



Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting

Unapproved Minutes

June 11, 2019

Claiborne Building – Thomas Jefferson Room 136 A&B

Member Name: Attendees

R. Renee Antoine
Alfreda Tillman-Bester
Melanie Bronfin
Lynn V. Clark
Charles C. Coleman, M.D.
Gina E. Eubanks, Ph.D.
Sherry Guarisco
Sarah Hinshaw-Fuselier, Ph.D.
Julio Galan
Beth Morgan
Joy D. Osofsky, Ph.D.
Kathleen S. Richey

Reshonn Saul
Mary Beth Scalco
Marsha Shuler
Ernise Singleton, Ph.D.
Jill Slack, Ph.D.
Katina Semien
Libbie Sonnier-Nelto, Ph.D.
Ayn Stehr
Melanie Washington
Lenell Young

Non-Members: Guests

Steve Kaufman
Susan Shaffette
Karen Powell
Tewabetch Negatu, Ph.D.
Madeline Kim
Erin Davison
M. Mosely
Erin Brock
Fiona Ritchey
Laura C. Thornton, Ph.D.
Suzanne Jolissaint

Donald Songy
April Dunn
Bruce Parker, Ph.D.
Bambi Polotzola
Susan East Nelson
Elise LaFleur
Hayden Cresson
Cindy Bishop
Emily Distefano
Leslie Hill
Brenda Sharp

Welcome:

Dr. Bruce Parker, II, Director of the Office of Community Programs, welcomed members and guests to the June 11th Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting.

Dr. Parker commended the board on the amazing work they have done and expressed the Governor's appreciation.

Staff:

Dr. Bruce Parker, II for Dr. Dana Hunter, Children's Cabinet Executive Director
Stephanie Neal, LYFE Executive Assistant

Call to Order:

Sherry Guarisco, Children's Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB) Chair, called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Roll Call:

Stephanie Neal called roll.

Approval of Minutes:

The official approval of the April 9, 2019 minutes was postponed due to the lack of a quorum.

Brief Children's Cabinet Report

Dr. Bruce Parker gave the following highlights of the Children's Cabinet Report:

1. The multi-year Human Trafficking servicing grant for survivors of Human Trafficking has been received.
2. The Budget has been approved from federal partners to form the Louisiana Child Trafficking Collaborative.
3. The First Lady has taken an active interest in Human Trafficking, hunger prevention for children, and meetings with local officials who work on Human Trafficking. Meetings with service providers have been arranged in Monroe, Thibodeaux and Houma.
4. Dr. Hunter has spoken at various Human Trafficking awareness events around the state.
5. The First Lady's signature program is the No Kid Hungry Initiative which includes monthly meetings. Work continues towards increasing the number of schools implementing alternative breakfast model, such as Grab-n-go.
6. Plans to promote summer meals sites continue.
7. Video coming out to encourage people to eat breakfast
8. The First Lady and Dr. Hunter are speaking June 11, 2019 at the school leadership institute hosted by Share Our Strength in New Orleans, La.
9. Dr. Hunter attended the Juvenile Detention Alternative initiative State School collaborative meeting in New Jersey.

Sherry Guarisco requested the following information be made available for distribution: a summary of the feeding sites, breakfast video and job descriptions for the nine (9) Louisiana Child Trafficking Collaborative regional leads.

Louisiana Children's Trust Fund (LCTF) State Plan & Look Before You Lock (LBYL) Updates

Katina Semien, Executive Director, Louisiana Children's Trust Fund, provided the following report:

1. The five year Children's Trust Fund State Plan is due for next year 2020.
2. The Children's Trust Fund is a primary source of funding for prevention activities in the state.
3. Preparations are underway for fiscal year 2020. Almost \$900,000 in funding will be going out to agencies that are focused on primary and secondary prevention efforts.
4. The mission is to prevent abuse and neglect among Louisiana's children through partnerships with agencies throughout the state.
5. There will be nine town hall meetings throughout the state. The list of meeting locations may be found at www.Louisianactf.org. A survey can be completed online for those who cannot attend one of the town hall meetings.
6. Discussed "Look Before You Lock".

2019 Legislative Update

Department of Children and Family Services Assistant Secretary Alfreda Tillman-Bester, reported that all major bills DCFS presented to the legislators passed. The most significant one was to raise the age of foster care eligibility to age twenty-one.

Department of Health's representative advised they had 2 bills;

1. The state's immunization registry will now include adults as well as children's records.
2. HB38 Raising the age of tobacco use from age 18 to 21 failed.

Office of Public Health had one bill. Representative advised the bill was regarding notices of judicial hearing and advised that the Medicaid budget did ok.

Brenda Sharp discussed the passing of HB199, referred to as the TEFRA (Tax, Equity, Fiscal, Responsibility Act)-makes children with disabilities eligible for Medicaid regardless of parents' income.

Early Steps received an additional 2.1 million dollars as a result of growth of the program.

Provider rate restoration for direct service workers who provide support for waiver recipients was approved.

Donald Songy, Governor's Education Policy Advisor, stated that there was a \$1,000.00 raise for teachers and \$500.00 raise for support employees and a \$39 million increase in the block grant for schools.

Early Education representative, Melanie Bronfin, advised that the amount of new funding is \$15.2 million with \$4.4 million being dedicated to Pre-K and the remainder towards Child Care Assistance.

Office of Juvenile Justice official Beth Morgan advised that OJJ received an additional \$10 million this year which allowed for fully funding the Acadiana Center for Youth. The Governor officially cut the ribbon on March 25, 2019. Every juvenile facility in Louisiana is now operating below a hundred kids which is the national best practice for treatment. The office's other big win was HB2 where it received money and approval to replace Swanson Center for Youth in Monroe and Bridge City Center for Youth in Bridge City.

Ms. Guarisco advised the members of subcommittees that August will be the time to set priorities for the next legislative session. The present subcommittees are:

1. Vulnerable Youth. It has been dealing with raise the age issues.
2. Behavioral Health Services for Children K-12. It has been dealing with expansion of Medicaid in schools.
3. Family Stability. It has been dealing with family supports, childhood hunger, school feedings.
4. Early Childhood Experience. It has been working to increase early childhood education opportunities.

Other Business

No other business.

Public Comments

No Public comments.

2019 Meeting schedule is as follows:

Upcoming CCAB meetings:

Tuesday, June 11, 2019	10:00 am – 12:00 pm (CCAB), Claiborne Building, Rooms 136 A&B
Tuesday, August 13, 2019	10:00 am – 12:00 pm (CCAB), Claiborne Building, Rooms 136 A&B
Tuesday, October 15, 2019	10:00 am – 12:00 pm (CCAB), Claiborne Building, Rooms 136 A&B
Tuesday, December 10, 2019	10:00 am – 12:00 pm (CCAB), State Capitol Press Room 4 th Floor

Upcoming Children’s Cabinet meeting:

Tuesday, June 19, 2019	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	State Capitol Press Room 4 th Floor
Tuesday, September 17, 2019	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	State Capitol Press Room 4 th Floor

Adjournment

There was a motion and a second motion to adjourn.