



Together in Partnership Steering Committee

Meeting Report

Monday September 18, 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, Mackenzie Quirarte, Patricia Seibert, Phil Scarpelli, Beatrice Boursiquot, Leigh McElroy, Amber Padrick, Jennifer Floyd, Christie DeTorre, Doug Reynolds, Rebecca Thibert, Omar Bohler

At-Large Members Present: Amber Caroll, Abigail Jones, Jaeden Huhta, Dr. Chana Speir, Chris McPherson

Guests Present: James Youngquist, Lauren Brandon-Brown, Jeannine Doyle, Haley Gordon, Dina Mezza, Meri Beth Misch, Lissete Knott, Laura McCarthy, Ivan Schwartz, Patricia Sierra, Kevin Maloney, Michael Constantine, Rev. Marcela Rojas, Stephen Lond, Jenny Weiss

Staff: Iselole Vital, Stephanie Reynolds, and Ian Golden

Call to Order/Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Phil Scarpelli at 10:06 a.m. Introductions were made by everyone present.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve September 18, 2023, minutes were made by Doug Reynolds and seconded by Jean Bandish. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Update: Ian Golden informed the board that the review committee came together and made recommendations for the Request for Proposal (RFP). All three RFPs are available for review and comments. The first RFP is for a multi-year media education campaign plan. The second RFP is the enhancement or expansion of medication-assisted treatment. The third is to provide more training to get additional therapists who are certified to do medication-assisted treatment. The handout for the notices was available during the meeting and can be obtained at <https://www.brevardfl.gov/HousingAndHumanServices/Announcements> or

during regular business hours at Brevard County Housing and Human Services. The recommendation Committee will meet sometime in October. The Board voted for Circle of Cares to be an alternate on the recommendation committee.

Together in Partnership Reports:

- 1. Family Strengthening/Infant Mental Health Task Force/Healthy Start Coalition:** The school district received \$740,000 from a vaping lawsuit and the funds will be used for vaping education. The district created a new department called Strategic Programming and Support. October is bullying prevention month, and education is being presented throughout the year. Janean Knight presented a large problem that is occurring with young children who are "sad" due to the adults that are suffering from postpartum depression. They will focus on adult mental health. Healthy Families currently has 46 open slots and Community Connect will start filling the slots. There is a Child Safety Seat Check event on September 23rd, at UF/IFAS extension office in Cocoa from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for anyone who has a child that needs a car seat. Brevard Cares is still offering cribs for kids. Discovery Life church is offering a baby shower on October 14, 2023, the registration is on their website.
- 2. Child Abuse Prevention Task Force:** An executive meeting will be held on September 21, 2023, at 9 a.m. They are going to discuss their parenting, mentoring, and respite services that are new in Brevard County.
- 3. Brevard Prevention Coalition (BPC):** BPC began a pilot program with Brevard Public Schools, "Better Without It School Diversion Program". BPC also has been rewarded the 5-year Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grant. BPC partnered with Melbourne PAL at Carver Park and Joe Lee Recreation Center for two projects utilizing grants from the WAWA Foundation and Space Coast Association of Realtors Foundation. The National Night Event will be held on October 3, 2023, from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. There will be a fall event at Joe Lee on October 28, 2023, focusing on building resilience. BPC is collaborating with the Osceola Recovery Project to host a public screening of the film "Untreated and Unheard" the addiction crisis in America. On October 12, 2023, they will have a brief panel discussion with the subject matter professionals. It will be at the Regal Cinemas at The Loop in Kissimmee at 5:30 p.m.
- 4. Brevard Homeless Coalition (BHC):** BHC finished the RFP process and writing their collaborative application to submit next week. BHC also applied for a grant in the amount of \$485,000 with the

Department of Children and Families. The grant supports two initiatives. The first initiative will focus on housing assistance for families engaged in the child welfare system who needs housing assistance. The second initiative will focus on housing assistance for targeted populations primarily with mental health and substance abuse. The general membership meeting will be held on October 12, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. located at the Brevard Health Department.

- 5. Brevard Family Partnership (BFP):** They are closing out their 3rd year grant. BFP is training the DCF staff on the wraparound process. They are hosting an annual golf tournament for the BFP foundation.
- 6. Career Source:** Career Source has a grant for individuals to certify as Information Technology, Aerospace/Aviation, Advanced Manufacturing, Cybersecurity, and non-custodial parent employment programs. Career Source was part of the Brevard Recovery Festival. There will be a Second Chance Resource & Job Fair on October 26, 2023, via virtual and onsite in Rockledge.
- 7. Domestic Violence Task Force:** No report given.
- 8. Regional Children’s Cabinet (5-Year Plan):** The Federal Child and Family Services review will be held in October. The Federal Government is leading the review and the Florida Department of Children and Families and Community Base Care will be part of review process. They are going to review 60 cases statewide. After the process is complete, they will have a Performance Plan. The Florida’s Family First Prevention Plan from 2021-2026 has been approved by the Federal Government. The Child and Family Well-Being Council Meeting will be held on October 3, 2023, at 6 PM. The 2022-2023 fiscal year local review team staffed 54 children and they continue to work with the children.
- 9. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ):** Omar Bohler Chief Probation Officer from Circuit 18 gave an overview of the things happening in DJJ. Patty Sierra will take over for Tracy Olson. Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting will be held on October 26 at 2 p.m. Mr. Bohler discussed his Office System Innovation (OSI) Plan which consists of two initiatives regarding data collecting for children to be enrolled in school and partnering with the school to make sure the children are attending school.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Motion was made to change the meeting start time to 9:30 a.m. by Omar Bohler, Lisa Elam seconded the motion. Omar Bohler

amended the motion to start the new time at the next meeting in November. Traci Klinkbeil seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: Laura McCarty thanked everyone that participated in the Brevard Recovery Fest. A total of 825 Narcan boxes were distributed at the event. The event was a huge success, there were vendors, giveaways and a lot of people that attended. Sponsors and vendors can apply for a Client Care Grant as long they have participated in the event. They will discuss how to distribute the grant at the next board meeting on October 3, 2023. The Brevard Family Partnership is having another intervention training at Brevard Cares on October 3, 2023. On October 12-13, EAP Behavioral Health Network of Florida Annual State Conference will be held at the DoubleTree on Beachside. Save the date for September 14, 2024, for the next Brevard Recovery Fest.

Rev. Morcela Roja representing A New Life International Inc. help survivors of Human Trafficking to clear their records, raise awareness, reduce vulnerability, and provide a safe haven for recovery. They are celebrating their new location on US 1. The ribbon cutting was on September 13, 2023, and the grand open was on September 15, 2023. The location is a drop-in and resource center.

Motion to adjourn made by Traci Klinkbeil, and seconded by Doug Reynolds, meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m. The next meeting will be **November 27, 2023, at 9:30 am**, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C, first floor Commission Chambers.