

**Child**r**en’s Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting**

**Unapproved Minutes**

**June 28, 2022**

**Member Name: Attendees**

R. Renee Antoine

Charles Coleman, M.D.

Gina Eubanks

Teresa Falgoust

Annette Fruge

Julie Foster Hagan

Angela Harris

Sarah Hinshaw-Fusilier

Rhenda H. Hodnett

Shavana Howard

Tamara Jones

Mattilyn Karst

Susan East Nelson

Kathleen Stewart Richey

Lakisha W. Robinson

Ernise Singleton

Libbie Sonnier

Stephanie Sterling

Karen Stubbs

Alishia R. Vallien

Michael Victorian

Kahree Wahid

Gina B. Womack

Lenell Young

**Representatives present for Board Members** *(Note: They do not count toward quorum and cannot vote)****:***

Kristin Beatty for Jill E. Roshto

**Staff:**

Dr. Melanie Washington, Children’s Cabinet Executive Director

Michele M. Rabalais, Children’s Cabinet Executive Assistant

Justin Standifer, Children’s Cabinet/Children & Youth Planning Boards, Program Manager

**Guests/Presenters:**

Levar Robinson, Fathers on a Mission (F.O.A.M.)

Margaret Read, No Kid Hungry

Kelleen Zubick, Healthy Families Produce Rx

**Welcome and Call to Order**:

Susan East Nelson, Children’s Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB) Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and welcomed all present.

Dr. Melanie Washington introduced Tamara R. Jones, the new Children’s Trust Fund Executive Director and Justin Standifer, Children’s Cabinet/Children & Youth Planning Boards, Program Manager.

**Roll Call:**

Michele M. Rabalais, Executive Assistant, called roll.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Charles Coleman made a motion to approve the March 15, 2022 minutes. Lenell Young seconded the motion. All approved. Motion carried.

**Fathers on a Mission:**

Levar Robinson, Founder and Executive Director, presented information on Fathers On a Mission (F.O.A.M.). F.O.A.M.'s mission is to promote responsible committed fatherhood through education, strong relationships, holistic health, and socioeconomic improvement opportunities to empower fathers, father figures and youth to positively impact and influence communities through monthly fatherhood meetings. F.O.A.M's goal is to support fathers to become self-aware and self-sufficient in supporting their families. Discussion followed.

**No Kid Hungry – Healthy Families Produce Rx Program:**

Margaret Read, Senior Manager, No Kid Hungry presented an update on the No Kid Hungry program.

[No Kid Hungry](https://nokidhungry.org/) is a national campaign run by Share Our Strength, a nonprofit working to end the issue of childhood hunger in the United States and around the world.

Since 2010, No Kid Hungry has been working in Louisiana, where its initial focus was on increasing access to nutrition programs for children in New Orleans. Since that time, No Kid Hungry Louisiana has expanded its efforts statewide. Staff collaborates with the Governor’s Office and the Children’s Cabinet to educate and engage school leaders, promote grant opportunities, and raise awareness about the positive impacts that school breakfast and afterschool and summer meal programs provide to kids in need. Discussion followed.

Kelleen Zubick, presented information about the Healthy Families Produce Rx project. This is a USDA funded pilot program connecting low-income families in Louisiana with fresh produce through voucher prescriptions. Currently this program operates in six (6) parishes: Washington, Tangipahoa, St. Helena, St. Landry, Acadia, and Lafayette.

In addition to receiving vouchers for fresh fruits and vegetables, participants are also able to participate in healthy cooking and nutrition classes available in person as well as on-line through the LSU Ag Center. Discussion followed.

**Legislative Updates:**

Susan East Nelson, CCAB Chair, presented information about bills affecting children and families. Ms. Nelson informed CCAB Members that the legislature had 1,582 bills and 718 study requests. A list of bills will be distributed to CCAB Members. Discussion followed.

**Budget Recommendation Discussion:**

Dr. Washington, Children’s Cabinet Executive Director, informed CCAB Members that CCAB budget recommendations for the Children’s Cabinet need to be turned in by August 30, 2022. It is of the utmost importance that subcommittees meet and come up with recommendations as soon as possible. Specific budget items need to be turned in to the Children’s Cabinet by November 30, 2022.

**Acknowledgement of Public and Public Comments:**

None

**Adjourn:** Kahree Wahid made a motion to adjourn. Alishia R. Vallien seconded the motion. All approved. Meeting adjourned.