



Together in Partnership Steering Committee

Meeting Report

Monday May 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
Brevard County Government Center, Viera
Commissioners Room Building C

Members Present: Lisa Bradley, Lisa Elam, Traci Klinkbeil, Amanda Walker, Jean Bandish, Patricia Seibert, Carol Jewell, Jennifer Floyd, Rebecca Thibert, Leigh McElroy, Christie De Torre

At-Large Members Present: Rebecca Melick, Amber Carroll, Stanley Brizz, Jonathan Johnson, Abigail Jones, Verlese Pender

Guests Present: Jeremy Weiss, Elizabeth Bublitz, Christina McPhenson, Jeannie Doyle, Joe Dmitrovic, Laura McCarty, Kain Carraro, Jay Wilksinson, Khandis Cline

Staff: Sherrita Thomas

Call to Order/Introductions: Meeting was called to order by Leigh McElroy at 10:03 am. Introductions were made by everyone present.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve March 27, 2023, minutes with no corrections made by Carol Jewell and seconded by Lisa Elam. Motion passed unanimously.

Together in Partnership Reports:

- 1. Family Strengthening/Infant Mental Health Task Force/Healthy Start Coalition:** Meeting not held; no report given.
- 2. Child Abuse Prevention Task Force:** No report given.
- 3. Brevard Prevention Coalition (BPC):** The I Choose Me Website has been launched. It is geared towards substance abuse prevention for youth, families, and the general community. The Move into Light website is in development and will be geared towards removing the shame and stigma associated with substance abuse and mental health. There is a campaign going on right now for Suicide Awareness and Prevention in connection with substance abuse. BPC has a meeting today at 11:30am on the 3rd floor in the

Atlantic Room. Everyone is invited to attend. Topics to be covered – Restructuring of the Coalition Task Force, updates from Circles of Care, RX & Elicit Drug Summit in Atlanta, Campaign Items and more.

4. Brevard Homeless Coalition (BHC): A Strategic Plan has been released with a Mission and Goal of Housed & Healthy Brevard. The Strategic Plan is available on the website. The Point in Time Count has been completed and the results are available on the website (brevardhomelesscoalition.org). The total count was 1,052, which is the largest amount since 2015 in Brevard County. There was a notable increase of women and children by 45%. They have rebranded with a new logo and website.

5. Brevard Family Partnership (BFP): No report given.

6. Career Source: The Confidential Portal is live and available to refer individuals for community resources. The 50+ Job Fair will be held in Palm Bay next week and all are welcome to attend. On June 6, 2023, a virtual meeting will be held on the Rapid Response Program. This is geared toward helping businesses and non-profit agencies to explore grant assistance that is available from the Department of Economic Opportunity. This is to help those who are struggling and may need to lay off employees. The Annual Job Fair will be on June 7, 2023, at the Radisson at the Port from 3pm-6pm. The Job Fair will feature 70 employers including Community Partners.

7. Domestic Violence Task Force: No report given.

8. Regional Children’s Cabinet (5 Year Plan): The Child and Family Well-Being Council Meeting will be held on June 6, 2023, to discuss the Prevention Plan. During the May meeting, it was announced that the Governing Federal Agency has approved the Prevention Plan for evidence-based programming.

9. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ): No report given.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comments: Laura McCarty, representing Brevard Recovery Fest gave comments on the Fentanyl Awareness Campaign. Suzy Pereira with the Blue Plaid Society will be putting together a fentanyl summit on August 21, 2023, along with the Space Coast Health Foundation in Rockledge. Laura McCarty also announced an open invitation to those interested in sponsoring the Brevard Recovery Fest on September 9, 2023. She will distribute flyers for the event.

Elisabeth Bublitz with Tobacco Free Brevard announced a meeting will be held on June 14, 2023, 10am-11am in the Space Coast Room. Topics to be covered are Targeting Point of Sale and Big Tobacco companies marketing to areas with youth within the community. They are also working with Indian Harbor Beach on their Tobacco Free Parks & Beaches Initiatives to pass ordinances and are seeking to work with other municipalities.

Lisa Elam inquired about adding Elisabeth Bublitz with Tobacco Free Brevard as a board member. Stanley Brizz explained the process as outline in the resolution to add new board members and offered to yield some of his time to Elisabeth to provide a report for Tobacco Free Brevard.

Without further comment, the meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be **July 31, 2023, at 10:00 am**, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, building C, first floor Commission Chambers.