

## **Minutes**

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

Date: August 10, 2018 – 8:30 a.m.

Location: Mable Butler Family Center  
Citizens' Commission for Children Division  
2100 E. Michigan Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, ABC Conference Room  
Orlando, FL 32806

Board Members Present: Mr. Sean Bradford, Board Chair; Mr. Brock Hankins; Ms. Nikki Covington; Mr. Alexander J. Barrio; Mr. Nauman Ahmad Ansari; Dr. Sylvia T. Caceres, Ph.D.; Ms. Jennifer E. Felder-Smith.

Board Members on the Telephone: Ms. Nikki Covington.

Board Members Absent: District 3 Commissioner Pete Clarke; Dr. Carmel Munroe, Ph.D. ; Mr. Dewey L. Harvey.

CCC Staff Present: Ms. Angela Chestang, CCC Manager; Ms. Danna Jackson-Carroll, Sr. Program Manager; Ms. Charise Liburd, Sr. Program Manager; Ms. Mary Davis, Sr. Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator; Ms. Wonkiasha Washington, Sr. Contract Administrator; Ms. Anne M. Hedberg, Contract Administrator; Ms. Lisa Watt, Quality Assurance Coordinator; Ms. Kiana Pascoe, Administrative Support Clerk; and Ms. Julie Alvin, Administrative Specialist.

Presenters: Mr. Derrick Osso, Assistant Director Nova Southeastern University Orlando Regional Campus.

Others Present: Ms. Mercedes Fonseca, Administrative Aide to District 3 Commissioner Pete Clarke.

### **Welcome**

Board Chairperson Sean Bradford called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. He informed the attendees that the meeting is public and subject to the Sunshine Law. Chairperson Bradford welcomed the new Board member, Mr. Brock Hankins, to the Board. Introductions were made.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Bradford requested that the Board review the June 22, 2018 meeting minutes. Upon a motion to approve the minutes by Mr. Barrio, and as seconded by Dr. Caceres, the minutes were approved.

### **Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present.

### **Nova Southeastern University Nonprofit Agency Capacity Building**

Mr. Osso gave the Board a breakdown of Nova Southeastern's local operations and collaboration with the nonprofit community, including specific partnerships. Though student-centered, Nova Southeastern's values include community collaboration and the promotion of volunteering. After observing the "clustered" knowledge of students by area and specialty, the University has come to recognize the great need for students, grassroots agencies, and established organizations to collaborate, forming a vast network of information and interpersonal connections. Nova Southeastern fosters the professional development of the entire local community by assisting nonprofits in tapping different resources and bringing students together with a "think tank" of professionals. Mr. Osso directed Board members to the flyer included in their packets and explained the various workshops widely-attended by vendor-partners. Thanks to close collaboration with the CCC, the Board was assured they would hear much more about these capacity building efforts as connections continue to grow.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairperson Bradford proceeded to show appreciation to Mr. Melvin Rogers, whose term expired recently. Mr. Rogers was thanked for his years of service and dedication to the CCC Advisory Board and the youth and families of our community.

It was noted that Board members should be prepared to nominate a new Vice Chair during the upcoming October Advisory Board Meeting.

As mentioned by Ms. Maura Smith in the June 22, 2018 Board Meeting, the Juvenile Detention Center is understaffed and, in effort to remedy associated issues, an Orange County/Osceola County citizen board has been proposed. It was requested that CCC Advisory Board Members provide names of prospective members of this new board to Ms. Angela Chestang. Additionally, the CCC will attempt to build on the success of last year's book donations through another book drive for the youth at the Detention Center. Members were encouraged to bring donations to the October board meeting.

Finally, it was noted that Mr. Dewey L. Harvey sent his apologies and expects to be present at the next Advisory Board Meeting.

### **Manager's Report**

Ms. Angela Chestang, CCC Division Manager, provided additional details on the book drive mentioned by Chairperson Bradford. Any books which will not be appropriate for use by the Detention Center can easily be passed on to the various libraries established at the Neighborhood Centers for Families (NCFs), where they will be equally appreciated.

Spring semester reports from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida, Inc. and The Young Men's Christian Association, Inc. were provided reflecting the excellent GPAs maintained by students and the improved attendance rates of After School Zone participants compared to non-members.

Monday, August 13, 2018 is the first day of school. A list of back-to-school events was provided for the Board's information. The NCFs have donated 2,400 backpacks to students for this coming year, and 3,400 individuals have been served with school supplies. It was noted that NCF staff continue to provide vital services that are not always directly associated with back-to-school, or explicitly reported on, that nonetheless help families as their youth enter a new school year.

Board Members asked questions regarding NCF assistance which were answered by staff.

The CCC again collaborated with Professional Opportunities Program for Students, Inc. (POPS) on a 7-week Summer Internship this year. Students were provided with learning opportunities within Orange County Government that aligned with their prospective career fields. The Board was thanked for their involvement in recommending speakers as the POPS Interns greatly enjoyed the speech on financial literacy proposed by the CCC Advisory Board.

The Board was directed to an informational flyer titled “Going to School Matters!” which was included in back-to-school backpack donations in an effort to influence both students and parents in recognizing and reducing Chronic Absenteeism. The CCC’s own POPS intern collaborated with staff in creating this tool to help engage whole families in discussion over the impact of attendance on education.

Board Members were provided with the new 2018 Kids Count Data Book. Staff will be reviewing this brand new data, shortly, as it may inform what types of services the CCC funds.

An invitation to the Early Learning Coalition of Orange County’s November 13<sup>th</sup> Destination Kindergarten Breakfast was included in meeting materials. Three people have been invited to attend this excellent event with Ms. Chestang.

The Orange County Board of County Commissioners has been hearing issues related to a proposed Children’s Services Council. The Mayor and County Commissioners, along with the CCC, are anticipating results from the outside consultant conducting an independent needs assessment. Mayor Teresa Jacobs has proposed \$20 million for children’s services which may be divided between the CCC and other Orange County divisions. It is anticipated that this information will be discussed at the October 16, 2018 Board of County Commissioners meeting.

The Advisory Board was asked for their assistance in devising marketing strategies to be adopted by the Neighborhood Centers for Families. Board Members volunteered to collaborate with staff.

#### **CCC Updates**

Mr. Nauman Ahmad Ansari was thanked for his visit to the West Orange NCF. He expressed his appreciation for the staff and the facility itself, as well as the “love and joy” of those enjoying the benefits and services of the Neighborhood Center.

Ms. Danna Jackson-Carroll, Sr. Program Manager, directed the Board to the draft list of conference descriptions for the upcoming NCF Conference on September 14<sup>th</sup> and welcomed input for planning the event. Members of the Board proposed that matters of cultural sensitivity should be included in training.

Ms. Jackson-Carroll also passed out an article about a fire in the Engelwood area that displaced 60 families. A flood of donations has advanced efforts to ensure that the 16 children involved in the incident will be able to start school on time this year, but the NCF will naturally be in need of more supplies and is always stocking items to assist families in need. One displaced population not normally considered in disaster events includes pets – several pets were displaced due to the fire and donations are in need for these important family members, as well.

Finally, summer evaluations of the Neighborhood Centers for Families are being conducted. Half of these will be on-site and the other half will be conducted as desk audits. Reporting will be available following the evaluations.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Presented by: Julie Jean Alvin

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Date

Approved by:

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Sean Bradford, Board Chairman

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Date

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