

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

The Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. **October 28, 2016**, with Amanda Adkins, Cabinet Chair presiding. No quorum available. Notice of the meeting was published in the Kansas Register.

Present: Amanda Adkins, LeEtta Felter, Annie McKay, Terrie Huntington. *joined by telephone*, Vera Stroup-Rentier (KSDE Designee), Karla Wiscombe (KBOR Designee), Karen Beckerman, (DCF Designee), Rachel Sisson (KDHE Designee) and Cabinet Staff: Janice Smith, Amy Blosser, and Dyogga Adegboro

Cabinet Evaluators/University Partners present:

*KU Center for Public Partnerships & Research:* Jackie Counts, Jessica Sprague-Jones, Mallory Rousseau, Megan Leopold, and Margaret Brumberg

*WSU Center for Applied Research & Evaluation:* Lynn Schrepferman, Cassie Martin, Amber Dean, Corina Tillman

### **Introductions**

Cabinet Chair Adkins asked for introductions around the table and from the audience.

### **Postponed Action on Minutes of August 12, 2016**

Cabinet Chair Adkins asked the Cabinet board postpone taking action on the minutes until there was a quorum. She asked board members if they had edits or questions about the minutes. Annie McKay had no edits but asked Chair Adkins if she had an update on the Early Childhood Development workgroup that is reviewing gaps in services and pursuing investing in Wyandotte County. Chair Adkins responded the group has been reviewing outcome data and obtained a commitment from some sports franchises desiring to make investments in children in that community. There will be an enhanced Requests For Proposals (RFP) process for other potential investors. Amanda said she looks forward to sharing more details of the investment plan and revealing the investors are at a future Children's Cabinet meeting.

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

Cabinet Chair Adkins remarked she has a great opportunity as part of her day job to travel around the country and meet with agencies involved in serving high quality health programs. Recently, she met with a large agency responsible for 50 high quality child health programs. She said she is proud of the work Kansas has done collectively in the last five years. The Children's Cabinet previously focused on best practices and high quality education and now focuses on kindergarten readiness and data driven research. The Children's Cabinet is seen as a beacon of hope to many in the state. Today, we will look at the Annual Investment Impact Report (AIIR) and discuss making funding decisions.

Amanda remarked she has been involved in a workgroup in the Wyandotte County community. And at the February 10 Cabinet meeting, we will have a proposal and will reveal who are the investors. It is a school health initiative to connect communities to health initiatives. Wyandotte County is a new investment. Chair Adkins remarked the State of Kansas is moving toward performance based funding. It was her hope that the extra dollars would be re-invested into early childhood programs.

### **Cabinet Updates and Board Docs**

Janice Smith, Executive Director announced the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund launched the new online records retention website, BoardDocs. The board's agendas, minutes, policies and historical information could now be accessed at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ks/kcct/Board.nsf/public>. The board and audience viewed the website and were walked through how to access information using their electronic devices. After going to the weblink, select the meetings button, then desired meeting date, select the view the agenda button, under meeting agenda, then click the link to see the agenda, power point presentation, policies, AIIR, or minutes. In an effort to move toward a paperless board, all documents will be accessed on BoardDocs. Cabinet staff will continue to provide limited copies of handouts at the meetings up to the next six months to one year, and encouraged everyone to access the documents by going to the BoardDocs link or accessing the link on the [www.kschildrenscabinet.org](http://www.kschildrenscabinet.org) website under Cabinet Business.

### **Accountability Process Overview and Updates**

Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, Associate Researcher, The University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships & Research gave an overview of the accountability process and the 2016 Annual Investment and Impact Report (AIIR). The timeline ran from mid-May to late-October and included:

- 1) Host annual CIF meeting with program managers to discuss overview of accountability process;
- 2) Gather information through interviews, survey, document reviews and correspondence; and
- 3) Analyze, synthesize data and develop the AIIR

Jessica said the goals include building upon foundation of 2015 AIIR, continue to communicate programs' unique contributions, focus on continuous quality improvement for grantees, and look at big picture impact of CIF on Kansas children, families and communities.

New this year was shifting the balance between interviews and surveys, updating our descriptions of evaluation practices and evidence base, and historical interviews with key informants. The interviews and surveys were set up to be the center of the process and of information sharing. This year's AIIR is inspired by the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CIF accountability process. Jessica said it seemed the right time to step back to take a look at the process over the years and see where we came from. Board members commented that the CPPR team had done a great job putting together the AIIR and expressed how impressed they were with the booklet. The new booklet takes a broad look at the history of the CIF and its long-term impact on Kansas children, families and communities. It includes interviews with state and community leaders, and captures quotes representing major themes arising from the interviews. The challenges that the CIF team encountered were collecting information from several program staff new to the process, the scheduling of interviews when grantees were uncertain of funding, and obtaining accurate funding figures for FY 2017. There was an influx of changes at trying to get at the actual amounts. For FY 2017, there was \$35 million allotted to the Children's Initiatives Fund, and \$13 million was transferred to the State General Fund. Then \$11 million of CIF dollars had been replaced with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) dollars for a couple of funds. Cabinet Chair Adkins said the AIIR represents incredible work and information compiled by the CPPR team. LeEtta Felter asked Jessica if all programs met the Children's Cabinet criteria based on the data collected. Jessica replied yes.

Dr. Sprague-Jones walked through program by program with the Cabinet board. She talked about the profiles of each CIF program. Section 3 provides detailed description of services, need for the service, funding amounts and sources, evaluation practices, evidence base, outcomes data, and recent and upcoming changes. This year's AIIR did not include county information. Agency designees present provided perspective by giving background information or responded to questions.

The Cabinet discussed the CIF programs and agency staff provided perspective or updates:

*Diagnostic Autism*

*Child Care Assistance*

*Child Care Quality Initiative* – Janice commented program staff participated in the common measures initiatives.

*Child Mental Health Waiver* - Karla Wiscombe asked if the KDADs representatives could be invited to a Cabinet meeting to present on the Child Mental Health Waiver program. She said she would like to know more about this program and said she thought other members would be interested too. Janice said that could be arranged.

*Healthy Start/Home Visitors* - Rachel Sisson said the program differs from Parents as Teachers. The program provides direct support for infant, toddlers and their families. Data Plans are submitted annually. The program is under re-design and improvement.

*Infant/Toddler Program* - Rachel remarked that the Infant/Toddler Program serves developmentally delayed and is a federally funded programs. It works closely with Kansas State Department of Education.

*KIDS Network Grant* - Christy Schunn, Executive Director for this program was in the audience and commented that the child death rates declined in the last year.

*Kansas Preschool Program* – Vera Stroup-Rentier remarked this program started as an innovative initiative to serve families and kids. In FY 2017, TANF is the source of funding. Prior to that, it was funded with CIF dollars. Annie asked if the same number of kids will be served using TANF. Dr. Stroup-Rentier responded yes, and that have worked closely with DCF who has been extremely helpful during the transition. LeEtta Felter asked if the process has changed since TANF dollars are used. Vera said there are some fiscal implications that were easier to handle using CIF dollars. Cabinet Chair Adkins asked Vera to come back to the Cabinet meeting to report on the implications.

LeEtta asked if TANF is less cumbersome than using CIF dollars. Vera said there are a lot of layers and reporting that are not encountered with CIF. Annie said that TANF dollars are not in perpetuity like CIF. When we look at the Kansas Preschool Program and Parents as Teachers programs, the Cabinet may need to consider bringing these programs back into CIF and make a plan for the future support since TANF will not be around forever. Chair Adkins said we need to be consistent in how we look at these two programs and their exposure. Dr. Sprague-Jones added that both programs still receive about \$30,000 in CIF funds.

*Kansas Reading Success*

*Newborn Hearing Aid Loaner*

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*Parents as Teachers* – Annie McKay said many people said they are no longer able to access services. It is

crucial we collect and maintain data for this program. LeEtta Felter said we could make a declaration of intent for Kansas Preschool Program and Parents as Teachers not to lose CIF funding and keep data.

Terrie Huntington asked if the Cabinet would be submitting in electronic votes. Cabinet Chair Adkins said we can document and collect the four members' comments and schedule a 30 minute teleconference for the full board and public to listen in for a motion and second vote on the CIF recommendations in the couple weeks. She asked Cabinet staff to contact all board members next Monday to schedule the teleconference. The Board remarked they liked the new format of the AIIR and budget.

Annie McKay suggested the board recommend for FY 18, restoring budget at the FY15 levels and note full transfer of CIF with extra funds all to that parse out or add to ECBG. She did not suggest the Cabinet go for the low bar. Annie said she had concerns about monthly revenues dropping. Cabinet members agreed that should cuts occur to the allotment, that they be spread across all programs. LeEtta asked if the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) programs could be ignored. Annie said they could be ignored, however, there is no requirement to exclude those programs from cuts. Vera said if their programs under MOE, are included, it could have detrimental impact for those programs receiving federal dollars.

Janice asked for next steps for the teleconference call include:

- 1) Accept minutes
- 2) Review the Cabinet portfolio at 100 percent restoration or partial restoration: and
- 3) Recommend full funding of the \$59 million.
- 4) If additional cuts are incurred, that Cabinet can determine how to handle spreading across the board or selected programs.

LeEtta Felter asked if the conditions from a year ago had been met by all programs. Janice responded yes. The legislature gave the Cabinet authority, for FY 2016 only, to certify programs that met all Cabinet criteria. After notifying Office of the Division of the Budget and the Chief Financial Officer's office that programs met the criteria, the 10 percent balance was released to each program. This stipulation does not impact FY 2017. Terrie asked if that was a proviso language in legislation. Janice responded yes it was a legislative proviso for FY 2016 only.

Terrie Huntington commented because of concerns that Cabinet Board not always having opportunity to address budget matters, she suggested Cabinet board squeeze in one more meeting during the legislative session. LeEtta suggested the Cabinet board host a reception and invited legislators to educate them on the importance of investing in CIF programs.

### **Future Meetings**

February 10, April 28, August 4, and October 20, 2017

Kansas Children's Cabinet meetings are held at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library at 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business for discussion, Chair Adkins adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.