



OFFICE *of the* GOVERNOR

JOHN BEL EDWARDS

**CHILDREN'S CABINET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

November 14, 2017

Claiborne Building – Thomas Jefferson Room 136 A&B

Member Name: Attendees

Alfreda Tillman-Bester, JD	Kathleen Stewart-Richey, JD
Mia Orr (representing Melanie Bronfin)	Mary Beth Scalco
Amanda Brunson	Katina Semien
Lynn Clark, PhD	Marsha Shuler
Charles Coleman, MD	Ernise Singleton, PhD
Sarah Hinshaw-Fuselier, PhD	James Sprinkle
Eric Grigg, M.D.	Ayn Stehr
Sherry S. Guarisco	Stephanie Sterling
Rhenda Hodnett, PhD	Mark A. Thomas
Kristin Savicki (representing Dr. James Hussey)	Kahree A. Wahid
Ronald Johnson	Juanita Washington
Jennifer Karle	Gina L. Womack

Non-Members: Guests

Sandra Adams	Sarah Berthelot
Ana Bales	Lenell Young
Kevin Chenevert	Julio Galan
Richard Bateman	Donald Songy
Cindy Bishop	Phyllis Landrieu
Sue Catchings	Connie Bellone
Matthew Wallace	Stephen Haufman
Megan Cousins	Brenda Sharp
Cara Wyatt-Allison	Bambi Polotzola
Melissa Campbell	April Dunn

Call to Order:

Dr. Dana Hunter, Executive Director, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the November 14, 2018 Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting. Introductions were made.

Dr. Hunter called for a review of the agenda and minutes. Sherry Guarisco made a motion to add approval of the minutes to the Agenda. Katina Semien seconded the motion. All approved.

Alfreda Bester made a motion to approve the minutes. Marsha Shuler seconded the motion. All approved.

Executive Directors Report:

Dr. Dana Hunter, Executive Director reported on the following Children's Cabinet Update:

- a.) **School Breakfast Challenge**: The Executive Director continued discussion concerning the statewide "School Breakfast Challenge". Monetary rewards will be given to schools across the state with the highest percentage of breakfast participation in their schools. She noted that to date, over 200 schools across the state are participating in the program.

Kahree Wahid raised the question as to whether or not all children are eligible for the free breakfast/lunch under the No Kid Hungry program. Do the families have to complete an application or provide financial eligibility? Dr. Dana Hunter responded that all children are eligible regardless of family income and that no applications are required to participate in the program. Dr. Hunter also stated that not all schools that qualify take advantage of the program. A list of qualifying schools that are eligible will be distributed.

The question also arose as to whether or not if Early Childhood Educators/Centers could participate in the program. Dr. Hunter replied that if the Center is a part of the East Baton Rouge School system, then yes, they are eligible. Head Start and Early Childhood Centers that are not a part of the East Baton Rouge Parish school system are not eligible.

- b.) **Human Trafficking Regional Summits**: The Human Trafficking Commission has begun with the first series of Regional Human Trafficking Summits statewide. The Summits will be held over the next six months. Information regarding the Summits and a schedule of the dates/locations will be sent to CCAB Members.
- c.) **Raise the Age Commission/JDAJ**: The Raise the Age Commission continues to meet. The Governor's Office has been visiting several of the Juvenile Detention Centers and having conversations with some of the youth in the facilities as well as staff. Dr. Hunter has also met with Opal West, JDAI Director.
- d.) **Early Childhood Policy Leadership Institute**: Dr. Hunter stated that she recently had the privilege of attending the Early Childhood Policy Leadership Institute where the impact of early childhood brain architecture and brain development was discussed.
- e.) **LCTF and Prevent Child Abuse**: Dr. Hunter reported that she met with Katina Semien, LCTF Executive Director and Amanda Brunson, Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana (PCAL) to discuss a partnership and a stronger collaborative effort between the two agencies.

Brief Presentation – (HEAL): Connie Bellone, RN, MSHSA, CEO of the Health and Education Alliance of Louisiana (HEAL) gave a brief presentation of the services they provide to children. The agency's goal is to educate and assist schools on Medicaid billing procedures that can offset health services costs for the schools. Through these efforts, they are working to change the Louisiana school system one school at a time until all of the children in Louisiana have their health barriers to success addressed. It has been shown that student performance increases as health needs are met. Ms. Bellone stated that this is not a duplication of services and does not affect a child's Medicaid benefits unless a private provider is used. The main benefit of the program is that services are provided in school, making it very convenient for parents. The organization completes an assessment and then when needed the child is either sent to a doctor or to a school-based health center. Ms. Bellone requested that the CCAB ask the Children's Cabinet to support Louisiana participating in the national collaborative so that Louisiana can take

place in the reimbursement opportunity. Following the presentation, Cindy Bishop, representing the Louisiana Alliance on School-Based Health, provided brief information on the network of school-based health centers.

Logistics of Presentations to Cabinet: Dr. Hunter reported that CCAB Sub-group Committee Presentations will take place at the upcoming Children's Cabinet Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017. Each group will be given approximately seven minutes to present to the Children's Cabinet.

Nominations for Chair: Sherry Guarisco of the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families was nominated to serve as Chair for the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB). Kahree Wahid made a motion to accept the nomination of Ms. Guarisco to serve as chair of the CCAB. Eric Griggs seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

Sub-Committee Discussions: At this time the Sub-Committees met to discuss their recommendations.

Adjournment: Kathleen Stewart Richey made a motion to adjourn. Amanda Brunson seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting adjourned.