

# BOONE COUNTY CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD MEETING

**Hybrid Meeting: Virtual Meeting or Boone County Community Services  
Department, 605 E Walnut, Ste. A, Columbia, MO**

*Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.*

## MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Leigh Spence, Sebastián Martínez Valdivia, Greg Grupe, Rodney Dixon, Wiley Miller, Michele Kennett, Bob Aulgur, Connie Leipard

**Board Members Absent:** Lynn Barnett

**Staff Present:** Joanne Nelson – Boone County Community Services Department Director, Kristin Cummins – Boone County Community Services Deputy Director, Verna Laboy – Boone County Community Services Department Program Manager, Michelle Thompson – Boone County Community Services Program Specialist, Gina Jenkins – Boone County Community Services Data & Performance Analyst, Kerby Webb – Boone County Community Services Administrative Coordinator & Program Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Specialist

**Guests:** Amy Gerskin – Boone County Purchasing Department, Jessica Macy – Partner for Better, Sarah Smith – Partner for Better

### **1. Open Meeting**

Leigh opened the meeting at 8:02 a.m.

### **2. Partner for Better Report Presentation**

Sarah Smith reviewed actions taken so far in the analysis of the Children's Services Fund (CSF) administration data, community level indicators, equity observations, and comparison to previous reports. The Community Survey distributed by Partner for Better had 347 responses.

Rodney Dixon joined at 8:08 a.m.

The next steps for the CSF study include gathering focus groups and interviewing key stakeholders for feedback. As the study reaches completion, a section for recommendations for the future as well as unmet needs will be included. Progress is ahead of schedule for the end of year final report date.

Michele Kennett joined the meeting at 8:16 a.m.

Bob asked that the unmet needs section include references to the limits on what the CSF can fund due to funding eligibility statutes. Bob added that this section could also mention that unmet needs may be eligible for funding, but the agencies providing those services may not be applying for CSF funding.

Jessica Macy and Sarah Smith left the meeting at 8:27 a.m.

**3. Motion & Vote for Closed Session Pursuant to RSMo §610.021(11)(13)**

Wiley motioned to go into closed session at 8:28 a.m. Connie seconded the motion.

Roll call: Leigh – yes, Sebastián – yes, Greg – yes, Rodney – yes, Wiley – yes, Michele – yes, Bob – yes, Connie – yes

Sebastián left the meeting at 8:53 a.m.

Wiley motioned that the Board fund the top six scored programs for the Grassroots Funding Opportunity Request for Proposal applicants, up to the amount listed on each proposal's best and final offer table.

Rodney seconded the motion.

Roll call: Leigh – yes, Greg – yes, Rodney – yes, Wiley – yes, Michele – yes, Bob – yes, Connie – yes

Greg motioned that the Board approve funding in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the Strategic Innovation Opportunity proposal from the Daniel Boone Regional Library. Wiley seconded the motion.

Roll call: Leigh – yes, Greg – yes, Rodney – yes, Wiley – yes, Michele – yes, Bob – yes, Connie – yes

**4. Motion & Vote to come out of Closed Session Pursuant to RSMo 610.021(11)(13)**

Bob motioned to come out of closed session at 9:09 a.m. Rodney seconded the motion.

Roll call: Leigh – yes, Greg – yes, Rodney – yes, Wiley – yes, Michele – yes, Bob – yes, Connie – yes

Amy Gerskin left the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

**5. Approve Minutes for April 11, 2023 Meeting**

Bob motioned to approve the previous Board meeting minutes. Michele seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**6. Financial Report for May 9, 2023**

- The fund's net position is approximately \$9,099,526.
- Contracts are at 25% duration, with utilization rates increasing as programs have stabilized program and billing logistics.

- University of Missouri (MU) contracts with the Department of Psychiatry have been taken off hold and invoices are being processed as the Community Services Department received a correct reimbursement check for 2023 contract overages.
- Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center will receive their final payment of their contingency funding at their next invoice cycle.

Connie motioned to approve the financial report. Michele seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## 7. New Business

Joanne mentioned that Board members may have received requests from Aaron Thompson for letters of support regarding a grant application. Leigh suggested that the Board as a whole provide a letter of support rather than individualized letters from each member.

## 8. Director's Update

- **Staff & Department Changes-** Joanne shared that the Department is scheduling interviews in the next couple of weeks for the Administrative Coordinator role applicants. The Health & Justice Coordinator, Victoria Finn, will start on June 3rd. This position is not funded by the CSF, but Joanne will request that Victoria attend the next Board meeting as an introduction.
- **Moving Timeline-** The Department was able to tour the new office space, which is a much larger and forward-facing space. Facilities Management and Information Technology departments are working on setup and security concerns. There is not a firm date set yet for the office to move spaces.
- **Grants-** Joanne attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) County Juvenile Justice Innovation Network (CJJIN) conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The attendees from Boone County, Joanne, Commissioner Thompson, Tara Eppy, and Jerrel Moton will guide the development of a strategic plan for juvenile justice in Boone County. Joanne added that Columbia Public Schools (CPS) will have input on this plan, and that the new Health and Justice Coordinator, Victoria, will assist with these efforts. Joanne and Victoria will also be attending the NACo Familiar Faces Peer-Learning conference in Santa Ana, California in late June. Kristin attended the Missouri Rural Philanthropy Conference in Springfield, Missouri in early May.
- **Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA) Farm to School Program-** Joanne shared a letter that CCUA shared outlining some upcoming changes with their Farm to School program. The program is collaborating with the Boone County Nature Schools in the upcoming fall school season but will ensure no duplication of services occurs.

Sebastián joined the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

- **Funding Management System Update-** Kristin shared that the Department has narrowed down their search to three or four options in collaboration with the City of Columbia and Heart of Missouri Unites Way.
- **2023 Annual Report-** Kristin shared a couple pages from the report as it is in progress. Funded agencies are sharing success stories and testimonies to be included in the report alongside other community initiative highlights. Kristin hopes to share the printed report at the next Board meeting.
- **July BCCSB Meeting-** Joanne requested that the July Board meeting be cancelled due to coinciding vacations and the potential office moving timeline for the Department. The Board agreed to cancel the July Board meeting. Joanne reminded the Board that the next Board meeting will be in person, and the Board requested that the Commissioners be invited to attend the June Board meeting.
- **Upward Mobility-** Verna shared that herself and Commissioner Thompson will be presenting at the NACo conference in July regarding Upward Mobility in Boone County. All workgroups continue to meet and make progress on identified action steps. Rebecca Thompson, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Services Department for the City of Columbia, will be meeting with the Second Chance Leasing workgroup this month. Early Grade Literacy is networking out to the Superintendents in Boone County, and has already connected with CPS.
- **Housing Study-** Dr. Boston is completing the qualitative analysis from data gathered at the community meetings. There is a housing-related summit being discussed for the fall, and the Department hopes to share key points from the Housing Study report at the event.

#### 9. **Family Access Center of Excellence (FACE) Update**

- **2024 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report-** Kristin shared the FACE 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report. The Board had no questions regarding the report.
- **FACE Board of Representatives-** Joanne shared the current FACE Board of Representatives (BOR) roster, and noted which seats are currently vacant or will be coming vacant soon. Those representatives who are leaving the BOR will be providing a handful of names for potential replacements. Joanne requested that the Board send along any candidates they would consider for the BOR positions.

#### 10. **Public Comment**

None.

#### 11. **Adjourn**

Leigh adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:  
June 13, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.**