Children’s Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB)

Regular Meeting

10:00-11:15

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

Unapproved Minutes

**Welcome and Introduction Members:**

Alexandra Hazlaris (Louisiana Children’s Advocacy Centers), Amanda Brunson (Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana), Brent Villemarette (DCFS), Carmen Weisner (National Association of Social Workers), Cindy Bishop (Louisiana Assembly on School-Based Health Care), Sharon Tucker (DCFS), Derek Little (Department of Education), George Murray (Louisiana Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges), James Sprinkle (Families Helping Families), John Wyble (Louisiana Court-Appointed Special Advocate Association), Jonathan Chapman (Louisiana Primary Care Association), Joy Osofsky (LSU Health Sciences Center), Judy Harrison (Louisiana Children’s Trust Fund), Kahree Wahid (State Head Start Collaboration Project), Myra Magee (Parent Representative), Lindsay Ursay (Institute of Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health at Tulane University), and Danita LeBlanc (DHH Office of Behavioral Health ).

A quorum was secured.

**Interested Parties Present:**

Liz Kearney (OCP), Lynette Martin (LACASA), David Walden (JJDP), Sonia Eubanks (Louisiana Primary Care Association), Mark Simien (Mental Health Advocacy Child Advocacy Program), Lynette Celestin (LA Families in Need of Services Association), Lenell Young (LAPEN), Melanie Bronfin (LA Partnership), and Thomas Thompson (DHH).

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: December 10th**

Motion to accept the December meeting minutes was made, seconded and approved by all.

**Follow up on Strategic Planning Process:**

Christie Smith (update): The initial plan was to have the strategic planning session today, but as a result of the holidays, the strategic plan session has been pushed back to the next meeting on February 11. Things are going well with the facilitator contract.

Christie recommended that all members reference the Children’s Dashboard website to review agency initiatives. The website was developed as a result of a Cabinet initiative. She proposed the following questions to Advisory Board members to consider moving forward:

How is your agency addressing these issues directly and/ or indirectly?

What have been the major successes of the Advisory Board?

What are the challenges faced by the Advisory Board and how can we problem-solve internally and throughout the state?

Christie called for the acknowledgement of the past accomplishments and current progress achieved by the Advisory Board which should be articulated in the Strategic Plan. The advisory board serves a place to focus the efforts and expertise of its members to make positive and meaningful changes in addressing statewide initiatives. Christie asked that any additional comments or suggestions regarding the planning process be sent to her by the end of the month to be incorporated.

Christie confirmed that the reauthorization of the legislation will move forward.

**Presentation by Lenell Young- Program Director of LAPEN:** LAPEN is composed of professionals with different backgrounds and training who share a common vision - to provide high quality and effective parenting education. LAPEN provides leadership and support for Louisiana's parent educators in every field. LAPEN's goals are threefold:

1. To develop and support a statewide network of parent educators who offer parenting education services.

2. To promote best practices in parenting education.

3. To provide and promote continuing education and professional development opportunities for parent educators

Lenell handed out materials for Advisory Board Members to review.

**Susan Shaffette:**

Susan demonstrated the Children’s Law Advocacy Resource Online (CLARO) website and explained that it is a resource where you can find information about trainings regarding children, child welfare, foster care, the judicial system, child abuse and neglect, and child care. The information online is organized by topic and role. Susan encouraged members to review the website and explained the calendar feature so that everyone could stay informed of statewide events.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn made by Kahree Wahid, seconded by Ashley Politz and approved by all.