

## **Minutes of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund**

Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board met in regular session at 9:30 a.m., **Friday, February 9, 2018**, in Kansas State Department of Education's Boardroom, #102-North, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, with Amanda Adkins, Chair presiding. There was a quorum. Cabinet notices all meetings by publishing in the Kansas Register.

**Present:** Amanda Adkins, Annie McKay, Gerald Henry, Shari Weber, LeEtta Felter, Valdenia Winn, Terri Rice, Dinah Sykes, and Ex Officio Designees: Sandra Kimmons, DCF, Tiffany Blevins, KSDE, Karla Wiscombe, KBOR, and Amy Raymond, Kansas Supreme Courts  
**Cabinet Staff:** Janice Smith, Amy Blosser, and Dyogga Adegbore

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

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions from around the table and from audience.

Chair Adkins commented on Governor Jeff Colyer's remarks to the Kansas Legislature. During his remarks, he talked about the importance of investing in early childhood. She said the Governor is a strong supporter of early childhood and included in the Governor's FY 2019 budget, the Children's Cabinet's CIF recommendations and higher than approved expenditures recommended for five of the CIF programs. The programs are the same five that the Cabinet had recommended receive the restored FY 2015 funding levels. She added that Janice will be providing more commentary during her legislative update. Chair Adkins commented that the things we do to promote a happy, healthy work force start with good early childhood experiences.

### **Approval of the Minutes of October 20, 2017**

Cabinet Chair Adkins remarked that board members received copies of the minutes prior to the meeting. Chair Adkins asked if there were any edits. Hearing none, LeEtta Felter moved that the board approve the minutes of October 20, as written. Motion was seconded by Valdenia Winn. Motion carried.

### **Executive Director Updates**

Janice reminded audience members they could participate in the meetings by asking questions using note cards located. Audience members can write a question down, write their e-mail address, give card to KU CPPR representative in the room. Questions may be answered during the meeting, if time permits or will be responded to via e-mail.

Janice reminded everyone the Kansas Children's Cabinet is moving toward a paperless board and the agendas, minutes, meeting slides, and policies could be accessed online through BoardDocs at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ks/kcct/Board.nsf/public>.

Janice asked Annie McKay to comment about plans to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund in 2019. Annie stated since Kansas has been a leader behind the vision of investment in early childhood for the years. She added it would be fitting for the Cabinet to share ideas for celebrating the occasion and their experiences in the field of early childhood over the years.

**Legislative Update**

Janice Smith, Executive Director gave a legislative update for FY 2019 and included a handout in board packets. A copy is attached with the minutes.

For FY 2019, the Governor recommends higher than approved expenditures for five of the CIF programs, which were identified by the Cabinet for restored CIF funding at FY 2015 levels: Family Preservation, Maternal and Child Health Home Visiting, ECBG, Autism Diagnosis, and Child Care Quality Initiative. For FY 2019, the Governor recommends expenditures totaling \$1.0 million from the CIF to begin a 3-year pilot. The purpose of the program is to improve school readiness and the health of at-risk children by using Kansas Blueprint for Early Childhood's three areas of impact: healthy development, strong families, and early learning as a guide for the development of community based early childhood proposals.

Although the Governor's early childhood group that met in 2016 discussed making additional early childhood funding options to Sedgwick, Saline, Shawnee and Wyandotte counties, the Governor decided to focus on Wyandotte county in this pilot for FY 2019. Funding will be targeted to support community-based proposals in Wyandotte County. Funding will be granted through the RFP process, administered by the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund. Two-thirds of private dollars or \$2.0 million will be required as match.

Annie McKay asked for clarification whether Cabinet members will be taking final action on the list of recommended recipients of the grants. Janice responded yes. Although, in order to be in compliance with Kansas Open Records Act (KOMA), she recommended a subcommittee be involved with review of recommended applications from Cabinet staff then the committee will make final recommendations to the full board. The full board can meet some time after the April meeting, via web-based meeting to discuss and take action.

LeEtta Felter asked for clarification, if the CIF funding for the State Foundation Aid and CAEDE was usurped from other CIF programs in order to be funded. She wanted to make sure that funding of those programs was transparent to everyone. Janice responded, no funds were taken from other programs, and additional CIF funding was recommended by the Governor. LeEtta asked if the Governor's recommended \$13.8 million in CIF for State Foundation Aid to KSDE was set aside for K-12. Annie McKay replied, based on the Governor's budget recommendations, it is a one-time recommendation made to spend excess tobacco settlement balances and assist the state in increasing aid to school districts in FY 2019.

Janice Smith reported that Senator Dinah Sykes helped in the creation of an early childhood caucus. She asked Senator Sykes if she would like to report on what that group is planning. Senator Sykes commented that actually Senator Pat Pettey, Senate District 6, Kansas City, spearheaded the group of legislators and early childhood representatives discussing legislative policies to help kids succeed. There were 35 bi-partisan legislators from the Kansas House and Senate that attended the 2018 Caucus for Early Success. Senator Sykes will update the Cabinet on this group's activities at a future Cabinet meeting.

### **Cabinet Position Papers**

Jessica Sprague-Jones, Ph.D., KU CPPR, presented three position papers requested by the Cabinet last fall. KU CPPR staff prepared position papers on the Children's Initiatives Fund, Social/Emotional Skills in Children, and Issues in Rural Service Provision on behalf of the Children's Cabinet. Copies of each paper are attached with the minutes. The CIF Paper provides a broad introduction to the Children's Cabinet and CIF. It includes data from Annual Investment Impact Report (air) regarding issues facing Kansas, how CIF addresses and changes in funding over time. The Social and Emotional Skills in Children Paper focuses on social;-emotional skill-building as fundamental aspect of healthy development and school readiness. It recommends continued support to children's social/emotional development, screen and measure children's social/emotional skillset including it as a part of school preparedness, and improve parents' and early childhood staff members' ability to support the development of those skills. The Issues in Rural Service Provision provides information from interviews with ECBG grantees from rural areas served. It recommends reducing barriers to access to care, continues to provide opportunities for communities to meet their own self-identified needs, Supports long-term community collaborations and supports families at every stage of the life cycle. Dr. Sprague remarked after the position papers are accepted by the Cabinet, they will be posted to the Cabinet website and on BoardDocs.

Chair Adkins suggested the Cabinet board take action on the position papers at today's meeting. Representative Valdenia Winn stated that CPPR staff need to reference their sources for the data and include today's date on each position paper.

Annie McKay moved the Cabinet approve the three positions papers with Representative Valdenia Winn's suggested edits, to include reference sources for the data and include today's date on each position paper. Motion seconded by Valdenia Winn. Motion carried.

### **Help Me Grow Kansas**

Jessica Looze, Ph.D., KU Center for Public Partnerships and Research and Kacy Seitz, Kansas Department of Health and Environment presented information on the Help Me Grow program. Dr. Jessica Looze reported the Health ME Grow Model is a framework for collective impact, buildings on existing resources, and enhances early childhood systems across communities.. Children at-risk are identified, families are connected with community-based services and supports, families are engaged and empowered around their children's developmental health and screenings. HMG is aligned with the Kansas Blueprint for Early Childhood and with the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Impact). The overall project aim is for 25 percent relative increase in children birth through age 3 that are achieving ages appropriate developmental health outcomes in all five developmental domains by July 2021. The program is evidence-informed, uses data to measure success, and promotes innovative thinking. Currently the program is active in 14 counties in Kansas and in 28 states in the U.S.A. Kacy Seitz is the Core Leadership Team Member and Family Advocate for HMG. She talked from her own family perspective and shared her personal story about her daughter. Chair Adkins thanked both Jessica Looze and Kacy Seitz for their presentations and to Kacy for sharing her personal family story about her daughter. Janice asked Kacy how working with the Cabinet help her with this project. Kacy said it has been a good experience and has been working with Amy Blosser and appreciated her guidance and expertise. Janice asked Dr. Looze how did she learn about the HMG program. Jessica replied she learned about the program through her networking contacts. She also remarked that Cabinet member Rachel Sisson, KDHE, has helped foster the work too.

### **Integrated Referral and Intake System (IRIS)**

Teri Garstka, Ph.D., KU Center for Public Partnerships and Research (CPPR) presented information and update about IRIS program partially funded by CIF through the CIF Accountability Frameworks contract to KU CPPR. IRIS helps connect families to their communities through early childhood systems to help find the right programs and services to help their children's needs. Currently, IRIS is a pilot in seven counties in Kansas: Wilson, Neosho, Montgomery, Labette, and Cherokee of Southeast Kansas, in Geary county in February 2018, and Wyandotte county. The estimated launch date for Riley and Shawnee counties is in Spring 2018. There has been 503 referrals made, 98% acceptance and 79% completed in Southeast Kansas. As for what is next, Dr. Garstka reported continued coordination with KDHE and state partners to layer Help Me Grow components into all ten communities using IRS in 2017 to 2019. Evaluation on whether Connected Communities and Help Me Grow improves developmental screenings and follow ups, increases family engagement into services, improves coordination between early childhood, maternal and child health programs and providers, education and other ancillary services. Terri Rice asked if there is information with demographics. Dr. Garstka replied that communities are encouraged to collect contact information from families, they are not required to collect and keep other identification as part of the data. It is possible to collect the demographic information through the ECBGs, however. LeEtta Felter asked how long has IRIS been in the market and will it be marketed statewide. Teri said there are state and federal agencies that funded the implementation of IRIS so it will not be marketed everywhere. LeEtta asked if it would be a good idea to trademark IRIS so there is no duplication of effort. Teri replied that the partners are not in the business of making money and established IRIS to help connect services with families.

### **Early Childhood – A Field of Great Opportunity**

Cabinet Chair Adkins remarked the Cabinet meeting has reached the two-hour mark and a few members had indicated prior to the meeting they will need to leave early.

Janice Smith asked Katie Schoenhoff, United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, if she minded postponing her presentation and returning to the Cabinet's April 6 meeting to present. Katie said she can return and give her presentation at that time.

### **2018 Cabinet Meetings:**

Friday, April 6, 2018 (Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library)

Friday, August 17, 2018 (Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library)

Friday, October 26, 2018 (Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library)

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business for discussion, Annie McKay moved that the Cabinet adjourn its meeting. Terri Rice seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Cabinet adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.