Children’s Services Advisory Board Meeting

August 17, 2022

A meeting of the Children’s Services Advisory Board of Manatee County, Florida, was held at the Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5th Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday August 17, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call


Also Present: County staff: (in person), Kristi Hagen, LaWanda Timmons, Johanna Beville, and Melissa Bomar; (virtually) Lee Washington; Members of the public: (in person) Jonathan Evans, Laurel Lynch, Dr. Lisa Davis, Beth Clark, Ann Colonna, Char Young, and Anne LeBaron; (virtually) Sue Cappiello, Becky Canesse, Dawn Bryant, Renee Simon, and Michael Wood.

Call to Order/Welcome

Debbie Tapp, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Hope Family Services, Children’s Counseling Program Update

Laurel Lynch from Hope Family Services - Children’s Counseling Program provided a presentation on what domestic violence is, its prevalence, recent local statistics, impact on children, and why it matters. Laurel fielded questions from the CSAB Members.

Insight Counseling, S.O.A.R. Program Update

Dr. Lisa Davis from Insight Counseling - S.O.A.R Program provided a history and an update on the status of the program. Spoke on the current results including client served and progress. Provided a 5-year history on the program for the last 20 years with a 98% success rate. Shared the framework of the program and the requirements for staff credentialling to provide the services. Discussed local and state funding. Dr. Davis fielded questions from the CSAB Members.
Subcommittee Update

Debbie Tapp provided an overview of what was discussed and reviewed during the subcommittee meeting on Monday, August 15, 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2022, to review the CSAB member feedback on the funding application process. Debbie encouraged members to provide their feedback to Kristi Hagen.

Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- CSAB member applications status update:
  - Applications will go before the Board of County Commissioners in September
  - Applications will be reopened for physician and Judge positions due to no applications being received. The applications will be closing on August 26, 2022.
  - CSAB member applications received for:
    - School Board Representative (1 position with current CSAB member only having 1 year remaining on their term)
    - Criminal Justice Representative (1 position and 1 applicant)
    - Child Advocate (1 position available and 3 applications were submitted)
- CSAB Retreat is scheduled for October 14, 2022, in the Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5th floor.
  - Scheduled from 8am to 4pm with breakfast and lunch to be provided to CSAB members

LaWanda Timmons provided the following updates:

- Quarter 3 Results:
  - All programs have submitted their reports and there are currently no findings of concern.
- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs with nothing of concern noted during the observations:
  - Early Childhood Court (The Florida Center)
  - Family Preservation and Reunification Program (Safe Children Coalition)
  - In-Home Child Welfare Preservation and Diversion Program (Safe Children Coalition)
  - Children’s Counseling (Hope Family Services)
  - Iron Sharpening Iron (Educational Consultants Consortium)
  - One to One Mentoring (Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Suncoast)
  - Children’s Community Action Team (Centerstone of Florida)

Johanna Beville provided the following updates:

- Quarter 3 Results:
All programs have submitted their reports and there are currently no findings of concern. However, many agencies report struggling to meet results at this point in the contract year and are citing staffing issues, client enrollment, and ongoing negative impacts due to COVID.

- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations:
  - Step Up Suncoast
    - Technical Visit
    - Compliance Observations:
      - Whole Child Manatee
      - Parents as Teachers
      - HIPPY
      - CATCH
  - Early Learning Coalition:
    - Play and Learning Strategies
- Pertaining to the follow-up visit I touched on from last meeting, there has not been an opportunity to conduct the follow-up visits and will be scheduling to complete before the next CSAB meeting.
  - Success4Life (Replay Outreach)
  - Step Up to Success (Just for Girls)
  - Girls Alternative Program for Success (Just for Girls)
  - Teen Health Educator (Healthy Teens)

Melissa Bomar provided the following updates:

- Quarter 3 Results:
  - AMI Kids has not submitted their Q3 results as of yet.
    - Contract Manager has made numerous attempts to link with program point of contact to discuss without success. Contract Manager will be stopping into the program this week to see if they need assistance with the requirements.
  - The remainder of assigned programs show or state they are on track to achieve their results as stated in the contract.
- Reviewed recent compliance visits for the following programs and there was nothing of concern noted during the observations:
  - Manatee Prevention (AMIkids)
  - Helping Young People Excel (Palmetto Youth Center)
  - Foundation for Excellence (Palmetto Youth Center)
  - Family Shelter with Case Management (The Salvation Army)
  - Family Support Services (Easter Seals)
  - Childrens Therapy (Easter Seals)
  - Therapeutic Horseback Riding (SMART)
  - Morning Care/After School Care/ Camp Myakka (Myakka City Community Center)
New/Old Business
Debbie Tapp and Kristi Hagen reviewed there currently is not a scheduled date for the CSAB’s FY22/23 funding recommendations to go before the Board of County Commissioners. Once it is finalized both CSAB members and programs will be notified.

Public Comment
None

Next Meeting
September 21, 2022 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Manatee/Osprey Rooms, 5th floor.

Adjourn
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Approved

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Debbie Tapp, Chair               Date