

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 01, 2022, 12:30 pm

Meeting Date: December 1, 2022

Chairman: Mike Jordan

Location: Kids Central Board Room

Present: John Cooper, John Aitken, Paula Mealy (minutes), Gordon Johnson, Lisa Alexander, Shalonda McHenry Sims, Anthony Piarulli, Mark Wickham, Diana Brown, Rebecca Schatt, Lance Kinney, Mark Imes, Matt Bartoli (by phone), Kevin McDonald, Mike Jordan, Brad Rodgers

Board Members not Present:

Guests: Barbara Williams (DCF via phone), Veraunda Jackson – (KCI Chief Legal Officer)

Quorum: yes

Call to order December 01, 2022, at 12: 30 pm

I. Chairman's Remarks -

- a) Approval of September Minutes – Kevin moved to approve. Lance seconded the motion. All were in favor and unanimously approved.
- b) Board Education – Dependency Process Flow - John C walked through the flow chart of a case flow. Explained the high-level flow but each area has another detailed flow of its own. He explained that our circuit has much higher number of removals to out of home care, but the CPI makes that decision. KCI has no control over it. A judge could overrule but usually does not.
- c) Board Member update – Janice resigned, and Candidate David Reed needs follow up from Mark as we have not had recent contact. Mark will follow up as soon as he has a chance.

II. President's Report

- a) October Performance Scores – We are no longer showing any red measures. We are making progress on the yellow measures. M3 (Permanency in 12 months), has had significant improvement and we are ahead of state scores. There are still lots of delayed court orders (CLS not presenting orders to the judge). M9 (Percent of children seen every 30 days) would be better if we were fully staffed, and we are working towards that goal. Measure 10 (a new measure – Visiting parents monthly), is a challenge as defined. It includes dads, and the percentage of missing dads is huge. The Department seems to be recognizing this problem and is reworking the measure. Hopefully our score will improve when the measure becomes more achievable. M12 (Percent placed with relatives or non-relatives) can also be a challenge because in many cases placing with family should not be desired due to background issues. Though not published in the chart, John reports that the state is around 57% and KCI is at 59.8. The Department is modifying this goal from 65 to 60%, which will be more achievable. Measure 13 (siblings placed together) - we are doing ok but have scored higher in the past. Its tough with large sibling groups or where behaviors are causing issues.
- b) Legislative Updates – FCC still working to identify our top priorities for the year. There needs to be clarification around indemnification. We also need to reduce the Caps which is pushing some of the insurance carriers out of the market. Reducing the Caps will discourage some litigation as well.

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- c) Legislative Contacts – John provided information on the new committee chairs in the House. Randy Fine/Brevard County is chair of Health and Human Services. He has been the driving force behind taking a deeper look into Non-Profit agencies. Diana suggests taking a foster family to visit him as she believes this would be a better way to gain his interest.

As for Senate Leadership, Dennis Baxley/Ocala is Senate President. Keith Perry (Marion and Alachua) will also be on the leadership team.

John also included a list of the interim committee meeting dates as this may be an easier way to reach out to our representatives and get a few minutes of their time.

Finally, a list of our local representatives and their contact info was provided in the packet. There were 3 new names added and our Board members have relationships with 2 of the 3 (Lance knows John Temple, and Anthony knows Jeff Holcomb). The third (Michael Yarkosky) is in Diana's district but she does not know him.

- d) Marion Case Management Vacancies – 12 vacancies left and the exodus has slowed dramatically
- e) LifeStream CAP - Biweekly calls continue. They are still struggling some. Leadership has not been as present as desired to some unavoidable personal emergencies. However, all supervisor positions have been filled, and there are 10 trainees in our current class. More are lining up for a future class.

The contracts for the 2 CMAs have to go out to bid. LifeStream will be first. We are not sure how many responses we will get. Mark W mentioned that the high number of litigation cases causes great stress and may discourage bidders. We need to finalize by new fiscal year (July 1). John stated it will be important to put a Lake County office in Clermont in the new contract.

III. Operations (data is as of 11/22/22)

- a) Shalonda reported 28 new fosters and 65 new beds for this year, but several are close to licensing, and we expect 50 by the end of December. The number of adoptions is 51.5 but on 12/13 Marion County Home for the Holidays will take place and we expect 20 adoptions to finalize on that day. Board members are encouraged to attend. (1pm at the courthouse).
- b) Shalonda also reported that we now have 35 Level 1 homes – we had been last in the state in this measure, and now we expect to be at 30% by the end of December.

IV. Healthy Start/MIECHV – Performance chart was included in the packet - no questions.

V. Financial Report

- a) August Financials – DCF advance payment for Sept was unusually delayed. KCI had to use Reserve funds until the payment was received. This also disrupted payment for

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community partner grants. Although we have now received the payment, it caused a temporary drop in Cash Balance

- b) Finance Committee Report (October) – discussed simultaneously with financials – Mark moved to approve. Diana seconded the motion. All were in favor and unanimously approved
- c) Case Management Scorecard - Mark I motioned to accept the recommendation, Brad seconded the motion, and all were in favor and unanimously approved.
- d) HS MIECHV Balanced Score Card – Mark I motioned to accept the new measures. Gordon second. All were in favor and unanimously approved.
- e) Financial Risk – The document was updated by management following COVID - for review – no board action required. There are 17 areas of financial risk. The 4 highest areas were identified as Licensed Care Expense/56, Salaries Expense/Labor Shortage/56, Liability Insurance Affordability/Availability/54, High number of children in care/49. A score of 100 would mean that if that risk became a reality, KCI would not be able to function. The committee approved the document pending one adjustment to the revenue concentration risk and the possibility of the legislature significantly altering or eliminating the CBC lead agency model.
- f) John mentioned the review of banking alternatives given our frustration with Wells Fargo. Our choices have been narrowed down to 2 options - Regions and Citizens First and our intent is to award the contract to Citizens First.

VI. Other Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee (October) – Mike noted all issues had already been discussed during the meeting. No questions were noted.
- b) Quality Committee Report (September) - Lisa discussed the latest Quality Meeting where the focus was a discussion on providing input to a new Kids Central Vision Statement. That input was given to John Cooper and Dave DeStefano who are now refining the ideas which will then be presented for staff input via a Survey Monkey. The intent is to create a concise, easy to remember statement while still capturing the myriad of things we do.
- c) Community Development - Gordon highlighted the following:
 - a. Thanksgiving Drive – Flamingo Realty donated 196 turkeys and sides and we served 208 families. An additional \$1500 was raised. Total value \$10,500
 - b. Christmas Drive is ongoing – Board members are encouraged to contribute
 - c. Casino Royale: Havana Night – 3/3/23 at World Equestrian Center – we are asking board members to each contribute one item for the raffle
 - d. HALO – planned for May – tentatively – at Brownwood Hotel and Spa
 - e. CARE Awards – 10/13/23 at Circle Square Cultural Center Ocala
 - f. New Hires – Development Manager Maureen Quinlan and Communications Manager – Kimberly McGlothorn – both are on board.
 - g. Current Fund-Raising total is \$34,600
 - h. Next meeting will be Thursday, January 26th at 11:30am

- VII. Unfinished Business / New Business – Diana noted that board members attending Kids central events are not recognized by employees. She made 2 suggestions. The first was to

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provide name tags for board members. The second was for board members to be mixed in with staff at events instead of at a separate table. All agreed this was a great idea.

Brad suggested writing a letter to our judges providing our argument regarding the high number of children coming into care, and why our circuit is so much higher than others in the state. Veraunda responded that this discussion has occurred, most recently at the Summit, but we need to be mindful that DCF is making decisions to remove, not the judges. We must be very careful how we present these arguments. The judges understand and sympathize. We cannot alienate them. Veraunda suggested there is a judicial review coming up that anyone can attend. If everyone could send their questions to her, she will reword/clarify/ provide fineness, and present to the judges ahead of time and then invite board members via zoom to join that judicial review meeting. Kevin asked who the judges are in our area. Veraunda invited members to a Sumter County lunch Dec 30th noon at Beef O'Brady's (the meeting purpose is to build relationships).

Finally, John reported that this past Tuesday the Governor reappointed Secretary Harris as the DCF Secretary.

Next Meeting – January 26th, 2022 - 12:30 p.m.

Wildwood Board Room, 901 Industrial Drive, Suite 200, Wildwood, Florida 34785