



Board of Directors Meeting

September 8, 2011

Minutes – July 14, 2011

Item II.A.

PRESENT: Martha Lenderman, Chair; Elise Minkoff, Vice Chair; Maria Edmonds, Secretary; Honorable Bob Dillinger; Judge Raymond Gross; Honorable Bernie McCabe; Commissioner Karen Seel; Joseph Smith; Colleen Flynn, Attorney

PARTICIPATED VIA CONFERENCE CALL (9:36 a.m. until 10:12 a.m. approximately): Dr. Julie Janssen

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lenderman called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Marcie Biddleman was congratulated on receiving her Doctoral degree.

Ms. Lenderman reminded the funded agencies to forward their events to Ben Kirby, JWB's Communications Director, so the information can be included in the monthly Calendar of Events.

II. CHILDREN'S HOME KINSHIP PRESENTATION

Larry Cooper, Program Manager, presented the Kinship Services Network (KSN) of Pinellas Five Year Evaluation Report. KSN is a case management and family support program for families who are taking care of relative children in Pinellas County. The JWB funded program serves approximately 280 relative caregivers and 300 children annually. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Statistics from the 2000 Census indicated 1 in 12 children under the age of 18 lived in a household that is headed by the child's grandparent or relative other than the child's parent
- Children placed in Kinship Care
 - >have fewer mental health and behavioral issues
 - >experience greater placement stability and fewer placement changes
 - >have a greater sense of satisfaction with their living arrangement and feel less stigmatized
 - >are less likely to re-enter the foster care system once reunified with birth parents
- When Kinship is supported, it reduces time in foster care and saves money
- There are 13,260 grandparents living with their grandchildren who are under the age of 18 in Pinellas County
- 100% of children in the program did not enter out of home care at one year follow up in 2010
- KSN is a low cost program delivering high return on investment
 - >Kinship Service Network - \$1,777 per child
 - >Adjudicated Dependent - \$3,900 per child
 - >Foster Care - \$11,420 per child
 - >Resident Group Care - \$38,276 per child
- Future goals include:
 - >improve access to community resources to kinship care families

- >address inadequate transportation services for families
- >develop culturally appropriate services
- >educate the public through media campaigns and school-based programs
- >pursue funding opportunities

Presentation was interrupted to accommodate telephonic participation on Action Items

In preparation for Dr. Janssen's participation via phone, Ms. Lenderman asked Colleen Flynn, JWB's Attorney, to clarify what constitutes a majority vote in various scenarios as stated by the Attorney General Opinions Division and the guidelines for board member(s)' participation telephonically.

Ms. Flynn said when conducting **regular business, a majority for passage requires 5 out of 9 members (current board status)**; when addressing **millage issues, the majority number needed for passage requires 6 out of 11 members (full board status)**.

Guidelines for Board member(s)' telephonic participation is determined by individual Board Bylaws. After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Lenderman asked the record to reflect she believes it was essential for Dr. Janssen to participate in the School Board workshop and was in agreement with her participation in the July JWB meeting telephonically.

ACTION: Judge Gross moved to accept Dr. Janssen's unavoidable absenteeism and allow her participation telephonically; seconded by Mr. Smith;

Further Discussion: Mr. McCabe stated he didn't think the motion was necessary but wasn't opposed to the action; Commissioner Seel concurred with Mr. McCabe.

MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Janssen was welcomed telephonically at 9:36 a.m.

III. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Approve Minutes for June 9, 2011
- B. Approve Financial Report for June 2011

ACTION: Mrs. Edmonds moved to accept the consent items as presented; seconded by Commissioner Seel; no discussion; motion carried.

IV. ACTION

- A. Requested Approval: Matching Funds for Kinship Grant

The Children's Home Inc. (CHI) is applying for a three year program grant from the Administration on Children and Families Children's Bureau. The purpose of the program is to test the effectiveness of Family Group Decision-making (FGDM) as a family centered service approach that helps prevent children and youth from entering or re-entering foster care, thereby reducing the time that these children and families are involved with the child welfare system. The project will use FGDM meetings to engage families in building capacity to meet their children's needs by strengthening protective factors and reducing risk factors for child maltreatment.

The Board was asked to approve the request to budget up to \$30,000 for FY 11/12; up to \$30,000 for FY 12/13; and up to \$30,000 for FY for 13/14 and authorize the Executive Director to sign and

submit a letter to the Administration on Children and Families that commits these funds should the grant be awarded.

ACTION: Commissioner Seel moved approval; seconded by Dr. Janssen;

Further Discussion: Mr. McCabe asked why the request was submitted out of the funding cycle. Ms. Sahulka said because of the deadline that is associated with the grant.

MOTION CARRIED.

B. Requested Approval: Evaluation Contract for 21st Century Community Learning Centers

21st Century Community Learning Centers' purpose is to provide opportunities for academic and personal enrichment activities, and engage adult family members of students through educational and personal development opportunities.

Program services include providing a safe environment before and after school, tutoring by certified teachers, homework completion, physical activity and recreation, youth clubs, field trips and enrichment activities.

Evaluation activities include identification of instruments to measure program objectives, coding and entering data, analyzing all data, writing reports, presenting findings to Coordinated Child Care (CCC) and program sites regularly, producing written reports submitted to FDOE, inputting data into a federal reporting system, and certifying their accuracy.

The annual award would increase the Office of Resource Development budget by \$25,819.

ACTION: Mr. McCabe moved approval; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff.

Further Discussion: Mr. McCabe asked who would provide the research assistance. Dr. Silver said she would.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. Requested Approval: Board Policy Revisions

The Board was asked to approve staff travel reimbursement for business purpose at the IRS rate as the standard mileage rate for computing the deductible costs of operating an automobile. This rate would be benchmarked to the IRS rate and changed accordingly.

ACTION: Dr. Janssen moved to accept the change; seconded by Mr. Dillinger;

Further Discussion: Mr. Dillinger asked how much JWB pays for mileage on a yearly basis and would it be more economical for JWB to purchase a car under the state plan? Ms. Sahulka said she would have staff look into it and report back to the Board.

Mr. McCabe wanted to know why JWB uses the IRS rate (55¢ per mile) instead of the state rate (45¢ per mile), if JWB follows the Class C travel rules, and why not wait until the new fiscal year to implement the change? Ms. Sahulka said JWB typically follows the County policy which follows the federal mileage, the class C travel rules, and would like the flexibility to reimburse staff as the rate changes.

MOTION WAS TABLED UNTIL THE BOARD IS PROVIDED WITH THE INFORMATION REQUESTED.

D. Requested Approval: FY 11/12 Budget

Ms. Sahulka provided a brief presentation on the process staff took to develop the FY 11-12 budget, the scenarios of millage rates .7915 and .8337, the establishment of the Program Stability Fund and how it will diminish by FY 12/13, the changes in JWB's budget since FY 07/08, and the benefits of revenue maximization and grants/awards.

Mr. McCabe asked what action(s) are required by the Board to move forward. Ms. Sahulka stated the Board is requested to pass the millage rate and the FY 11-12 budget.

ACTION: Mr. McCabe moved to approve the roll back millage rate (.8337); seconded by Mr. Smith;

Further Discussion: Mr. Dillinger asked why the .8337 millage is the recommendation when the Finance Committee discussed a .95 millage. Ms. Sahulka said due to the current economic climate, Mrs. Lancaster was concerned it wouldn't pass. Ms. Sahulka clarified that if the Board approved the .8337 millage rate, funding levels will remain the same.

Judge Gross wanted to know the Finance Committee's recommendation. Mr. McCabe said the Committee thought such an important decision should be brought before the full Board.

Ms. Lenderman said JWB also wanted an opportunity to conduct a public poll prior to the recommendation.

MR. DILLINGER CALLED TO QUESTION: All in favor of the .8337 millage rate as well as approve FY 11/12 Budget say "I"; the votes were cast as follows:

Members who voted in favor of the recommendation: Ms. Lenderman, Mr. Dillinger, Mrs. Edmonds, Judge Gross, Dr. Janssen, Mr. McCabe, Commissioner Seel, Mr. Smith;

Member(s) who opposed the recommendation: Mrs. Minkoff;

MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. Janssen returned to her Board workshop at 10:12 a.m.

Further Discussion: Board members discussed a variety of options that would assist in informing the community about JWB.

Mrs. Minkoff would like to expand the dialogue to include residents, business owners and chamber members. She thinks the burden should be shared 50/50 and requested staff prepare a breakdown on the amount of taxes paid by businesses and corporations.

Mr. Dillinger suggested JWB activate a Speakers Bureau consisting of Board Members. Staff would provide the information so the message would be consistent.

Ms. Lenderman and Commissioner Seel would like the JWB Logo on all funded agency publications and at each agency site. Commissioner Seel said she thinks personal testimonies are essential.

Judge Gross and Mr. Smith suggested using ideas from the “Pennies for Pinellas” campaign.

Mr. McCabe said JWB needs to demonstrate how JWB makes a difference. He asked if Coordinated Child Care (CCC) and/or Early Learning Coalition (ELC) could provide data to help support that statement. Ms. Sahulka stated that in four years the school system anticipates an improvement in the children ready for school.

Ms. Lenderman brought the discussion to a close by requesting staff prepare a quarterly report summarizing JWB’s outreach activities, as well as asking Mrs. Lancaster for a one and five year plan on how JWB will communicate their mission to the community.

Returned to Children’s Home Kinship Presentation for Further Discussion

Mr. Cooper resumed his presentation by saying the Children’s Home always acknowledges JWB in their presentations throughout the United States where many commented they wished their community had a JWB.

Mr. Smith asked if there were a number of adoptions within the extended family. Mr. Cooper said sometimes, but often grandparents want to remain in the grand-parenting role instead of parenting.

Judge Gross wanted to know how family members become a kinship provider. Mr. Cooper says Kinship Services provides legal workshops for caregivers to inform them of their options.

Mr. McCabe asked if the Children’s Home receives funding from their Community Based Care Provider. Mr. Cooper said they do not at this point in time, but there is a discussion on the table with the Florida Department of Children and Families.

Returned to Item IV.C.2. Waive Building Exemplary Systems of Training (B.E.S.T.) for Youth Workers Requirements

Staff is requesting removal of the BEST requirements listed below from the Board Policies. “BEST training (Building Exemplary Systems of Training for Youth Workers) is required for full time (year-round) or regular part-time staff who work directly with youth ages 11-17. This requirement may be waived by the JWB Executive Director (OHD) if agency staff demonstrates a combination of experience and education superior to BEST training.”

ACTION: Mr. McCabe moved to accept the above recommendation; seconded by Commissioner Seel; no discussion; motion carried.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. Legislative Report
- B. ECA Community Based Care Report
- C. Initiative Updates, Site Visit Schedule and Summaries
- D. Calendar of Events
- E. Personnel Report
- F. Media Items

VI. OPEN AGENDA

Mrs. Edmonds and Sandra Lyth, Executive Director of Intercultural Advocacy Institute/HOC, presented the Board with a plaque honoring JWB for their support to the Hispanic Community.

Ms. Lenderman announced there will be an Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) two day workshop on August 8th & 9th, 2011. More information will be forthcoming.

Commissioner Seel recognized Roland Martens, an intern from Pinellas Citizen's University (PCU). The University is sponsored by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners. The goals of the program include learning the complexities of county government, how community agencies work, and how the two can work together for the common good. Mr. Martens said he has a whole new respect for government.

Mrs. Edmonds reminded everyone of the Hispanic Leadership Council's Annual Conference "Embracing Our Changing Community: The Poverty Experience" on July 29, 2011.

Mrs. Minkoff thanked 211 Tampa Bay Cares for their support with the food drive for the Food Pantry.

Mr. Smith congratulated JWB employees on their anniversaries.

VII. ADJOURN

Judge Gross moved to adjourn at 11:08 a.m.; seconded by Mr. McCabe; motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by:

Maria Edmonds
Board Secretary

8/7/11