

## **KANSAS CHILDREN’S CABINET AND TRUST FUND MINUTES**

The **June 3, 2022**, regular session of the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund Board virtual meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Kim Moore presiding. There was a quorum. Proper notice was published in the Kansas Register.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kim Moore, Chair, DiAnne Graham, Deliece Hofen, John Wilson, Monica Murnan, LeEtta Felter, Senator Renee Erickson, Tyler Smith-Howells, M.D, and Tanya Keys, (DCF), Kelli Mark, (KDHE), Amanda Petersen (KSDE), Hope Cooper, (DOC/Juvenile Justice) , Justice Keynen Walls, (Supreme Court), Karla Wiscombe (KBOR).  
Cabinet Staff: Melissa Rooker, Amy Meek, and Dyogga Adegbore.

### CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS:

Chairman Kim Moore welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### APPROVAL OF APRIL 1, 2022 MINUTES:

Chairman Moore asked for a motion on the April minutes.

### MOTION:

LeEtta Felter moved the Cabinet approve the minutes of April 1, 2022, as written. Motion seconded by Renee Erickson. Members voted by voice vote. There was unanimous approval of the minutes. Motion carried.

### CIF ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS

Dr. Owen Cox, Associate Researcher Senior with The University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research (CPPR) gave an overview of the annual Children’s Initiatives Fund (CIF) Accountability Process.

The annual accountability process takes place at the June Children’s Cabinet meeting to align with the legislative process. Program service provision findings are reported on the previous state fiscal year. All budget recommendations at this meeting will be for state fiscal year 2024.

Melissa added clarification that the CIF budget and KEY Fund are included as part of Kansas State Department of Education’s budget, which serves as the Cabinet’s fiscal agent. The Cabinet budgets are submitted to the State Division of the Budget as part of KSDE’s budget every year. Kansas Board of Education accepts the Children’s Cabinet budget recommendations for the CIF at their July meeting for inclusion in the agency budget before submitting it to Division of the Budget.

## CIF ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS (contin.)

Dr. Cox gave an overview of the various components of the process which included data collection, categorizing funding by agency and programs, primary population demographics and programmatic information. All of this information is then analyzed in aggregate and on an individual program basis for the annual report to the Children's Cabinet.

Key takeaways from the process were:

CIF programs continue to provide significant support for the healthy development of children and families.

Important services continue even as early childhood care and education programs are facing severe challenges related to workforce.

CIF served families continue to report resiliency yet still have basic needs to be addressed.

Continued collaboration across sectors and agencies will continue to be key to understanding both the benefits of and challenges in early childhood care and education.

Dr. Cox responded to various questions from the members. Cabinet members commended Dr. Cox on his presentation.

## CIF RECOMMENDATIONS AND CHILDREN'S CABINET DISCUSSION

Melissa Rooker presented the following three recommendations for board consideration.

### **Recommendation 1**

Increase the transfer from the KEY Fund to the CIF, in an amount equal to 102.5% of the amount transferred during the immediately preceding fiscal year in accordance with K.S.A 38-2102(d)(4)

In accordance with the Kansas Children's Cabinet statutory responsibilities and to most efficiently align and coordinate Kansas's early childhood care and education mixed-delivery system, per the All In for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan, we recommend increasing the transfer from the KEY Fund to the CIF, in an amount equal to 102.5% of the amount transferred during the immediately preceding fiscal year, pursuant to KSA 38-2102 (d) (4), which reads:

On July 1 of each fiscal year thereafter, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer from the Kansas endowment for youth fund to the children's initiatives fund the amount equal to 102.5% of the amount transferred from the Kansas endowment for youth fund to the children's initiatives fund pursuant to this section during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

The proposed budget below represents a 102.5% (\$1,311,851) increase from FY23, for a total of \$53,785,921. Increases should be allocated to expanding access to early childhood literacy and education as follows:

1. Dolly Parton Imagination Library – increase of \$1,000,000 for a total of \$1,500,000
2. Early Childhood Block Grant – increase of \$319,590 for a total of \$21,049,438

## CIF Budget

CIF Program	FY23 Actual	FY24 Cabinet Recommendation
Human Services		
Department for Children and Families		
Child Care Services	\$5,033,679	\$5,033,679
Family Preservation	\$3,241,062	\$3,241,062
Total - - Children and Families	\$8,274,741	\$8,274,741
Health and Environment		
Healthy Start/Home Visitor	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000
Infants & Toddlers Program	\$5,800,000	\$5,800,000
Smoking Prevention Grants	\$1,001,960	\$1,001,960
SIDS Network Grant	\$96,374	\$96,374
Total - - KDHE - Health	\$8,548,334	\$8,548,334
Total - - Human Services	\$16,823,075	\$16,823,075
Education		
Department of Education		
Children's Cabinet Accountability Fund	\$375,000	\$375,000
CIF Grants (ECBG)	\$20,729,848	\$21,049,438
Parent Education (PAT)	\$8,437,635	\$8,437,635
Pre-K Pilot Program	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000
Early Childhood Infrastructure	\$1,400,773	\$1,400,773
Imagination Library (DPIL)	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
Total - - Dept of Education	\$35,643,256	\$36,962,846
State Employee Pay Plan	\$7,739	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$52,474,070	\$53,785,921

Additional Context

- FY 23 budget (governors rec) \$52,474,070
- On April 21, 2022, the Kansas Attorney General’s Office reported that Kansas had received \$61,332,865 from the annual tobacco settlement payout

## Recommendation 2

Create a Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library Advisory Committee to assist the Children’s Cabinet in its role as the state lead for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library. By adopting this recommendation, the Executive Director shall be charged with bringing a slate of members to the Children’s Cabinet at the August meeting for approval. The purpose of the DPIL Advisory Committee will be to assist the Cabinet in activities related to promoting, growing and sustaining the Imagination Library Program. The Advisory Committee will be tasked with providing input regarding the formation of a 501c3 nonprofit foundation for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Kansas and identifying opportunities for growing private sector support for the program. Membership will include representatives of the business sector, philanthropy, education, elected officials and interested Children’s Cabinet members.

## Recommendation 3

The Kansas Children’s Cabinet requests statutory authority to create a 501c3 nonprofit “Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Kansas” in order to meet the requirements set forth by the Dollywood Foundation. The Foundation framework requires all state and local partners to be organized as a 501c3 nonprofit. This is both to ensure the most favorable postage rates for the mailing of the books each month to contain costs, and to allow for private sector donors to receive the tax benefit of a charitable contribution for any financial contributions made to support the program in Kansas. The Children’s Cabinet needs legislative approval to proceed with the formation of a 501c3 entity.

Over the past 20 years, the Dollywood Foundation has established best practices and expectations for program affiliates that include private sector fundraising to ensure that children enrolled in the program do not suddenly get cut off if an affiliate runs into financial difficulty. A 501c3 entity would have the authority to build a rainy-day fund to provide that cushion. Dollywood Foundation is temporarily serving in this role for Kansas but is working hand in hand to help put the building blocks in place needed for the Children’s Cabinet to be a full-fledged state affiliate.

## Recommendation 4

Support the Every Child Can Read Act third grade literacy policy goal and the Kansans Can vision for public education goal of kindergarten readiness by increasing investments in programs that support the [Kansas Early Childhood Blueprint](#) vision which says, “All children will have their basic needs met and have equitable access to quality early childhood care and education opportunities, so they are prepared to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.”

Melissa suggesting handling Recommendation last and proceed to discussing Recommendation 2 about the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Only 14 counties in Kansas do not provide the DPIL program. There are approximately 194,344 children eligible to enroll in the program in those counties with the 96 programs in the state.

Recommendation 2 proposes the creation of a Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Advisory Committee to assist the Children's Cabinet in its role as the state lead for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. This would allow Melissa to bring a slate of candidates for the committee before the Cabinet board at the August meeting for approval.

The role of the advisory committee will be to decide the formation of a 501c3 nonprofit foundation for the DPIL in Kansas with representations from business sector, philanthropy, education, elected officials and interested Cabinet members.

After considerable discussion, Chairman Moore asked for a motion.

**MOTION:**

It was moved by LeEtta Felter that the Children's Cabinet board approve Recommendation 2 to establish an advisory committee for the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Motion seconded by DiAnne Graham.

Chairman Moore called for a Roll Call vote:

Senator Renee Erickson – Yes

LeEtta Felter - Yes

DiAnne Graham – Yes

Deliece Hofen - Yes

Monica Murnan – Yes

Dr. Tyler Smith - Yes

John Wilson – Yes

Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

Melissa Rooker discussed Recommendation 3 concerning the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Kansas and requesting statutory authority to create a 501c3 nonprofit to meet the requirements set forth by the Dollywood Foundation. This action will require legislative approval to proceed with the formation of a 501c3 entity.

After considerable discussion, Chairman Moore asked for a motion.

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Monica Murnan the Children's Cabinet approve Recommendation 3 to request statutory authority to create a 501c3 nonprofit to meet the requirements of the Dollywood Foundation. Motion seconded by Deliece Hofen.

Chairman Moore called for a Roll Call vote.

Senator Renee Erickson – Yes  
LeEtta Felter - Yes  
DiAnne Graham – Yes  
Deliece Hofen - Yes  
Monica Murnan – Yes  
Dr. Tyler Smith - Yes  
John Wilson – Yes  
Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

Melissa Rooker discussed Recommendation 4 relating to childhood literacy, the Every Child Can Read Act and the Kansans Can Vision pertaining to kindergarten readiness. Statistical data revolving around early childhood foundations for learning were provided as part of an issue brief titled “Early Childhood and Literacy.” [https://kschildrenscabinet.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Issue\\_Brief\\_Early-Childhood-Literacy.pdf](https://kschildrenscabinet.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Issue_Brief_Early-Childhood-Literacy.pdf)

After considerable discussion, Chairman Moore asked for a motion.

MOTION:

It was moved by Monica Murnan the Children’s Cabinet accept Recommendation 4 as written which is support for the policy goal of improving literacy through increased investment in early childhood programs. Motion seconded by John Wilson.

Chairman Moore called for a Roll Call Vote.

Senator Renee Erickson – Yes  
LeEtta Felter - Yes  
DiAnne Graham – Yes  
Deliece Hofen - Yes  
Monica Murnan – Yes  
Dr. Tyler Smith - Yes  
John Wilson – Yes  
Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

Discussion returned to the CIF budget recommendations.

MOTION:

It was moved by John Wilson the Cabinet approve the CIF budget recommendations as presented.  
Motion seconded by DiAnne Graham.

Chairman Moore asked for a Roll Call Vote.

Senator Renee Erickson – Yes  
LeEtta Felter - Yes  
DiAnne Graham – Yes  
Deliece Hofen - Yes  
Monica Murnan – Yes  
Dr. Tyler Smith - Yes  
John Wilson – Yes  
Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

Monica Murnan suggested receiving a report from the AG's office and Kansas Department of Revenue on use of the KEY funds they receive.

MOTION:

It was moved by LeEtta Felter moved the Children's Cabinet direct staff to research and analyze the CIF budget, KEY Fund balances and recommend a plan at special meeting later in June. Motion seconded Deliece Hofen.

Chairman Moore asked for a Roll Call vote.

Senator Renee Erickson – Yes  
LeEtta Felter - Yes  
DiAnne Graham – Yes  
Deliece Hofen - Yes  
Monica Murnan – Yes  
Dr. Tyler Smith - Yes  
John Wilson – Yes  
Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL

Amy Meek, Early Childhood Director announced Debbie Deere departed the Children's Cabinet for a new position last month, so she would be reporting. She thanked Amanda Petersen for her service as chair for the last two years.

Amy outlined the annual Panel membership renewal process. She presented the slate to the Children's Cabinet for approval. The recommended slate included the appointment of Cornelia Stevens to chair. Chairman Moore asked for a motion.

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Deliece Hofen the Children's Cabinet accept the slate of candidates for the Panel. Motion seconded by John Wilson.

Chairman Moore asked for a Roll Call vote.

Senator Renee Erickson – Yes

LeEtta Felter - Yes

DiAnne Graham – Yes

Deliece Hofen - Yes

Monica Murnan – Yes

Dr. Tyler Smith - Yes

John Wilson – Yes

Chairman Kim Moore – Yes

Motion carried.

**PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT UPDATE:**

Melissa reported on Needs Assessment (2021) update.

See <https://kschildrenscabinet.org/2021-na-update>

Workforce Registry Requests For Proposals (RFP) published, will close on June 8 and applications will be reviewed in accordance with the state procurement process.

PDG Quality Subgrants Year 3 renewal – Existing 58 grants renewed for another year at level funding using about a third of the \$8.9M grant award. There were 11 new Kindergarten Readiness grants capped at \$25,000 each.

**AGENCY UPDATES:**

Melissa Rooker reported that DCF and KBOR representatives had to leave early. She read their reports.

DCF reported that Secretary Laura Howard will be holding stakeholder in Topeka on June 16, Hays, June 21, and Independence on July 7, 2022. Additional details will be announced on specific locations and time of day via social media platforms. The Family First Prevention Grants RFP will be announced. Bids due August 15.

KBOR announced agreed upon a uniform General Education package for board approval at June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting at all 32 Regents institutions.



Amanda Petersen, Director, Early Childhood (KSDE) reported:

- Free school meals available for children as a part of the Summer free meal program,
- School nutrition professions met to prepare for next school materials for application process for families to apply for free or reduced priced school meals,
- KBOE awarded Kansas Parents As Teachers grants to most existing programs at level funding,
- KBOE will approve Preschool-aged at-risk programs in 261 school districts at its June meeting.

Amy Meek, Early Childhood Director, (KCCTF) reported:

- Conducted virtual meetings with CBCAP programs in April and May. It's an opportunity to learn about challenges they have been experiencing and provide additional technical assistance, if necessary; review data collection plans to ensure they are on target with outcomes.
- Busy time for the ECBG programs as they wrap-up the grant year this month, ensuring relevant data collected is keyed-into DAISEY system so that data is evaluated by WSU to report to the Cabinet at the August meeting.

Kelli Mark, Acting Director, Bureau of Family Health, KDHE reported:

- KDHE working closely with DCF and Child Care Aware of Kansas on appreciation bonuses for childcare providers,
- KDHE is expanding digital fingerprinting network across the state,
- KDHE applied for a new grant with competition for only four organizations to receive awards. Those awarded will be able to fund early childhood experts in pediatricians' offices to connect families to early childhood resources.
- KDHE is working on regulation updates to childcare licensing program on capacity and ratio changes for homebased providers. Awaiting approval from the AG's office.

Justice Keynen Wall, Supreme Court report:

- Last few meetings, Justice Wall discussed online training for Best Practices in Child Welfare Law. The first session was in April on Implicit Bias and Ethics. There were over 600 participants. The next session will be August 23-24, 2022 with the capacity for 1,000 participants. All legal and early childhood experts are welcome to attend. Registration opens in July. See [www.kscourts.org](http://www.kscourts.org) to register.

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

- DOC/JJ will be participating in the Kansas Children's Cabinet Data Trust Agreement and the contract has been approved through KDOC legal office. Signatures will be obtained within one week.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Melissa Rooker, Executive Director had no other updates but wanted to discuss the meeting schedule. The August 5 meeting will be held at the KASB facility. The October 7 and December 2 meetings can be conducted virtually unless members wanted to meet in person.

Melissa said she would notify Cabinet members about the date of the special meeting in the next week to finish discussion on CIF Budget Recommendation 1 concerning transfer amounts to specific programs.

All meetings are held the first Friday of every other month from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. as virtual meetings until further notice. Future meeting dates are August 5, October 7, and December 2, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Moore adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.