

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF MARTIN COUNTY (CSCMC)

Regular Meeting
Monday, March 28, 2011, 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

After taking roll and having a quorum, Rob Ranieri, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Council Members Present: Rob Ranieri (Chair) Elmira Gainey
John M. Lass (Vice-Chair) Anthony George, Jr.
Judith Weber (Treasurer) Vern Melvin
Michael Busha Doug Smith

Council Members Absent: Hon. Sherwood Bauer, Jr., and Nancy Kline

Public Present: Mark Chittum, Retired - Martin County Health Department
Kathy Derringer, Vice President, Helping People Succeed
Scott R. Berry, Executive Director, Martin County Healthy Start Coalition
Nicole King, Executive Director, The Whole Child Connection, Inc.

Staff Present: David Heaton (Executive Director), Elizabeth Barbella (Director of Policy and Operations), Pamela Chamberlain (Contract Specialist), Rebecca Galante (Executive Assistant), Laura Haase (Contract Specialist), Frances Kaleta (Administrative Assistant I), Stephanie Macera (Executive Assistant), Ellen Pethic (Manager of Finance), Sandra Shepherd, Ph.D., (Research Analyst), and Noreen Dreyer (Legal Counsel)

Invocation was given by John M. Lass, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by Elmira Gainey and seconded by Doug Smith to adopt the agenda, as presented. The motion passed unanimously (8-0 vote).

A motion was made by Tony George and seconded by Judith Weber to approve the minutes of February 28, 2011, after amending the word table to postpone under the motion made for Item B, Page 4. The motion passed unanimously (8-0 vote).

Public Comments:

No public comments were made.

David Heaton introduced Attorney Noreen Dreyer of Ruden McClosky, as Tyson Waters has left their firm. Rob Ranieri recognized Tyson Waters for his years of service.

Old Business:

- A. The Building Committee Report was presented by David Heaton who reported that the Easement Agreement with Unity of Stuart Church has been unanimously approved and is ready to be executed. The agreement was changed to incorporate the lender. Essentially, site preparation will begin next week.
- B. The Communications Committee Report was given by Elizabeth Barbella who highlighted the Communications Section of the Executive Director/Staff Report. The CSCMC informational video by local photographer Tom Winters video should be available for Council at next month's meeting. Mr. Winters has graciously donated his time and talent to complete this introductory video. This will become another tool to introduce CSCMC to the community through our Providers and the Speakers Bureau. CSCMC-funded Providers are being encouraged to make their Boards and clients aware of their CSCMC funding. David Heaton introduced branding materials, including the new CSCMC banner that utilizes the updated logo and adhesive auto stickers.
- C. The CSCMC By-Laws Amendment was reviewed by David Heaton.

A motion was made by Tony George and seconded by Elmira Gainey to approve the CSCMC By-Laws Amendment, as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously (8-0 vote).

New Business:

- A. Elizabeth Barbella pointed out that the Whole Child Connection (WCC) is a targeted funding priority that was created to improve the access to care and increase utilization of services for children 0-18 years old and their families. The Whole Child Connection system is rich with data.

The Whole Child Connection provider presentation was given by Nicole King, Executive Director, who gave Council the history of the program. WCC is a comprehensive web-based service delivery system that allows parents to create a complete profile about their family to cover needs for health care, insurance, housing, child care, school readiness, special needs programs, parenting education, etc. Whole Child Advisors support families as they develop and implement a holistic plan to meet their needs, whether they have computer access or not. WCC has a database of over 400 social service resources in their database to help propel families toward self-sufficiency, children toward healthy, productive lives, and communities toward overall enhanced quality of life. Nicole listed the (13) Martin County non-profit agencies that have adopted the role of WCC advisors, and her goal is to meet with the Martin County School Superintendent to get a Family Connection Corners at every school campus. Currently, more than 6,059 profiles have been submitted to the Whole Child System, and over 19,000 resources have been accessed through the WCC System. Of the 5,126 service requests generated to date, 98% of those were answered by a WCC Provider in Martin County.

The Whole Child Connection has plans for Family FunFest Day on May 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Flagler Park in downtown Stuart in partnership with CSCMC. Elizabeth Barbella's goal is trying to get all CSCMC-funded providers to attend.

- B. The General Fund Budget Transfer 2011-01 for fiscal year ending 09/30/2011 was reviewed by David Heaton to establish new line-item accounts to capture the communications expenditures from the General Fund line items.

A motion was made by Vern Melvin and seconded by Tony George to approve the line-item accounts (Advertising - Communications for \$12,300, Printing - Communications for \$7,950, and Professional Services - Communications for \$8,862) to capture the communications expenditures to be taken from the previously budgeted General Fund line items (wash of \$29,112), as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously (8-0 vote).

- C. The Youth Health and Well-Being Update was presented by Elizabeth Barbella and Dr. Sandra Shepherd. Scott Berry was commended for his nine years of service at CSCMC and building a comprehensive evidence-based foundation for the evaluation of CSCMC-funded programs. Although we live in paradise in Martin County, our community has an abundance of need, due to such factors as the percentage of children living below the federal poverty level and the child abuse rate for which Florida is the worst state in the nation. 28.7% of children ages 18 and under are living below the federal poverty line in Martin County, which is above Florida's state level of 21.3%. The CSCMC strategic planning cycle was reviewed that is based on an evidence-based system. Funding priorities were generated during strategic planning to tighten the focus on the CSCMC mission of enhancing the lives of the children of Martin County and enabling them to attain their full potential.
- D. 2009-10 Providers' Performance Reports were given by Elizabeth Barbella and Dr. Sandra Shepherd for end-of-year performance reports of every CSCMC-funded program. CSCMC Staff have been working with our funded Providers to address all issues and concerns revealed by these reports. Highest cost programs based on average cost per client were reviewed, due to serious nature of client's needs and at-risk behaviors.
- E. The Martin County Health Assessment was opened by David Heaton and presented by Mark Chittum, retired Martin County Health Department Administrator. CSCMC partnered with Allegany Franciscan Foundation, Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Martin Memorial Foundation, United Way of Martin County, and Martin County Health Department to complete this health assessment. The health assessment purpose was to update available information on the health status of Martin County residents; obtain local residents' perceptions on existing health concerns; and assist providers, government agencies, and funders of health programs to make decisions on health programs. Mark Chittum reviewed the components of the Martin County Health Assessment, including the survey findings and areas of concern listed in the focus group findings. Key issues and recommendations included: 1) Education and awareness of existing health services; 2) Access to primary care; and 3) Access to mental health and substance abuse services.

Elizabeth Barbella reported that CSCMC is dialoging with Allegany Franciscan Foundation, Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Hobe Sound Community Chest, and United Way of Martin County to launch a Whole Child Assessment in partnership with The Whole Child Connection to give us a full picture of what is happening in the community to rewrite the CSCMC Strategic Plan with added indicators to the Martin County Report Card, such as obesity. Staff will present a CSCMC Strategic Plan draft update for Council at next month's meeting on how all of this data relates to our performance targets and how well the Council is doing on the investments that we are making.

Commissioner Doug Smith requested that the presentations be shared with the Legislators narrated on CD to give them a snapshot of what we're doing and on the CSCMC website. Commissioner Smith would also like condensed reports sent to The Stuart News monthly on issues presented. Elizabeth Barbella reported that the Florida Children's Services Council is presenting these findings to Legislation on a statewide issue. Also, more cost-benefit studies are coming out in health services, relating to preventative services costing less than lifetime service costs to support a person who never received help. SAMIS (Services and Activities Management Information System) Representatives are requesting HIPPA approval to enable CSCMC to follow our community's children as they grow to point to what we prevent.

Vern Melvin reported that the reason child abuse is increasing is because of significant increases in domestic violence, substance abuse, and mental health issues along with a reduction in prevention program funding. Healthy Start and Healthy Families both have very strong prevention programs. The biggest problems in substance abuse is with prescription drugs.

Staff Reports:

- A. The Executive Director/Staff Report was presented by David Heaton who recognized Elizabeth Barbella who was awarded the Kathryn Basile Stop the Tears Award from United for Families for her community service work.
- B. The Financial Reports were given by Ellen Pethic. No Council comments were made.

For Your Information:

Council reviewed and discussed the information provided.

Council Member Comments:

Elmira Gainey complimented David Heaton for his well-written Executive Director's comments in this month's report.

Ms. Gainey also expressed her interest in serving on another CSCMC Committee, once the Building Committee sunsets with the completion of the new CSCMC building.

As no further discussion existed, the regular meeting was adjourned by Rob Ranieri (Chair) at 12:03 p.m.