

MINUTES OF THE KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET MEETING

November 14, 2014

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins called the Kansas Children's Cabinet board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. **November 14, 2014**, with a quorum. The meeting was held in Marvin Auditorium 101-A at Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas. The meeting was noticed in the Kansas Register.

Present: Amanda Adkins, Tina Ames, Shannon Cotsoradis, LeEtta Felter, Shari Weber, Sierra Scott, Aaron Dunkel, (KDHE Designee), Gayle Stuber (KSDE Designee), Pamela Beach (DCF Designee), and Frayna Scrinopskie, (Supreme Court Justice Designee)

Staff: Janice Smith and Dyogga Adegboro

Presenters: Jackie Counts, Teri Garstka, Jessica Sprague-Jones, and Margaret Brumberg, The University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships & Research (CPPR)

Introductory Remarks from the Chair

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions around the table and from audience. Cabinet Chair Adkins said she would reserve her remarks to introduce the CIF recommendations discussion.

Approval of the Minutes of October 8, 2014

Cabinet members had received the October minutes earlier. Cabinet Chair Adkins asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION:

Tina Ames moved the Cabinet approve the minutes of October 8, 2014, as written. Following a second by LeEtta Felter, motion carried.

Data Governance Brief

Margaret Brumberg, JD, KU CPPR showed a promotional video, posted on the Children's Cabinet website, highlighting Executive Director Janice Smith talking about the importance of investing in early childhood. Following the video, Margaret introduced Dr. Teri Garstka.

Dr. Garstka talked about the data governance brief. The Children's Cabinet asked KU CPPR to develop a data governance brief to provide a security management document for protecting data at the same time ensuring transparency in how data is collected and used. The brief ensures federal and state laws are adhered to and provides guidance for KU CPPR's and WSU CCSR's work with the Kansas Children's Cabinet. Both institutions are contracted by KCCTF. The data governance document is on the KCCTF website.

CIF & Strategic Fund Contribution

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins remarked that she and Janice Smith plan to meet with Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt soon regarding the master tobacco settlement dollars. It is understood by all that as the tobacco settlement dollars continue on decline, it is critical the Cabinet shows results of what is being gathered from the CIF programs through the Common Measures Initiative, Early Childhood Blueprint and CIF accountability process. Best practices are key to how the Children's Cabinet talks about areas that are doing well and those that need more exposure. At today's meeting, the Cabinet and KU CPPR will be reviewing and discussing each CIF program, asking questions, and obtaining clarification, if needed. As the Cabinet considers CIF recommendations and considerations for next year, it must also discuss where it can cut funds as CIF dollars decrease. The Cabinet discussed that priority area focuses are to be on early childhood, which effects focus of funded programs:

* Kindergarten readiness

*Governor Brownback's Roadmap: 4th grade reading is part of the Roadmap (timeline: 12-18 months)

*Impact of overall cost analysis and measuring return on investment.

Other considerations are that programs align with Early Childhood Blueprint, contribute to the Common Measures Initiative, and share outputs versus outcome information.

The Cabinet's new shift will be pursuing measures that fit CIF and can be put into the DAISEY database. Cabinet wants to get mapping that shows how much of its early childhood investments go to the target communities. During the accountability process for FY 2014, KU CPPR also collected zip code service data.

Overview of the FY 2016 Children's Initiatives Fund (CIF) Recommendations and Briefing Binder

Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones was introduced and talked about the accountability framework and gave an overview of the CIF briefing binder. All program directors completed an online survey in July. The KU CIF team conducted face-to-face meetings with program directors about assessments and how the briefing binder is compiled. The binder was streamlined and now is more transparent about assessments, and includes projects for FY 2015 and explanations for unspent funds. The binder is divided into six sections: Graphs and Charts, At-A-Glance Tables, Program Information Sheets, The ECBG Grants, Blueprint for Early Childhood Alignment, and Appendices with Program Outcome Data, Service Area Delivery Maps, and Accountability Process showing Evidence-Based Practice levels and Quality of Evaluation Checklist scores. In FY 2014, the CIF programs totaled \$54,953,087 in funding for 16 programs. Two programs were new.

Dr. Sprague reported when looking at how CIF programs demonstrated strong alignment with the Blueprint and overall priorities, it was determined that six programs did not demonstrate alignment in logic models, program response to Cabinet recommendations and conditions. Shannon Cotsoradis suggested the Cabinet could note next to the considerations line, a program must obtain technical assistance through the KU CPPR team to modify its logic model to align with the Early Childhood Blueprint. Dr. Jackie Counts commented the team put together "rough and ready" cost information that could be made available to the Cabinet. Shannon suggested the Cabinet should reflect additional comments on the conditions line that the CIF recommendations and qualifications program sheet. Programs will be either categorized as: *Continue funding*, *Continue funding with Conditions* or *Do Not Continue funding for FY16*.

The Cabinet reviewed each program:

Autism Diagnosis

The Children's Cabinet discussed wanting to understand the outcomes for children's success and what occurs after diagnosis. This program was added because the Legislature approved it as a CIF program about five years ago. It as noted the population decreased. After discussion, the Cabinet recommended the Autism Diagnosis program for **continued funding at \$50,000 with qualifications. Conditions:** Meet with the Cabinet to discuss reviewing current data collected and outcomes, program's process for encouraging timely diagnosis, and exploring new outcome measures. By April 2015, the program should align logic model with the Blueprint for Early Childhood in consultation with KU CPPR for technical assistance.

Child Care Assistance

The Cabinet discussed the Child Care Assistance program. The program logic model does not align with the Early Childhood Blueprint and program had unused funds. The program has experienced declining participation, and wondered what it will look like in future years. Shannon Cotsoradis commented this program was not an appropriate use of CIF funds. Pamela Beach remarked the program has tightened eligibility requirements and new staff that are in place in helping with fraud control; more intensive services offered for skill building or education for families. More outcome measures are needed. The Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$5,033,679 with qualifications. Conditions:** By April 2015, work with KU CPPR to align logic model with Blueprint; explore outcomes related to the families who are served by both Kansas Early Head Start and Child Care Assistance.

Child Care Quality Initiative

The Cabinet noted that WSU CCSR evaluators noted the program has not participated in common measures implementation initiatives because participation would require additional funding. The Cabinet after much discussion, recommended **continued funding at \$500,000, with qualifications. Conditions:** the program participates in the Common Measures Initiative and work with WSU to understand time requirements and staff requirements of common measures.

Children's Mental Health Waiver

The program had reported to the KU CPPR team that its zero to five populated served by the CMH initiative is very low because children in this age group are often not diagnosed. Program eligibility is ages 4-18 and although exemptions for children younger than 4 may be submitted, the program rarely receives these requests. Cabinet Chair Adkins said the outcomes are strong. The KU CPPR team will be sending the Cabinet a brief on cost avoidance. Shannon Cotsoradis commented this was another example of supplanting to the SGF from CIF. After further discussion, the Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$3,800,000 with qualifications. Conditions:** the program must highlight how it encourages early diagnosis.

Early Childhood Block Grant

The 2014 ECBG grantees began collecting and entering data using the DAISEY database in response to the Cabinet's expectations of increased school readiness. Early results indicate a high quality program represented by an 83 percent average Kindergarten readiness rate across all domains. The program correlates directly with the Blueprint and provides direct services. The Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$18,129,178, without conditions.**

Family Preservation

The program focuses on families with children birth to three years of age. Pamela Beach said that DCF is looking at other funding sources, including increasing TANF funds. Parameters around TANF and federal guidelines. Shannon Cotsoradis and Sierra Scott were opposed to continued funding from CIF.

After discussion, the Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$2,154,357 with qualifications.**

Conditions: Program staff provide a detailed understanding of who is being served and why the prenatal to five decrease, and TANF, eligibility and respite can be a future discussion with the DCF Secretary.

Healthy Start/Home Visitor

The program's quality evaluation score is low and they do not have an evaluation report. LeEtta Felter remarked there is the potential fraud without confirmation of visits occurring and the fidelity to some type of model. After further discussion, the Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$237,914 with qualifications.** **Conditions:** The program staff create an evaluation plan and improve the QEC score by providing an evaluation report.

Infants and Toddlers Program

The program did not submit a logic model because their current one is under review. They are mandated to provide services yet costs increase each year and level of funding will be work to serve the same number of children. The Cabinet members were uncertain how the program contributes to kindergarten readiness. After further discussion, the Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$5,700,00 with qualifications.**

Conditions: The program will submit a logic model, work with KU CPPR to align logic model with the Blueprint, by August 2015, submit a common measures participation plan for 2015 and contribute in 2016 common measures.

Kansas Early Head Start

The program will need to articulate how they fit into the Blueprint. They provide rigorous evaluation to the feds so that can be used in the broader outcomes to discuss program impact. The Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$70,000 with qualifications.** **Conditions:** The program work with KU CPPR to align logic model with Blueprint, by August, 2015, submit a common measures participation plan, provide clear understanding on how its creates kindergarten readiness.

Kansas Preschool Program

The Kansas Preschool program funding was reduced by 2.4 percent in 2011, which resulted in a reduction to all KPP sites. Shannon Cotsoradis remarked the program should participate in common measures initiative. Dr. Gayle Stuber stated the program collects some of the same data as that of common measures, however, one issue to be resolved will be data governance regarding who owns the data through Dr. Teri Garstka, KU CPPR. After discussion, the Cabinet **recommended continued funding at \$4,799,812 with qualifications.** **Conditions:** By *February, 2015*, KPP will develop a plan for data governance that meets approval of the Cabinet, in *April 2015*, present a plan for Common Measures Initiatives participation to the Cabinet, plan must outline KPP's steps to participating in the Common Measures Initiatives (CMI) starting in *August 2015*.

Kansas Reading Initiative

The Cabinet had recommended KRI pursue funding through KSDE instead of CIF for FY 2015 funding. Educational Design Solutions (EDS) has pursued a relationship with KSDE and included legislators and the Kansas State Board of Education in its effort. The KRI did receive its legislative authorized second year of funding through a DCF/KCCTF grant running July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 at \$6,000,000. The Cabinet noted the first year of funding included equipment and questioned the need for equipment funding for the upcoming year. In FY 2014, not all funds were spent due to cycle of the school year and timing of how many schools were able to sign-on. The outcomes have been solid and age range is school age but it aligns with 4th grade reading. The first year of funding included equipment. Shannon Cotsoradis commented the program is outside of focus area of the Cabinet and asked could the funds be used for kindergarten readiness. EDS representatives attended the meeting to respond to questions. The representatives said software is validated for 4-5 year olds. The program is planning to roll out preschool if the amendment is approved by DCF/KCCTF. After further discussion, the Cabinet **recommended continued funding at \$6,000,000 with qualifications. Conditions:** EDS provides additional data to the Cabinet that includes outcomes by grade-level (including preschool), geographic areas; collect and share data related to client satisfaction (school district administrators and especially teachers), and detailed spending plan and a more detailed budget.

KIDS Network Grant

The Cabinet wanted to know if any data about the reduction in the number of child deaths was available. How does funding impact infant mortality rates in the different geographies served? Trends are going down but hard to correlate that with training. The program is training to measure location, position and raising awareness. After discussion, the Cabinet **recommended continued funding at \$96,374**, without conditions.

Newborn Hearing Aid Loaner Program

The Cabinet agreed the program does not identify with a Blueprint area. The Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$47,161 with qualifications. Conditions:** The program work with KU CPPR in modifying the logic model to fit with the Blueprint.

Parents As Teachers

KU CPPR reported KSDE developed the Foundations for School Success database for early childhood to provide a means to connect early childhood to the longitudinal data system. PAT has participated for the past three years in collecting data using common measures. Cabinet Chair Adkins remarked we want to show the governor results and paint a clear picture about the importance of the program. There is need for outcomes through a tiered system of funding where some parents can pay for these services. Dr. Gayle Stuber stated the program collects some of the same data as that of common measures, however, one issue to be resolved will be data governance regarding who owns the data through Dr. Teri Garstka, KU CPPR. They are open to importing as a possibility so that needs to be explored in the common measures initiative plan. The Cabinet **recommended continued funding at \$7,237,635 with qualifications. Conditions:** By *February 2015*, PAT will develop a plan for data governance that meets approval of the Cabinet; by *April, 2015*, PAT presents a plan for Common Measures Initiatives participation to the Cabinet, outlining steps to participating in the CMI starting in *August 2015*, and also by *April, 2015*, present a plan for implementing a tiered system or sliding scale payment plan for service provision to the Cabinet.

Smoking Prevention Grants

The Cabinet discussed the Smoking Prevention Grant program as not aligning with the Blueprint. Shannon Cotsoradis remarked the program is a necessary expenditure due to the nature of need and implications for health. The Cabinet recommended **continued funding at \$946,671 with no qualifications.**

Increased Priority Areas

The Cabinet discussed increased priority areas with the difference between FY15 and FY 16 funds or \$6,797,219; giving first priority to the Infants & Toddlers (Tiny K) program, second priority to the ECBG program, third priority to Early Head Start program. The Infants and Toddlers program could benefit from additional funding to continue serving the same number of families.

MOTION:

After the Cabinet discussed dividing the \$6,797,219 (difference between FY15 and FY 16 funding), among the three programs. Shannon Cotsoradis moved followed by a second by LeEtta Felter, the Cabinet approve awarding half of the \$6,797,219 to Infants & Toddlers, one quarter to ECBG and one quarter to EHS:

Infants and Toddlers program, \$3,398,609.50

Early Childhood Block Grant, \$1,699,304.75

Early Head Start, \$1,699,304.75.

Motion carried.

The Cabinet noted tobacco settlement dollars received in calendar year 2013 were \$68 million and in calendar year 2014, it was \$62 million dollars. The appropriations were between \$56M and \$58M dollars.

MOTION:

It was moved by LeEtta Felter and seconded by Sierra Scott the Cabinet accept the FY 2016 CIF Recommendations as discussed. Motion carried.

Cabinet's Future Meeting Dates

The next four meetings will be held 9:30 a.m. at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library:

February 6, 2015

April 10, 2015

August 7, 2015

October 16, 2015

Adjournment

There being no further business for discussion, it was moved and seconded by Shari Weber and Sierra Scott the Cabinet adjourn the meeting at 1:05p.m. Motion carried.