



**Special Acknowledgement:**

- A. Susan Hershey was recognized for serving as a CSCMC Council Member from 2000-2004, of which 3 years were as Chair.
- B. harry a. yates was recognized for his accomplishments during his 15 years as the first and only CSCMC Executive Director.

**Council Organization:**

**A. Election of Officers**

Council discussed the Governor's office making no appointments to the CSCMC Council to date. Consensus was to go ahead and elect Officers for 2005. **A motion was made by James Dragseth and seconded by Marian Carpenter to elect Samia Ferraro as Chair and Karen Ripper as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.**

**New Business:**

- A. The Auditor's Report for 2004 was presented by Chuck Haas and Karen Hoyt of Rachlin Cohen & Holtz. They provided a handout of the Financial Statements as of September 30, 2004, for Council review. A clean opinion on the report was issued by their firm, as these CSCMC financial statements fairly reflect the financial position of CSCMC. Mr. Haas reported that no disputes with management occurred, and CSCMC's internal recordkeeping and accounting are superlative. Council consensus was to accept the report (given as a handout) to review after the meeting and to pass any questions that they have through staff for clarification/answers. **A motion was made by Marian Carpenter and seconded by James Dragseth to accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.**
- B. A Medicaid Update on proposed reform was given by Sarah Gosney, Executive Director of Martin County Healthy Start Coalition, and Barbara Brockmeier, Executive Director of Human Services Associates. Two handouts were given and reviewed, "Florida Medicaid: Proposed Framework for Modernization" (14 pages) and "Medicaid Behavioral Health Services" (10 pages). Ms. Gosney stated that every agency that provides aid to children will have to restructure and/or review how they do business according to the Medicaid reform. Under the Challenger Mental Health Program (funded by CSCMC), continual care is needed; therefore, as the third party funding source is diminished, they will have to ask the local source to increase their budget. Ms. Brockmeier stated that their agency is trying to correct the situation by working with legislators and also trying to negotiate and contract with the many agencies to ensure that they can remain a provider, as they fear because they are small that they will be excluded, which will mean that families will have to travel to receive services. Council questions were answered by Ms. Gosney and Ms. Brockmeier accordingly.

- C. The Tykes & Teens budget transfer to cover an additional part-time position was given by Genevieve Guido. **A motion was made by James Dragseth and seconded by Marian Carpenter to approve a budget transfer for Tykes & Teens, Inc. (Family Abuse Treatment Program) from Other/Contract Line Item to Salary Wages in the amount of \$6,244, as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously.**
- D. Performance Review Committee (PRC) appointments were assigned to Karen Ripper, Michael DiTerlizzi, Debbie Crowder, and Samia Ferraro. Karen Ripper will Chair this committee. Samia Ferraro directed Rebecca Galante to set up three meetings for the PRC to review and complete the evaluation instrument for Harry A. Yates' performance.
- E. Executive Director's vacation request was given by Harry A. Yates. **A motion was made by James Dragseth and seconded by Marian Carpenter to accept Harry A. Yates' request to take two additional vacation days (16 hours) per his contract. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Staff Reports:**

A. Executive Director/Staff Report:

The Executive Director/Staff Report was given by Harry A. Yates. Regarding mental health issues, Harry has brought to the attention of some of our legislators and Commissioner Michael DiTerlizzi that a facility exists in West Martin County, which was originally built as a juvenile detention facility for sexual offenders, and the facility is not currently being used. Discussions are ongoing on how to utilize that facility effectively.

Elizabeth Whittles reported on legislative issues, including that the Treasure Coast Coordination Coalition (TC3) along with the District 19 Juvenile Justice Circuit Board have made strides in getting some improvement with the probation officer status in our district. As juvenile caseloads increased in Martin County, our area did not have adequate staff to handle the increase. Council had a detailed discussion regarding zero tolerance against substance use and abuse and how society and parental responsibility has changed. Scott Berry added that our research has shown that youth in Martin County are at greater risk for being referred into the juvenile justice system versus youth statewide with most referrals being attributed to drug and alcohol related offenses. This being one reason that CSCMC created the Targeted Funding Priority. In answer to Council's question, SAMIS and Scott Berry's research provides CSCMC with a tracking mechanism to evaluate programs consistently to test their effectiveness.

In response to James Dragseth's question, Scott Berry reported that the number of Martin County KidCare slots have not been totaled in Tallahassee. Elizabeth Whittles also reported that because the legislator pulled funding for the outreach component, no conduit exists locally now, and families can send apply by mail or on-line themselves. Therefore, the local legislators are now calling for a very comprehensive review of the administration of this program and how to receive county information totals quicker. Scott Berry will provide the total number of children eligible for KidCare in Martin County.

harry a. yates reported on his meeting with the Department of Children and Families Secretary, Lucy Hadi. In reference to contracting out services for foster care and related services, Ms. Hadi said that the contracts were outsourcing and not privatization. This meaning that all DCF rules and guidelines are transferred to the responsibility of the community-based care agency, in this case United For Families, Inc. (UFF).

David Heaton stated that he would be meeting with Building Bridges to Youth regarding their restaurant program to determine the number of clients served.

B. Financial Reports:

The Financial Reports were given by Genevieve Guido. 31% revenue has been recorded. Expenditures were high because new contracts have not been allocated yet. No Council comments were given.

**Council Member Comments:**

Dr. Sara Wilcox requested that funding requests involving the Martin County School District be required to have a sign off by the District before bringing them to CSCMC in order to save time. Dr. Wilcox will address all local school Principals about the required District signature. Staff will include this request in CSCMC's Request for Proposals (RFP) document with a statement that, if an organization operates a program that requires School Board approval, a Martin County School District signature will be required before submitting the application.

James Dragseth commented on a Palm Beach Post article regarding the privately run foster care. Staff corrected that the media article should have referred to outsourcing and not privatization, such as Martin County foster care services run by United For Families (UFF).

Hon. Steven Levin reported that he is back serving on Juvenile Drug Court, which has been expanded with Truancy Court. He was thankful to have the support of the School Board with the staffing of the School Resource Officers (SRO) from each of the schools.

Samia Ferraro reminded Council that the next CSCMC Meeting on March 28, 2005, is at 9:00 a.m., due to the joint TAC Workshop.

**Public Comments:**

Susan Perez of United Way's Success By 6 reported on an upcoming nationwide law enforcement initiative and their literacy network.

As no further business or discussion existed, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

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Samia Ferraro, Chair

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harry a. yates, Executive Director