

## MINUTES OF THE KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET MEETING

October 8, 2014

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins called the Kansas Children's Cabinet board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. **October 8, 2014**, with a quorum. The Cabinet met in Marvin Auditorium 101-A at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library, located at 1515 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Topeka, Kansas. The meeting was noticed in the Kansas Register.

Present: Amanda Adkins, Tina Ames, Shannon Cotsoradis, Terrie Huntington, LeEtta Felter, Shari Weber, Valdenia Winn, Sierra Scott, Rachel Sisson (KDHE Designee), Gayle Stuber (KSDE Designee), Mark Gleeson (Supreme Court Justice Designee), Pamela Beach (DCF Designee), and Randy Bowman, Kansas Department of Corrections (JJA Designee)

Staff: Janice Smith, Jane Weiler, and Dyogga Adegboro

*Presenters:* Jackie Counts, Jessica Sprague-Jones, Margaret Brumberg, and Rebecca Gillam  
KU Center for Public Partnerships & Research

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

Cabinet Chair Amanda Adkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for introductions around the table and from audience. LeEtta Felter was introduced. Ms. Felter is a new Governor's Appointee, replacing Jonathan Freiden on the board. She is president of the Olathe School Board and talked about her experience working on the school board and spoke fondly about the pride she takes serving the children in the Olathe school district. Ms. Felter also owns and operates both farm equipment and car dealership businesses.

### **Approval of the Minutes of August 15, 2014**

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

### **MOTION:**

Tina Ames moved to approve the minutes of August 15, 2014, as written. Following a second by Shannon Cotsoradis, motion carried.

### **Next Cabinet Meeting**

Janice Smith reported the next meeting is scheduled Friday, November 14, 2014 at the public library. Executive Director Smith and Chair Adkins had discussed providing the Cabinet with a full schedule of meeting dates in advance. Janice provided a list of potential months to meet such as February, May, August and October in 2015, and asked if members favored any particular day of the week. The Cabinet talked about switching out month of May for April, as legislature recesses and tobacco settlement dollars are deposited in mid-April, in case the board wanted to discuss the deposited dollars. Cabinet members expressed appreciation for receiving the schedule of meeting dates in advance. Cabinet staff will look at dates and library space availability before sending the schedule to the Cabinet.

**Blueprint Connection: Blueprint Conference March 31-April 1, 2015 in Lawrence**

Executive Director Smith announced plans are under way for the Cabinet hosting its first Blueprint Conference to leverage CIF expertise across all sectors is scheduled March 31-April 1, 2015 at the Oread Hotel in Lawrence. All Cabinet programs including CBCAP grantees will be brought together in the same place. It will be opportunity to hear cross-sector perspectives as conference building blocks. Cabinet board members are encouraged to attend. There will be breakout sessions on community collaboration/public-private partnerships, sustainability and gamification.

Chair Adkins asked if the Kansas Children's Cabinet had ever hosted an all-inclusive early childhood event previously. Terrie Huntington recalled the Governor's Conference on Early Childhood was held in the fall of 2007. While a state legislator, she remembered being invited along with the Kansas Legislature to the Topeka event sponsored by the Children's Cabinet, and many legislators attended. A panel of national and state speakers and former Cabinet member and then-Governor Kathleen Sebelius participated.

**Blueprint Connection: Update on Children's Initiatives Fund Accountability**

Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, KU CPPR, discussed the CIF Accountability Process. Jessica talked about how the accountability process ensures programs that meet the needs of children and families; high quality programs that are both evidence and research based, and programs that evaluate their effectiveness. She talked about changes in the process, which included the method for assessing the Quality Evaluation Checklist and Evidence-Based practice level. Interview process includes discussing assessments. Board members can expect to receive their CIF Briefing Binder around October 31. The binder will include program responses to Cabinet recommendations, program alignments with the Blueprint, FY 2015 budget and explanations for any unspent funds. Jessica said the interviews were completed as of October 3, the team continues synthesis and analysis of information. The CPPR team will be discussing the binder at the November 14 Cabinet meeting at which time the board will be making its recommendations.

**Blueprint connection: Overview of Early Childhood Block Grant Process**

Executive Director Janice Smith said the ECBG RFP was announced on August 1 with a due date of September 12 at 11:59 p.m. Priority points were given to applicants meeting certain criteria, i.e., in a targeted community and addressing literacy, health, child maltreatment and poverty issues. There were 12 evaluators consisting of Cabinet board members, state agency representatives, national and business leaders. They were given a scoring guide, the RFP and ECBG manual to use in rating applications. Scoring sheets were due to the Cabinet office on October 1. Evaluation information was requested from our WSU evaluator showing on current grantees who applied fared on common measures initiatives pilot. Cabinet staff came up with management scores and research and evidenced based practiced were factored into ratings along with how much cash match each applicant could provide. Cabinet Chair Adkins commented how proud she is to be a part of this group and pleased about the research and commitment to the state. She commended Cabinet staff on their work.

Chair Adkins asked for a motion to go into executive session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION:**

Shannon Cotsoradis moved the Cabinet go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a slate of recommended ECBG Grantees for 2015, with Cabinet staff and KU CPPR team for a period of one hour. Motion seconded by Terrie Huntington. Motion carried. Cabinet went into executive session at 10:15 a.m.

**MOTION:**

LeEtta Felter moved the Cabinet return to regular session, motion seconded by Sierra Scott. Motion carried. The Cabinet returned to regular session at 11:25 a.m.

**MOTION:**

Terrie Huntington moved the Cabinet accept the slate of recommended ECBG Grantees for 2015. Motion seconded by Sierra Scott. Motion carried.

Terrie Huntington reported that former Cabinet member Bill Nelson passed away. Cabinet members were saddened to hear this news. Mr. Nelson had been involved in children's initiatives in the state, and a dedicated Cabinet member from July 2003 to June 2013.

**Adjournment**

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