziedenberg from Justice Policy Institute, and a report for "Key Facts: Youth in the Justice System" by Youth Justice (April 2012).

Ms. Chestang informed the Board that, unfortunately, a member of the After School Zone program lost his life due to generator usage during Hurricane Irma. The NCF pantries have been depleted due to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, but Ms. Chestang feels very positive that they will be replenished once again, very soon. There has been a funding increase of 2% to the CCC budget for programs/services. Ms. Runnette Mitchell, Sr. Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator, will expand on the budget in the next meeting.

Ms. Chestang reported that the After School Zone now has 29 schools involved in the program. The new school, Timber Springs, will be adding many programs to the curriculum such as: drama, culinary arts, and computers, among others.


Ms. Chestang informed the Board about the University of Central Florida Capacity Building Seminar, and stated that a report will be presented in the near future.

Ms. Chestang informed the Board that Chairman Rogers' appointment is about to expire, and, at the next meeting, they will be voting for a new vice-chair to serve upon his resignation from the Board. She invited the Board to attend the NCF Conference at Nova Southeastern University (NOVA).

**General Discussion**


The Board did not have any other items to discuss.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

  
Presented by: Lucy Gonzalez

3/30/18  
Date

Approved by:

  
Melvin Rogers, Board Chairman

3/30/18  
Date