

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 5TH FLOOR MANATEE ROOM
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida
April 10, 2024**

Present were:

Connie Shingledecker, Chairman
Xtavia Bailey, First Vice-Chairman (entered during meeting)
Hon. Scott Brownell
Constance Charles-Logan
Carolann Garafola
Susan Miller Kelly (entered during meeting)
Patricia Miner
Jannon Pierce
Debbie Tapp

Absent was:

Melissa Leslie
Gina Messenger

Also present were:

Amanda Ballard, Board of County Commissioners
Tracie Adams, Deputy Director, Community and Veteran's Services
Kristi Hagen, Children's Services Coordinator
Johanna Beville, Senior Human Services Analyst
Melissa Bomar, Human Services Analyst
Lawanda Timmons, Senior Human Services Analyst
Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst (attended via Zoom)
Vicki Tessmer, Board Records Supervisor, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Chairman Shingledecker called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Johanna Beville, Senior Human Services Analyst, read opening comments regarding the procedures for the meeting and declared a quorum.

AGENDA/SIGN-IN SHEET

CS20240410DOC001

MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Pierce, seconded by Member Garafola, and carried 7-0, with Members Bailey, Leslie, Messenger, and Miller Kelly absent to approve the minutes of April 3, 2024.

REVIEW DISCUSSION

CS20240410DOC002

- Manatee Children's Services - Child Advocacy Center: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
 - Program claimed priority: Children remain in their homes free of abuse and neglect and do not enter or re-enter foster care.
 - Program is requesting a funding increase.

(Enter Members Bailey and Miller Kelly)

- Manatee Children's Services - KIDS Personal Safety: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
 - Program claimed priority: No Priority applicable.
 - Program is requesting a funding increase.

- Manatee Children’s Services – Residential: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
 - Program claimed priority: No priority applicable.
 - Program is requesting a funding increase.
- Safe Children’s Coalition, Inc. – Child Welfare Prevention Program: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
 - Program claimed priority: Children remain in their homes free of abuse and neglect and do not enter or re-enter foster care.
 - Program is requesting a funding increase.
- Safe Children’s Coalition, Inc. – Family Preservation and Reunification Program: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
 - Program claimed priority: Children remain in their homes free of abuse and neglect and do not enter or re-enter foster care.
 - Program is requesting a funding increase.
- The Florida Center – The Florida Center, Early Childhood Court: Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.
 - Program claimed priority: Children in foster care gain a permanent, stable, and nurturing home within 12 months of entering care and remain there.
 - Program is requesting a funding increase.

STAFF UPDATES

Kristi Hagen, Children’s Services Program Coordinator, provided the following updates

- Review Batch 7 is due April 12th.
- Questions from Batch 9 are due April 19th.

Lawanda Timmons, Senior Human Services Analyst, provided the following updates

- Conducted a site visit with Tidewell, and there were no issues.

Johanna Beville, Senior Human Services Analyst, provided the following updates

- Agency reports due April 30th.
- GAP survey launched, and will remain open until June 14th (QR code included).

CS20240410DOC003

Melissa Bomar, Human Services Analyst, provided the following updates

- Conducted a site visit with Palmetto Youth Center and there are no concerns, as programs are in compliance.

Brenda Marquez Facio, Human Services Analyst, provided the following updates

- No comments

MEMBER COMMENT/UPDATES

Commissioner Amanda Ballard had no updates.

Member Bailey stated there was segment on ABC regarding babies sleeping safely.

PUBLIC COMMENT

CS20240410DOC004

Cheryl Andrews, Children’s Services, addressed issues regarding the need for more assistance in their clinical program, especially bi-lingual. They are unaware of Selah’s application.

Julia Robertson, Manatee Children’s Services, addressed the increase for the cost of living for employees.

Sean Steffieri, Safe children's Coalition, thanked the Board for their time, and noted funding provides parenting support services. He introduced a family that took advantage of their programs.

Kristi Palardi, Parent, related her experience with the reunification team at the Safe Children's Coalition.

Discussion ensued on the importance of hearing from people who been helped by organizations.

Pam Hodge, The Florida Center, noted they have a priority, and they are expanding several of their services into Manatee County.

There being no further public comment, Chairman Shingledecker closed public comment.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Children's Services Advisory Board will take place on April 17, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., in the 5th Floor, Manatee Room, Manatee County Administrative Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Shingledecker adjourned the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

Minutes Approved: _____