

KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET AND TRUST FUND MINUTES

The **August 4, 2023**, regular session of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board virtual meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Don Hineman presiding. There was a quorum. Proper notice was published in the Kansas Register.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Don Hineman, Chair, LeEtta Felter, Deliece Hofen, DiAnne Graham, Senator Renee Erickson, Monica Murnan, Tyler Smith-Howells, M.D., and Jessica Piper (KDHE), Amanda Petersen, (KSDE), Justice Keynen Wall (Supreme Court).

Cabinet staff: Melissa Rooker, Amy Meek, Lucas Neece, Christie Wyckoff, and Dyogga Adegboro.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Chairman Don Hineman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Chairman Hineman introduced himself and shared information about his background. He is a farmer and rancher from western Kansas. Chairman Hineman talked about his and his wife's connections and passion for early childhood services. He said he is happy to have the opportunity to serve.

Melissa Rooker welcomed Chairman Hineman to the board and expressed her appreciation that western Kansas was now represented on this board and the perspective he can bring. Melissa asked the board for brief introductions.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 2 AND JUNE 23, 2023, MINUTES

Chairman Hineman remarked he understood that copies of the minutes had been disseminated to the board for review. He entertained a motion.

LeEtta Felter moved the board approve the June 2, 2023, minutes. Motion seconded by DiAnne Graham. There was unanimous approval of the minutes by voice vote. Motion carried.

Deliece Hofen moved the board approve the June 23, 2023, minutes. Motion seconded by Monica Murnan. There was unanimous approval of the minutes by voice vote. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY-BASED CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION GRANT RENEWAL

Amy Meek, Program Director, gave an overview of the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention annual award renewal process. The six community-based projects and one statewide grant organizations submitted renewal applications via the Kansas Common App portal. Grants are expected to begin October 1; however, funding is pending Congressional budget action and formal award notice. A PowerPoint slide displayed the applicant organizations and recommended award amounts was shown. The total award amount is \$1,319,274. After discussion, Chairman Hineman entertained a motion.

MOTION:

It was moved by LeEtta Felter the board approve CBCAP grant renewal funding with the flexibility to adjust awards based on any overages or underfunded federal award amounts that come in as presented. Motion seconded by Deliece Hofen. There was unanimous approval of the slate of recipients by voice vote. Motion carried.

Chairman Hineman thanked Amy for the report.

EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT EVALUATION

Dr. Lynn Schrepferman, Senior Research Scientist, Wichita State University Center for Engagement Institute presented the annual ECBG Evaluation Report for 2022-2023. Dr. Schrepferman's report consisted of longitudinal data results collected and analyzed from the ECBG programs. The report also included data on outcomes, screening tools, and reporting from early childhood programs across Kansas. The report is available to the public on the Children's Cabinet website as part of the meeting materials posted with this August 4 meeting handouts.

Chairman Hineman thanked Dr. Schrepferman for the report. He found the reporting comprehensive and impressive.

CHILD CARE CAPACITY ACCELERATOR

Lucas Neece, Grant Coordinator, discussed the Accelerator grantees and Innovation Community Cohort along with expected outcomes. Grant awards are in the final stages of setup. The project overview includes 52 projects that add 4,211 childcare slots in Kansas with total funding of \$43,593,294 with \$58,817,713 in total community match dollars. A Power Point slide displaying a Kansas map showing the regions with CCCA grants and Innovation communities, and those regions with both was shared.

Chairman Hineman thanked Lucas for the report.

DANE G. HANSEN FOUNDATION PRESENTATION

Betsy Wearing, Executive Director, Dane G. Hansen Foundation presented a proposal.

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation serves 26 counties in the Northwest region in Kansas, awarding \$23 million dollars in grants annually. The private foundation developed several grant programs to aid with childcare expansion and sustainability. The Foundation collaborates with Northwest Kansas Economic Innovation Center, Inc., d/b/a The Innovation Center. The Innovation Center is another private operating foundation focused on economic development in the 26 counties in Northwest Kansas.

The proposal is to create a regional endowment to provide ongoing, sustainable community-level childcare solutions to the 26 NW Kansas counties, The endowment will be invested and administered by the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation, and will be dispersed

based on 5 percent of the average fund balance. Ms. Wearing shared that the Dane G. Hansen Foundation board has pledged \$5 million in seed money and is actively seeking other private sector partners for matching grants. Her vision is to receive state-level matching funds as part of a public-private partnership.

Discussion ensued. Melissa Rooker clarified no board action was being sought at this meeting.

AGENCY UPDATES

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

- Appreciated the data collected by Dr. Schrepferman on the ECBGs and reported on at this meeting. It shows the work that the ECBGs have been providing to children and families. Next steps are for Dr. Schrepferman and Christie Wyckoff, Early Childhood Coordinator to conduct site visits with the ECBGs. Visits are scheduled in September and October. Last years' data is presented to the grantees. The grantees can ask questions and share concerns.
- At the October meeting, the board will be presented with information on the process for awarding the next cycle of ECBG grants for State Fiscal Year 2025.

Amanda Petersen, Director of Early Childhood, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) reported:

- KSDE is working with the school districts in preparation for beginning another school year. Part of the preparation included hosting a conference for 100 school district administrations in Wichita last week. Administrators are excited and energized to begin the new school year.
- Other information shared with the administrators was the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, 1-800-Children program and telephone line, and other initiatives at a state level and operating in many communities around Kansas,
- The Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot is in process and there have been discussions about the Ages & Stages Questionnaire developmental screening tool for all Kansas elementary schools for connecting schools and families.

Justice Keynen Wall, Kansas Supreme Court reported:

- The Summer Best Practices in Child Welfare in Law training is open for registration. It is a hybrid training session scheduled August 22, 2023. If interested, please contact the Office of Judicial Administration through the Kansas Courts website.
- Back at the June meeting, Justice Wall mentioned the Child Welfare Summit. The Court coordinated a mental health summit in 2022. The Court is now focusing on a Child Welfare Summit scheduled for April 15-16, 2024. The summit involves all three branches of the government. There will be activities and training geared toward prevention of children entering the child welfare system, family preservation, and timely long-term permanency planning for those in state custody,

- Rural Justice Committee will be meeting in Great Bend. An evening event will be open to the public August 24 and the committee meeting will be held morning of August 25, 2023. A panel of rural attorneys and judges will be discussing the origins and challenges of locating rural legal services.

Dr. Jessie Piper, Co-Director, Bureau of Family Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment reported:

- Co-Director Derik Flerlage was attending a conference in Washington, DC,
- Continued regulation review on an expedited timeline,
- Recruiting for a new WIC director,
- Working on finding a MIECHV match.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Melissa Rooker updated the board on the following items,

- Cabinet received an extension for PDG funding through April 29, 2024.
- Also received a \$4 million-dollar, one year PDG planning grant this past December. The funds will be used to re-visit a state-wide needs assessment. Drafting a plan for use of the funds,
- Announced statewide enrollment in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library,
- Dolly Parton will be visiting Kansas on August 14. Final arrangements in preparation for her visit are being made. All board members and staff are invited to the event scheduled in Overland Park.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

The Cabinet board will be conducting an in-person meeting, Friday, October 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The morning session will be the regular meeting. The afternoon segment is the board retreat to discuss next steps. Lunch will be provided at the retreat.

All meetings are held the first Friday of every other month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. as virtual meetings until further notice. Meetings dates are October 6 (in-person at KASB in Topeka), and December 1, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Hineman adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.