

KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET AND TRUST FUND MINUTES

The **December 3, 2021** regular session of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Board virtual meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Kim Moore presiding. There was a quorum. Proper notice was published in the Kansas Register.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kim Moore, Chair, LeEtta Felter, DiAnne Graham, Deliece Hofen, Monica Murnan, Terri Rice, and John Wilson, Ex Officio Members: Tanya Keys (DCF), Carla Whiteside-Hicks, (DCF), Amanda Petersen (KSDE), Hope Cooper, (DOC), Karla Wiscombe, (KBOR), Justice Keynen Wall (Supreme Courts), Cabinet Staff: Melissa Rooker, Amy Meek, Debbie Deere, and Dyogga Adegbore

WELCOME AND CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Kim Moore welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 1, 2021 MINUTES

Chairman Moore asked if there were corrections to the October minutes and, if not, he entertained a motion for approval.

MOTION:

DiAnne Graham moved the board approve the minutes of October 1, 2021, as written. Motion seconded by Deliece Hofen. The members accepted the minutes by voice vote. Motion carried.

2021 CHILDREN'S CABINET ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman Moore remarked board members received an electronic copy of the draft 2021 Children's Cabinet Annual Report. He introduced Dr. Jessica Sprague-Jones, KU CPPR who gave an overview of the Annual Report. The Annual Report captures the full scope of the Children's Cabinet's work, and the collaborations that have gone on over the past year. Information in the Annual Report includes new initiatives, data for impact, accountability process, child care emphasis, and relief and recovery. Also, reporting through the work of WSU evaluation, Kansas Early Childhood Data Trust, and Child Abuse Prevention reporting from the Protective Factors Survey (pfs2) are included.

Deliece Hofen asked about the "No one was held back" percentage indicator under Data for Impact and what it meant. Dr. Jackie Counts, KU CPPR responded that participants in the *Our Tomorrow's* survey self-reported their responses and indicated there were no disrupters to hold the family back in obtaining services.

Justice Wall asked how is the Annual Report used and who is the intended audience. Melissa Rooker remarked the Cabinet's governing statute requires the Cabinet file a report on Cabinet work with the Governor. She said that printed copies of the report will be mailed to all board members and a copy will be posted on the Cabinet's website.

Melissa also announced the board biographical sketches were pulled from the website and members will have opportunity to review and update their information to be posted on the website at a later time.

Chairman Moore asked for a voice vote for consensus with the report. No motion was necessary.

LeEtter Felter - Yes

DiAnne Graham – Yes

Deliece Hofen – Yes

Monica Murnan – Yes

Terri Rice – Yes

John Wilson – Yes

Kim Moore – Yes

Chairman Moore thanked Dr. Sprague-Jones for her presentation.

PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT UPDATE

Melissa Rooker, Executive Director discussed the long held goal of the state agency partners creating an early childhood integrated data system for sharing information. She said that last April, the Cabinet approved moving forward with the development of such a system. Melissa introduced Dr. Teri Garstka, KU CPPR, who gave an update on the system called the Kansas Early Childhood Data Trust.

Dr. Garstka reported the Kansas Early Childhood Data Trust and Governance Structure was designed to permit state agencies and partners that are accountable for managing early childhood programming to steward data for the collective benefit of all families and children. Much of the historical data comes from the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund and Kansas Department for Children and Families. The Children’s Cabinet contracted with The University of Kansas, with PDG funding, to conduct data matching and insight analysis. Dr. Garstka discussed demographic data collected, matching details, and results.

Chairman Moore thanked Dr. Garstka for her presentation.

AGENCY UPDATES

Amanda Petersen, (KSDE) Director, Early Childhood, reported and shared several links for information.

- KSDE determined in November 2021 that funding 3-year old at-risk preschool students will begin in the 2021-22 school year and moving forward
- KSDE highlighted Kindergarten Readiness throughout the month of November. You can [listen to the Kindergarten Readiness Insight Podcast episode](#) with Dr. Randy Watson and Amanda Petersen. 1

You can find the Nov. 3 piece, “Kindergarten readiness essential building block for a student’s future achievement” on the [KSDE webpage](#) ² at [Facebook page](#), [Twitter page](#), and the [WIBW website](#). ³

- [Developmental screenings beneficial for families, teachers and school](#) ⁴
- [Community partnerships key to ensuring access to quality early learning](#) ⁵
- [Kindergarten transition teams developing plans to benefit students, families and teachers](#) ⁶
- [More than 100 school districts excelling in outcomes established around the vision for education in Kansas were recognized during the Kansas State Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 9](#) ⁷. Congratulations to the districts recognized, particularly those who earned recognition in the area of Kindergarten Readiness! Fairfield USD 310, Goddard USD 265, Perry-Lecompton USD 343 and Southern Lyon County USD 252 received recognition at the Bronze level, and Basehor-Linwood USD 458, Colby Public Schools USD 315, Durham-Hillsboro-Lehigh USD 410, Geary County Schools USD 475, Hays USD 489, Iola USD 257, Kaw Valley USD 321, Moundridge USD 423, Newton USD 373, North Jackson USD 335, Rock Creek USD 323 and South Barber USD 255 received recognition at the Copper level. Districts and accredited private school systems can begin applying for the 2022 ⁸ Kansas Can Star Recognition program on Dec. 15. You can [view an overview of Kansas Can Star Recognition for Kindergarten Readiness](#), ⁸ and you can [visit the KSDE Star Recognition webpage](#). ⁹ The 2022 applications will be due June 30, 2022.

1. <https://www.ksde.org/Home/Quick-Links/News-Room/Ksde-offers-new-way-for-Kansans-to-stay-connected-with-latest-education-news-1>
2. <https://www.ksde.org/Home/Quick-Links/News-Room/kindergarten-readiness-essential-building-block-for-a-students-future-achievement-1>.
3. <https://www.wibw.com/2021/11/06/News-Kansas-Plan-helps-families-ready-children-kindergarten/>
4. <https://www.ksde.org/Home/Quick-Links/News-Room/developmental-screenings-beneficial-for-families-teachers-and-school-1>
5. <https://www.ksde.org/Home/Quick-Links/News-Room/community-partnerships-key-to-ensuring-access-to-quality-early-learning-1>
6. <https://www.ksde.org/Home/Quick-Links/News-Room/Kindergarten-transition-teams-developing-plans-to-benefit-students-families-and-teachers-1>
7. <https://www.ksde.org/Home/Quick-Links/News-Room/Kansas-schools-honored-through-Kansans-Can--Start-Recognition-programs-12>
8. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=fVcaXJzAjtE>
Star Recognition: Kindergarten Readiness
9. <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-services/communications-Recognition-Programs/Vision-Kansans-can/Kansans-Can-Start-Recognition>

AGENCY UPDATES (contin.)

Amy Meek, Early Childhood Director, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund reported:

- Early Childhood Block Grant/Kansas Preschool Program combined RFP had been announced. The review team addressed 70 individuals with questions in response to the RFP.
- Newest ECBG, Phillipsburg Child Care, has successfully collected and entered their Common Measures data into DAISEY.
- In June 2022, Cabinet staff will be hosting a Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grantee virtual meeting for existing CBCAP grantees.

Dr. Carla Whiteside-Hicks, Director of TANF and Early Childhood Programs, Kansas Department for Children and Families reported:

- Sustainability Grants Round One closed with final payments issued October 29, 2021. A total of \$43.5 million dollars was paid directly to Child Care Providers.
- Sustainability Grants Round Two are funded by the American Rescue Plan Act federal funding. Payments were sent out recently to recipients. The total award is \$43 million dollars. DCF is excited to be able to provide the funding and keep Child Care Providers' doors open.

Dr. Karla Wiscombe, Director, Academic Affairs, Kansas Board of Regents reported:

- KBOR approved applications for the Promise Act for early childhood program. A majority of Kansas two-year institutions submitted applications. There will be scholarships available for students that choose to pursue study in the early childhood program. Melissa asked Karla to keep the board updated about the progress of this effort and how the Children's Cabinet can support it. Karla thanked Melissa for that offer.

Justice Keynen Wall, Supreme Court reported on:

- Proposed Amendments to Rule 174 have been adopted and will be finalized in January, 2022. Rule 174 is a requirement for certain Kansas Judicial Council forms be used when entering orders in child in need of care cases. Proposed amendments expand the number of forms required to include orders issued in adjudication, disposition, or termination of parental rights.
- Justice Wall passed along information on behalf of the Office of Judicial Administration (OJA) that an updated guidebook on child in need of care will be available in the early part of 2022 and distributed through stakeholders.
- In 2022, CASA standards will be updated and recommendations coming before the court.
- OJA will host the Best Practices for the Child Welfare Law seminars on April 19, 20 and August 23, 24, 2022 for stakeholders.

AGENCY UPDATES (contin.)

Hope Cooper, Deputy Secretary of Juvenile and Adult Community-Based Services, Kansas Department of Corrections reported:

- Hope said she appreciated hearing the data presented earlier in the meeting and would be interested including DOC/JJ in-take data as part of the Kansas Early Childhood Data Trust.
- Updated on two DOC/JJ Prevention Grant opportunities. One is for a \$1 million dollar non-match grant and the second is a \$500,000, \$1 for \$1 match grant. Those RFPs were announced separate and outside of the routine Community Corrections grant opportunities. There were 19 applications received and which are being reviewed. Successful applicants will be receiving awards in January 2022.

Chairman Moore announced the departure of KDHE Ex Officio Designee Rachel Sisson. Chairman Moore remarked Rachel is to be commended for her great work at KDHE, on the Children's Cabinet board, and in Kansas government.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL

Debbie Deere, Early Childhood System Coordinator, KCCTF, gave an update.

The Early Childhood Recommendations Panel meets on Friday's from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. once a month. Debbie discussed the Panel listened to a presentation by Dan Wuori with The Hunt Institute, discussed the Kindergarten Transition tool kit, and received notice of the resignation of Rachele Rickard, United Way of the Plains, Wichita from the Panel. No replacement will be made at this time. The Cabinet accepted the resignation but did not take formal action.

OTHER

John Wilson discussed a proposal to request encouraging the Governor and Kansas Legislature remove restrictions to families seeking assistance in obtaining early child care and education program services. John prepared a written statement which he read. After discussion, Chairman Moore asked for a motion.

MOTION:

John Wilson moved the Cabinet recommends the Governor and the Kansas Legislature increase access to work and family support programs that help children and families meet their basic needs. Research clearly shows that children thrive when their basic needs are met, and that parents and caregivers are better able to support children when their own basic needs are met. The Cabinet believes current restrictions to childcare assistance, cash assistance, nutrition assistance and health insurance programs undercut the investments made through the CIF and blunt the efficacy of early childhood care and education programs. The 2019 and 2020 comprehensive, statewide Needs Assessments documents these concerns. Motion seconded by LeEtta Felter.

Chairman Moore asked for a Roll Call vote.

LeEtta Felter – Yes

DiAnne Graham – Yes

Deliece Hofen – Yes

Monica Murnan – Yes

Terri Rice – Yes

John Wilson – Yes

Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Melissa Rooker, Executive Director reported about the Family well-being videos created by Washburn University School of Law students with CBCAP federal grant funding from the Children’s Cabinet. Additional details can be found in the Annual Report.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 4, 2022 as a virtual meeting.

Future meetings:

February 4, April 1, June 3, August 5, October 7, and December 2, 2022. All meetings will commence at 9:00 a.m. and will be conducted as virtual meetings for the time being.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Kim Moore adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.