

KANSAS CHILDREN'S CABINET AND TRUST FUND MINUTES

The **April 5, 2024**, regular session of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund board virtual meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m. with Chair Don Hineman presiding. There was a quorum. Proper notice was published in the Kansas Register.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Don Hineman, Chair, Dr. LeEtta Felter, John Wilson, Monica Murnan, DiAnne Graham, Deliece Hofen, Tyler Smith, M.D., Terri Rice, Natalie McClane, (KSDE), Tanya Keys (DCF), Dr. Carla Whiteside-Hicks (DCF), Matthew Billinger, (KDOC), Derik Flerlage, (KDHE), Dr. Jessie Piper, (KDHE), Alyson Dalrymple, (KDHE), Amy Raymond (Supreme Court) Cabinet staff: Melissa Rooker, Amy Meek, Christie Wyckoff, and Dyogga Adegbore.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Chairman Don Hineman called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Chairman Hineman noted the Agency Updates was omitted from the agenda. Those updates are important, and time will be allotted later in the meeting.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2, 2024 MINUTES

Monica Murnan moved for approval of the February 2, 2024. Motion seconded by LeEtta Felter. Motion carried.

EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Christie Wyckoff, Early Childhood Coordinator presented information on the ECBG FY 2025 recommendations. Due to level funding of all existing CIF programs (FY24 levels will continue in FY25) the decision was made at the October 6, 2023 board meeting to renew existing ECBG grantees for FY25. In October 2023, the staff began the FY 2025 renewal application process with existing 26 ECBGs. This effort maintains stability in program planning, reduces grant-writing work on grantees, and continues efficiencies for submitting and reviewing applications. During the Cabinet's December 2023 meeting, the Annual Report was discussed, and review of the June 2023 recommendations were covered. Technical assistance is provided through evaluation presentations, data coaching, and support through the DAISEY database. The board received information on all 26 grantees' programs in their board meeting packets sent out last week. The slate of recommended ECBG grants totals \$22,800,000.

Monica Murnan stated she will be abstaining from the vote because of a conflict of interest.

MOTION:

John Wilson moved the Children's Cabinet approve the FY 2025 ECBG late and funding recommendations as presented. Motions seconded by DiAnne Graham.

Chairman Hineman called for a Roll Call Vote.

John Wilson	Yes
Tyler Smith, M.D.	Yes
Monica Murnan	Abstain
DiAnne Graham	Yes
LeEtta Felter	Yes
Deliece Hofen	Yes
Chair, Don Hineman	Yes

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY-BASED CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION (CBCAP) FFY 2025 REQUEST

Melissa Rooker, Executive Director discuss the funding request. Staff recommended reallocating recouped CBCAP American Rescue Plan Act funding to support the 1-800-Children project. The project is administered by KCSL. There was \$134,485 recouped from an expired grant last year. That program was one of three providing pilot preventive legal services in different regions to families. The funds must be spent down by September 2025. After discussion, the board took a vote.

MOTION:

Monica Murnan moved the Children’s Cabinet approve the recommendation by staff to assign the reallocated funding to the 1-800-Children project for the term of the grant. Motion seconded by LeEtta Felter.

Chairman Hineman asked for a Roll Call Vote.

John Wilson	Yes
Tyler Smith, M.D.	Yes
Monica Murnan	Yes
DiAnne Graham	Yes
LeEtta Felter	Yes
Deliece Hofen	Yes
Chair, Don Hineman	Yes

Motion carried.

CBCAP FFY 2025 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Christie Wyckoff discussed the FY 2025 timeline RFP for the next round of Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) grants. The RFP will be announced mid-May giving applicants until June 28 to submit applications through the Kansas CommonApp portal. Staff and external panel will be reviewing and scoring applications throughout July. A slate of recommendations will be presented at

the August 2, 2024, board meeting. The grant term will be from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025.

PDG NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Melissa Rooker reported she received feedback from board members on the Needs Assessment. There were no additional changes, and much of the feedback of positive and encouraging as far as the work and breadth of involvement put into the assessment. KU CPPR team finished their technical review, edits, and formatting to the document. Melissa asked the board, in its capacity as the Early Childhood Advisory Council to endorse the final document, so that it can be submitted to federal project officer as part of requirements for the Preschool Development federal grant.

Chairman Hineman stated the board had discussed the Assessment at the February meeting, so it was not added information. He asked for a motion from the board.

MOTION:

LeEtta Felter moved the board approve the PDG Needs Assessment as presented. Motion seconded by DiAnne Graham. Chairman Hineman called for a voice vote. There was unanimous consensus to adopt the PDG Needs Assessment. Voice vote was 7-0. Motion carried. The Assessment recommendations were approved.

Board member Terri Rice joined the meeting.

AGENCY UPDATES

Derik Flerlage, Co-Director, Bureau of Family Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment reported:

- KDHE proposed regulatory modifications to child care have been approved by the Attorney General and Kansas Department of Administration. A public hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at the Kansas Memorial Hall Auditorium. Written comments may be sent to Alyson Dalrymple, Deputy Director, Bureau of Family Health, KDHE, 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66612 or e-mail alyson.dalrymple@ks.gov by 5:00 p.m. on that same day. To submit online written comments and to view the graphic about the process, please see www.kdhe.ks.gov/kids.net. Anticipate publishing final regulations in early July 2024.
- This is KDHE five-year timeline to review its regulations. Every five years state agencies are required to review their regulations.

Board members Wilson and Murnan commended Derik/KDHE on their efforts relative to the regulations.

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

- Staff changes within the Maternal Child Health and Home Visiting Section
- Working on expansion, capacity building, and pilots under the program using the extra federal funding,

- Revving up for Part C - Infant & Toddler Services program site visits,
- Making effort to connect MCVEY to Universal Home Visiting.

Matthew Billinger, Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee Coordinator, Kansas Department of Corrections reported:

- Juvenile Justice Services finalizing plans for Family Engagement training for supervision officers on how to work with families on April 8, 2024
- Updated standards for juvenile supervision.
- Legislative updates:
Nursing nursery at the Topeka Correctional Facility. Although conversation and questions were raised, no anticipated passed legislation this session.
Juvenile Correctional Facility allowing youth to leave facility to participate in programs and educational activities has not yet passed this legislative session.
- Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee has been busy, particularly revolving around behavioral health. Uncertain whether state will be supporting enhanced programs and initiatives this year. KCSL representatives will be coming to the next Committee meeting to present on its 1-800-Children program. It is hoped that conversations with KCSL will result in assisting keeping that program more robust and supporting it.
- Working on building stability in the Juvenile Defense System through providing more oversight under another agency whether new or existing.
- Gloria Gaither, Deputy Director, Facility Management, KDOC and Dene Mosier, President & CEO, Kansas Children's Discovery Center, Topeka, presented on their groundbreaking collaboration in a program that permits incarcerated women prisoners a happy place and shared time together with their small children at the Center.

Natalie McClane, Education Program Consultant, Early Childhood, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) reported:

- Filling-in for Amanda Petersen, who is on maternity leave with her new baby. Mother, Father, and baby are all doing well.
- Kindergarten and Preschool round ups taking place,
- USDs are working on Star Recognition application for Kindergarten Readiness, due May 3, 2024. This effort allows USDS to perform a self-assessment on how they are faring with kindergarten and early childhood programs in their communities. Star Recognitions participants can earn a gold, silver, bronze and copper medals if performing recommended practices.
- Kansas Early Learning Standards are posted on the Kansas Early Learning Standards page on KSDE.org website. Approximately 13,000 copies will be print and sent out to USDs, licensed child care providers, infant/toddlers service providers, head start centers, and other entities across Kansas.
- Continuing to develop resources to go along with the Standards. KCCTO will be providing a training course on May 16, 2024.

Board member Terri Rice asked if the Star Recognition program was mandatory or optional. Natalie responded it is an optional program for the USDs.

Dr. Carla Whiteside-Hicks, Director of Economic & Employment Services, Co-Director of CCDF, Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) reported:

- Continuing work with KDHE to ensure proposed changes to the child care licensing standards align with CCDF federal requirements and stay in compliance,
- Working on the CCDF Triennial State Plan which is due this year. The final draft is almost complete, with an ADA compliance draft ready to post to the DCF website. A public hearing will be scheduled to obtain feedback before submitting the Plan to the Office of Child Care.
- CCDF monitoring visit will be taking place the week of April 8th. It is a lengthy process, often taking months to complete. OCC has already reviewed the website and various documents to look at compliance. The federal representatives will be in Topeka that week of April 8 to meet with various DCF representatives to gather additional data to ensure compliance with the federal grant.

Amy Raymond, Chief of Trial Court Services, Office of Judicial Administration:

- Attended on behalf of Justice Keynen J. Wall.
- Preparing for the Inaugural Child Welfare Summit on April 15-16, 2024, in Topeka. All three branches will be participating along with child welfare partners. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and collaborate on methods for improving child permanency in the child welfare system.

Amy Meek, Director of Early Childhood, Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund Office

- Wrapping up the PDG implementation grant end of April 2024,
- Planning grant annual report will be submitted October 2024
- Early Childhood Recommendations Panel 2024-2025 membership application runs from April 1 through May 3, 2024. Current members are encouraged to re-apply. Anyone interested may apply. Representation from various sectors is included on the Panel.
<https://kschildrenscabinet.org/apply-for-the-early-childhood-recommendatoin-panel/>.
- A slate of recommendations will be presented at the June 7 Cabinet meeting. Membership year will extend from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Please contact Lindsay Orion (lindsayorion@ku.edu) for information and with questions.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Melissa Rooker updated the board on the following items,

- Preschool Development Grant work is winding down. This is the extension year for the PDG Planning Grant. The board just adopted the PDG Needs Assessment which was one of two

primary deliverables of the PDG Grant. The Strategic Plan being the second deliverable. Staff are still receiving public feedback on the draft Strategic Plan between March 4 and April 19, 2024. Feedback through the survey form provided online through the <https://KSchildrenscabinet.org/all-in-for-Kansas-Kids/strategic-plan/>.

- Strategic Plan timeline will include the final Plan presentation to the board at the August 2, 2024, meeting.
- Legislative updates included awaiting finalization of the Cabinet budget, KEY Fund transfer language, line items transfers from CIF transfers to KDHE and DCF. Balance of the Cabinet budget is embedded under KSDE's budget. KSDE serves as the Cabinet's fiscal agent. April 29, the legislature will return to the Statehouse to begin the veto session.
- Legislation is also on the table to create an Office of Early Childhood which would include the Children's Cabinet. There is high potential that this legislation would impact Cabinet board member legislative appointments, taking the current four positions to six positions on the board.

Board members expressed concerns about the potential change in number of legislative appointments and the ability to continue Cabinet business when the legislature is in session when all legislative appointees would be unavailable to join the meetings. Melissa stated she will keep the board informed via e-mail messages.

- Amy Meek gave her resignation effective April 12, 2024. She has served as Director of Early Childhood for 9 years at the Children's Cabinet. Melissa thanked Amy for being a valued, dependable member of the Children's Cabinet team. Amy accepted a new job in the private sector.
- Commended Dyogga for reaching a 20-year milestone employed at the Children's Cabinet. She has been in State government 38 years, with the last 20 years spent at the Cabinet office.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairman Hineman clarified there more than likely will not be a need for a special date for the organizational meeting of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library 501 c (3). More information will be provided and Melissa agreed we could aim to hold that meeting on June 7, 2024 after our regular meeting of the Children's Cabinet adjourns.

John Wilson shared good news about LeEtta Felter completing a doctorate degree in Educational Administration and Leadership. LeEtta was commended for earning the designation of Ed.D.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next meeting is scheduled Friday, June 7, 2024. 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. Future meetings are scheduled August 2, October 4, and December 6, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for discussion, Chairman Hineman adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.