

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2010, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – Room B
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates Present: Susan Broman, Candace Cowling, Bev Drake, Kristen Gietzen, Jack Greenfield, Lynne Ferrell, Judge Patti Gardner, Cynthia Gladyness, Bob Haight, Lynn Heemstra, Paul Ippel, Ron Jimmerson, Kevin Konarska, Jackie Klinesteker, Rich Liberatore, Sharon Loughridge, Nancy Marshall, Cathy Raevsky, Savator Selden-Johnson, Bernard Taylor, Sandy Walls, Patti Warmington

Members Absent: Tom Czerwinski, William Forsyth, Diana Sieger,

Guests: Betsy Boggs, Wayman Britt, Veneese Chandler, Rebekeh Fennell, Diane Gibbs, Carol Paine-McGovern, Jim Talen Nancy Teat, Matthew VanZetten, Jon Wilmot, Randy Zylstra

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Jack Greenfield opened the meeting with a welcome and had everyone introduce themselves.

The minutes were reviewed and Lynne Ferrell made a motion to accept the minutes, Supported by Cynthia Gladyness – UNANIMOUS.

2. Community Family Partnership Governance

Greenfield welcomed Jackie Klinesteker to provide an overview of the CFP Governance model, and ask for its formal recognition.

Klinesteker explained that the CFP will have several committees to facilitate its work. They are as follows:

- a. Family & Youth Advisory Council
- b. Cultural and Linguistic Competency Team
- c. Evaluation
- d. Training & Technical Assistance Team
- e. Implementation & Sustainability Team

The chairperson from each Committee/Team will participate in a facilitator team and provide reports/information to a Governance/Management Team, who will facilitate a semi-annual stakeholder meeting to hear from a broad constituency group regarding the CFP progress (see attached diagram).

The current Governance/Management Team consists of representatives from Kent County DHS Child Services, KISD, First Steps, Grand Rapids Community Foundation, Arbor Circle, DA Blodgett, network180, KSSN, 17th Circuit Court, United Way and the County. It also includes the evaluators.

A motion was made by Bev Drake to adopt this Governance Structure. Patti Warmington supported.
UNANIMOUS

3. Prevention Initiative Update/RFP

Greenfield provided an update on the Prevention Initiative RFP. It is expected that it will be released sometime in May for the primary prevention component. The secondary prevention and tertiary prevention components will be tied to the KSSN/CFP RFP and network180 procurement processes respectively.

Greenfield shared that the evaluation for the Prevention Initiative has been a significant positive step for the community and is informing the procurement process.

4. Strong Family Safe Children Funding

VanZetten provided an overview of the SFSC funding situation. Recently, it was learned that the State significantly reduced Kent County's actual allocation from its planning allocation (\$80,000) due to a review of the funding formulas. This is while the entire statewide allocation increased by approximately \$200,000.

The rationale provided for this reduction was that the cuts within the Executive Order earlier in the year were across the Board, and some counties were cut below its 'base' allocation of \$100,000. This was not recognized when the planning allocation was distributed, but corrected when the actual allocation was distributed.

At this time, the State has not ordered the cancellation of contracts and as such, we are moving forward in not reducing our current contracts. This is an item that the Executive Committee will continue to monitor closely.

5. Human Services Committee Update

Greenfield provided an overview of changes within the County's Human Service Committee.

Historically, the Committee provides the Board Chair and County Administrator updates of various initiatives within their respective program areas. Due to the significant changes occurring within the funding and programs at the State, it has been determined that this time could be better utilized to plan and be strategic on how to communicate with State legislators. Further, the Board Chair will work to inform the entire County Board regarding upcoming important issues.

As part of the changes, the KISD superintendent and ENTF Coordinator have been added to the roster of the Human Services Committee.

6. First Steps Update

Greenfield introduced Rebekah Fennell who provided an update of the First Steps activities.

Currently, First Steps is working to launch Welcome Home Baby which will become a primary gateway for newborns to enter the community's system of early childhood services. Jill Eldred has been hired to manage this project and it is expected to start sometime in the early 3rd quarter. As part

of this work, First Steps is partnering with the Child and Family Resource Council and DHS on the 0-3 Secondary Prevention Grant and will be the gateway for newborns in the community.

CHAP continues to move forward and the Baxter Community Health Center has been added as a CHAP practice. Also, First Steps staff is supporting similar efforts occurring in Wayne and Kalamazoo counties.

Finally, the Friends, Family and Neighbors pilot is up and running. As a reminder it is targeting the 49507 zip code looking to improve skills of providers and safety in homes. Participants attend two playgroups a month and have one home visit. The Parents as Teachers curriculum is being utilized. First year evaluation results are expected this summer.

7. **Executive Committee Appointments**

Greenfield requested action on the list of Executive Committee appointments, which include the

Name	Representing
Jack Greenfield (Chair)	Private Service Provider
Susan Broman (Vice-Chair)	Funding Agency
Paul Ippel	Public Service Provider
Kevin Kornarska	Public Service Provider
Judge David Murkowski	Public Service Provider
Savator Seldon-Johnson	Public Service Provider
Diana Sieger	Funding Agency
Bernard Taylor	Consumer/Advocate

following:

A motion was made by Sharon Loughridge to accept the slate for the Executive Committee. Cathy Raevsky supported. **UNANIMOUS**

8. **Public Comment**

There was none.

9. **Miscellaneous**

Candace Cowling reminded people of the Service to Community Awards.

Lynn Heemstra announced the Youth Master Plan will be unveiled on May 11.

Sharon Loughridge announced that on June 3 it will be holding its first combined DAB/St. Johns event and Wayman Britt will be honored as child advocate of the year.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Next Council meeting: Tuesday, June 1, 2010 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Room B