Children’s Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB)

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Unapproved Minutes

***Welcome and Introduction of Members:***

Alexandra Hazlaris, Becky White, Brent Villemarette, Cindy Bishop, Derek Little, Makesha Judson, George Murray, James Sprinkle, Jennifer Karle, John Wyble, Jonathan Chapman, Joy Osofsky, Judy Harrison, Ashley Politz, Myra Magee, David Walden, Sean Hamilton, Beth Morgan, and Teri Hrabovsky.

***Interested Parties Present:***

Cynthia Ramagos, Susan Shaffette, Elizabeth Delle, Tiffany Simpson, Daria Martin (BESE), Amelia Monteiro, Lauren Green, Lynette Celestin (FINS), Brenda Sharp (OCDD & DHH), Robert James (Jefferson Delegation), Gena Lewis (OBH & DHH), Mary Morris (MUA & DHH), Duc Vu (DHH), Steve Kauffman (Advocacy Center), Jerry Pinsel, Sabrina M and Clayton Kleinpeter (OLOL Pediatric Residency).

***Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:***

Motion to accept the July meeting minutes was made by Jennifer Karle, seconded by George Murray and approved by all.

Motion to accept the August meeting minutes was made by Susan Shaffette, seconded by George Murray and approved by all.

***Introduction of CCAB Member:***

As part of the ongoing effort to allow members an opportunity to learn about each other and the agencies they represent, each month 2 or 3 members will provide a brief introduction to the group. During the September meeting, Ashley Politz, Myra Magee, and Jennifer Karle briefly talked about themselves and their organizations. All current members have introduced themselves—new members that are appointed will introduce themselves throughout the year.

***Nominating Committee Selection:***

Joy Osofsky, James Sprinkle, and Jennifer Karle were the committee selections.

***Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Council:***

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren is a non-profit organization dedicated to offering both information and support to grandparents raising grandchildren and other relatives serving as parents to children who are not their own. This organization partners with other organizations and agencies that provide training and support to empower grandparents and kinship caregivers. Louisiana is the third highest state in the nation to have grandparents raising their grandchildren.

***Together We Can:***

Conference information was given out. This Conference is a multi-disciplinary event that is highly respected as the place to go for child abuse and neglect training for CASA, CAC, Judges, etc. It offers in-depth learning opportunities which address policy and practice concerns. There are 250 volunteers needed each day of the conference. It will be in New Orleans October 28-30, 2013.

***FY 2014-15 Budget Priority Area Report:***

John stated that the agenda is open for future presentations. The goal is to get our agency members or stakeholders to bring awareness to programs or shed light on any potential issues in regions. If there are any comments or announcements, email Christie the information so she can put it on the agenda.

The Children’s Cabinet is scheduled to sunset in 2014. Members asked about the direction of the Children’s Cabinet moving forward. Reauthorization of the Children’s Cabinet will be required for the council to continue. This is a great opportunity to revisit legislation and make decisions about the future functionality of the Cabinet. The Early Childhood Advisory Council was established by executive order and will function under the Children’s Cabinet—this organizational change should be taken into consideration as the legislation is being reviewed.

Christie mentioned the need for a strategic planning workgroup to refocus priorities and decide upon the most important information to share with the Cabinet members. Ideally, the strategic planning workgroup would consist of members and interested stakeholders and would have an outside facilitator to initiate the process and support the building of the plan. A plan would provide visibility, transparency and operating timelines. This would position the Advisory Board to provide the best information possible to Cabinet members.

The October meeting agenda will include a discussion of who would be interested in joining the strategic planning workgroup. Suggestions and questions should be sent to John and Christie if there are any.

***Public Comments/Announcements:***

There were none.

***Adjournment:***

Motion to adjourn made by Joy Osofosky, seconded by George Murray and approved by all.