



JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PROGRAMS AND PLANNING
CHILDREN'S CABINET

Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting
Unapproved Minutes
March 11, 2025

Member Name: Attendees

Shanna Beber	Connie Bellone
Kathy Coleman	Sherrad Crespo (Proxy)
Amy Dickson	Storm Ehlers
Julie Foster Hagan	Annette Fruge
Jim Garvey	Sarah Hinshaw
Rebecca Hook	Brooke Lafleur
Krystle Mitchell (Proxy)	Amanda Moody
Courtney Myers	Caroline Nailor Oglesby
Karen Powell (Proxy)	Kathleen Richey
Cody Roi	ReShonn Saul
Karen Stubbs	Stephanie Sterling
Christian Vige'	Susan Dupont (Proxy)

Zoom:

Ursula Anderson	Ree Casey Jones
Teresa Falgoust	Jen Firmin
Michele Gros	ViEve Martin Kohrs
Katie Queen	Kimberly Sullivsn
Kahree Wahid	

Staff:

Jolie Williamson, Children's Cabinet Executive Director

Guests:

Dr. Anna Osland
Erica Mann

Welcome and Call to Order:

ReShonn Saul, Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Chair, called the meeting to order and all present were welcomed.

Roll Call:

Jolie Williamson, Children's Cabinet, Executive Director, called roll.

Approval of Minutes:

Susan East Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 meeting. Angela Wiggins Harris seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Whole Health Louisiana:

Dr. Anna Osland, Director of Research, Kathleen Blanco Public Policy Center, presented information regarding Whole Health Louisiana.

The Whole Health Louisiana (WHL) State Plan is Louisiana's first statewide plan to systematically address the widespread issue of childhood adversity and trauma through the integration of trauma-informed and healing-centered approaches in our state's systems of care and support for children and families. Addressing this issue is critical to the well-being and fulfillment of our state's children, families, and communities.

WHL's mission is to transform Louisiana's cross-system collaboration and community-specific care, so that together we can effectively prevent, recognize, and treat childhood adversity and its effects, allowing the people of Louisiana to access their full potential.

Whole Health Louisiana Plan Development Overview:

Hundreds of voices from across Louisiana are included in the State Plan. Insights from both the community-based, statewide discovery process and the November 2022 convening served as the foundation for developing plan priorities and structure. The third phase of the plan development process, coordinated by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) through the Bureau of Family Health, was guided by a Steering Committee, supported by cross-sector working groups, and informed by advisory bodies and community conversations held throughout the state. The result of this process is the WHL State Plan which includes an overview of trauma-informed and adversity-related concepts, four priority areas with recommendations and objectives to achieve the goal of each priority and an implementation approach that has buy-in across youth and family serving systems. This unified, trauma-informed, State Plan will invest in the full potential of our young people, those who care for them and the workforce that serves them to improve health and safety outcomes for all Louisianans.

The development of the WHL Plan included three phases:

- An 11-month-long, state-wide discovery process to learn about the current state of childhood adversity in Louisiana, how it is being addressed, and what barriers exist to implementing change (September 2021 - August 2022);
- A convening of state leaders, experts, and advocates to review the findings from the discovery process and launch the development of a State Plan (November 2022); and
- A year-long collaborative process to draft the WHL State Plan that included **Community Conversations** across all nine public health regions of the state organized and facilitated by the Power Coalition of Equity and Justice (January 2023 - November 2023).

Priority Areas of the WHL State Plan:

- **Collaboration:** Connect and align government agencies, community-based organizations, educational institutions, and healthcare providers to create a seamless network of support for children and families.
- **Awareness:** Inform the public, policymakers, and workforce about the impacts and drivers of childhood trauma to reduce stigma and encourage the adoption of evidence-based, early intervention and preventative measures.
- **Prevention + Healing:** Expand preventive programs, access to services, and community-based initiatives that promote resilience and well-being.
- **Workforce:** Implement strategies for training and support to ensure that frontline workers can effectively care for themselves and those they serve.

Implementing the WHL State Plan:

LDH will serve as the plan's public sector anchor, dedicating \$1 million dollars annually for the first five years of plan implementation to support its success. The plan will be led by a public-private partnership between LDH and the WHL Statewide Lead, the WHL Coalition, and in collaboration with various partners, including community members, government agencies, non-profits, and community organizations. A dedicated Steering Committee, as well as the broader WHL Coalition, will provide guidance and oversight to ensure the successful implementation of the plan.

Louisiana Department of Education:

Shanna Beber, Executive Director of Literacy, presented on behalf of the Louisiana Department of Education. The following information was presented:

- LA 4th graders are #1 in the country for reading growth for the second consecutive cycle of the Nation's Report Card great progress being made. Seeing so many increases.
- Act 108 (2021) Foundations of Literacy Training
- Literacy screener – all K-3 students – three times per year with parent reporting within 15 days.
- Reports in DIBELS platform – every school should have a literacy coach to support teacher.
- Individual reading improvement plans for students below proficiency
- Tutoring during school day (accelerate high dosage tutoring) 30 million available for high dosage tutoring for low performing students in grades k-5. School systems choose providers.
- Tutoring Outside School Day (Steve Carter Tutoring Program)

Positive Movement:

Erica Mann, CEO/President was unable to attend.

Other Business:

ReShonn Saul provided an update on the Solutions Summit Steering Committee. The update included the following information:

- The Steering committee continues to meet monthly.
- Developed various work groups for data, training topics, vendors, presenters
- Planning for September 2025 in Alexandria
- Inviting 400 individuals (FINS, ADA's, DA's, Judges, School System Staff)
- Budget estimated to be \$50K
- Partnering with LA Supreme Court, Children's Cabinet, and Betsy Board
- Everyone is so excited – trying to come up with slogans to place on billboards

Discussion followed.

Public Comments:

Dr. Christian Vige' of the Family Stability Subcommittee reported that the subcommittee continues to hold monthly meetings, and that a compliance letter for the Act went out right before Mardi Gras. Dr. Vige' reported that he continues to receive great feedback. Next phase to follow up via phone in those judicial districts for their CYPD.

Susan East Nelson presented information regarding the upcoming Legislative session which begins April 14, 2025. Prefilling has started and the prefilling deadline is April 4, 2025 (5 bill limit).

Adjournment:

Susan East Nelson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Amanda Moody seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: May 13, 2025, 10 AM – 12 PM
4th floor Press Room, State Capitol