

## MINUTES OF THE KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET MEETING

August 15, 2014

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins called the Kansas Children's Cabinet board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. **August 15, 2014** with a quorum. The Cabinet met in Marvin Auditorium 101C at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library, located at 1515 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

Present: Amanda Adkins, Tina Ames, Jonathan Freiden, Shannon Cotsoradis, Valdenia Winn, Aaron Dunkel (KDHE Designee), Andy Tompkins (KBOR Ex Officio), Gayle Stuber (KSDE Designee), Mark Gleeson (Supreme Court Justice Designee) and Pamela Beach (DCF Designee)

Staff: Janice Smith, Jane Weiler, and Dyogga Adegboro

*Presenters:* Jackie Counts, Jessica Sprague-Jones, Margaret Brumberg, KU Center for Public Partnerships & Research Mary Baskett, Early Learning Collaborative project facilitator, Vicky Roper, director of education & awareness, Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL), Robert Morton, superintendent, USD 445 Coffeyville, and Ann Elliott, executive director, Family Resource Center Inc. Pittsburg

### **Introductory Remarks from the Chair**

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins asked for introductions around the table and from audience. Chair Adkins said she had no opening remarks this time.

### **Approval of the Minutes of May 9, 2014**

Cabinet members received the minutes of May 9, 2014 prior to the meeting. Cabinet Chair Adkins asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

### **MOTION:**

Jonathan Freiden moved to approve the minutes of May 9, 2014, as written. Following a second by Tina Ames, motion carried.

### **Blueprint connections: Strong Families; Adverse Child Experiences (ACE's), Kansas Power of the Positive (KPoP), Protective Factors, Lemonade for Life, and Roberto the Insect Architect by Nina Laden**

Janice Smith, Executive Director, talked about three projects that focus on maximizing outcomes for strong families through the Blueprint for Early Childhood, strategic mapping, research and action. In 2012, the KU CPPR team members conducted an exercise of strategic mapping of Kansas' at-risk factors at the community level. They found where Kansas has concentrations of vulnerable populations in fourth grade reading proficiency, early childhood health index, child maltreatment and poverty. The research resulted in an overlap of at-risk factors and trends. During 2013, the KU CPPR team looked at prevention and early childhood programs for cost avoidance; remediation and early childhood programs for return on investment; and the private/public partnerships and early childhood programs for collective impact and sustainability. In 2014, the Cabinet adopted the Kansas Blueprint for Early Childhood as its strategic frame work in order to assist members in making informed decisions with its investment portfolio of CIF, ECBG & CBCAP grants. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) study was shared with the Cabinet. The Centers for Disease Control/Kaiser study examined health, social and economic effects of early adverse experiences over a person's life span. They also looked at abuse, family dysfunction and health status. Research findings concluded the

first three years of life resulted in developmental delays, work related dispositions: interpersonal relationships, absenteeism, and financial difficulties, early death and significant health problems.

### **Kansas Power of the Positive (KPoP), Community Based Child Abuse Prevention & Lemonade for Life (Lfl)**

Vicky Roper, Director of Education and Awareness with Kansas Children's Service League and also Prevent Child Abuse Kansas Director, talked about the Statewide primary prevention program, which is one of 12 child abuse prevention grants that the Kansas Children's Cabinet administers along with the ECBG grants. The statewide primary prevention grants focuses on community norm changes, ACES education, protective factors survey, period of PURPLE Crying and Kansas Parent Leadership Model. The other 11 CBCAP programs across Kansas focus on parent education through evidence based practices and curricula, support with parent/child interaction, home visiting, skill building and education for children, parent and family support and respite care.

Ms. Roper also talked about the Kansas Power of the Positive, a public and private partnerships and collective impact project to change community norms. Its goals are to raise public awareness, use data to inform actions and support programs for healthy children and families.

Dr. Jackie Counts, Director at The University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships & Research talked about the Lemonade for Life curriculum. The program focuses on building hope and resilience within the family. It uses ACEs data, which confirms that early experience can shape a child's life. The project was developed jointly by Iowa and Kansas for a training for practitioners. Currently curriculum is being piloted in Iowa and Kansas with over 25 practitioners.

### **Roberto the Insect Architect, a book written by Nina Laden**

Roberto the Insect Architect is an early childhood picture book for the Cabinet. Roberto built houses and the Children's Cabinet supports the design and construction of quality early childhood systems. Executive Director Janice Smith presented each Cabinet member with a personal copy of the delightful children's book.

### **New Cabinet Website Demo**

Margaret Brumberg, JD, KU CPPR, demonstrated the revamped Kansas Children's Cabinet website; [www.kschildrenscabinet.org](http://www.kschildrenscabinet.org). The website is packed with colorful pages, blogs, CIF, CBCAP and ECBG briefs and updated information from the original website. Margaret requested Cabinet members provide a photo for inclusion on the Cabinet roster page.

### **Update on Children's Initiatives Fund Accountability Framework**

Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, KU CPPR, discussed the CIF Accountability Process. Some changes based on last Cabinet meeting included furnishing specific information about how programs are managed, providing budgets and describing major changes. The information was obtained through program contacts through an online survey. The KU CPPR team provide technical assistance through briefs through program profiles and consumer perspectives. The next step in the process will be to assess evidence based practices and quality evaluation checklist scores, compile information from surveys and then to schedule interviews for September with all program managers.

### **Focus on Community/Collective Impact**

Margaret Brumberg introduced Mary Baskett, a facilitator contracted to provide expertise in working through the field case studies in Coffeyville and Liberal. The objective was to expand existing community collaboration

with emphasis on private sector in the Coffeyville and Liberal communities for a six month period. Ms. Baskett was the original administrator of the Early Learning Collaborative ECBG, a few years ago. Coffeyville community included the ELC team; SEK-CAP, USD 445 Coffeyville and Tri-County Special Education. The team focused initial efforts on engaging Coffeyville Chamber of Commerce board of Directors and convening meeting of key community leaders. The Liberal community included the ELC team, Kansas Children's Service League & USD 480 Liberal. That team identified two community groups as best liaisons with business community: Bright Futures and Young Professionals. They convened Early Childhood Advisory Board after successful passage of school bond issue in April, 2014.

The teams looked at survey results that answered the question "How important is the quality of our education programs in attracting new businesses and residents to Coffeyville/Liberal? Key insights they came away with included:

*Be specific – and tangible;*

*Build information relationships with business people, ideally in smaller group;*

*Show data and visuals;*

*Establish a clear vision and critical moves to accomplish it; and*

*Change and collaboration take a long-term commitment.*

Ms. Baskett expressed appreciation to Cabinet member Jonathan Freiden, a business leader participant that was involved in facilitating and talking to community business leaders. His involvement made a great impact on other business leaders in those communities.

The next steps include a case studies final report in both communities and proceeding with marketing and communication.

### **Common Measures Initiative & ECBG RFP Updates**

ECBG Grantee representatives Ann Elliott, Executive Director, The Family Resource Center, Inc., Pittsburg, Kansas and Dr. Robert Morton, Superintendent of Schools, USD 445 Coffeyville, Kansas, were invited to address the Kansas Children's Cabinet on their experiences and feedback on the CMI Pilot and DAISEY database. Both provided positive feedback. Dr. Morton remarked that early childhood is about community and education and talked about the importance of strong leadership in the schools. Ms. Elliott talked about how the Common Measures Initiatives and DAISEY helped staff and teachers become focused and better informed about the impact of data imported. They were excited about the common measures.

Executive Director Janice Smith reported the Cabinet announced the 2015 Early Childhood Block Grant Requests For Proposals (RFP) on August 1 with a due date of September 12. The recommended list of ECBG recipients will be presented at the October 8 Cabinet meeting.

### **Race To The Top Grant for Early Learning**

Executive Director Janice Smith reported that U.S. Department of Health & Human Services and U.S. Department of Education released the Race To The Top Grant RFP August 14. Cabinet member Dr. Valdenia Winn asked if the Cabinet or the Governor decide whether to recommend applying? Ms. Smith said that each state's governor determines if the state applies and its lead agency to administer the grant, should the state successfully get an award. Cabinet Chair Adkins remarked that she and Executive Director Smith met with the Governor's Policy staff back in June and one of the topics of discussion was whether to apply for the RTTT. At that time, there was no declaration of commitment for legislative and Governor to support sustainability after four years. Policy staff thought it to be a possibility as early childhood measurements are part of the

Governor's Roadmap. Some of the components that would be included are QRIS and common measures such as longitudinal tracking process. Kansas has a real competitive advantage to apply. Cabinet Chair Adkins said that Executive Director Smith will make an analysis and recommend to the Governor's Policy staff any specifics regarding any additional hurdles such as continuous funding and regulations to be considered.

**Next Meeting & Adjournment**

Cabinet Chair Adkins announced the next meeting of the Children's Cabinet is October 8, 2014.

Cabinet Chair Adkins commended the KU Center for Public Partnerships & Research (CPPR) team for including positive frictions discussed at the last couple Cabinet meetings. She appreciated the CPPR team responses to questions. Chair Adkins also commended Jonathan Freiden for his participation, involvement with the community/collective impact project and going to SE Kansas.

There being no further business for discussion, it was moved and seconded by Shannon Cotsoradis and Tina Ames to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m.. Motion carried.