



Together in Partnership Steering Committee

Meeting Report

Monday March 25, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
Brevard County Government Center, Viera
Commissioners Room Building C

Members Present: Lisa Bradley, Traci Klinkbeil, Amanda Walker, Jean Bandish, Meri Beth Misch, Mackenzie Quirarte, Patricia Seibert, Caroline Joseph-Paul, Leigh McElroy, Omar Bohler, Amber Padrick, Jennifer Floyd, Christie DeTorre, Doug Reynolds, Rebecca Thibert, Richard Acevedo

At-Large Members Present: Amber Carroll, Stanley Brizz, Jeanie Raciti, Jessica Miles, Abigail Jones

Guests Present: Cindy Mitchell, Chana Speir, Kimberly Wells, Dina Mezza, Jeannine Doyle, Laura McCarthy, Michelle Hallman, Elizabeth Fears, Haley Gordon, Monica Houston, Chantal Riggins, Jeremy Weiss, Ferrell Melvin

Staff: Natasha Jones, Melissa Brandt

Call to Order/Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Leigh McElroy at 9:35 a.m. Introductions were made by everyone present.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve January 22, 2024, minutes were made by Rebecca Thibert and seconded by Traci Klinkbeil. Motion passed unanimously.

Together in Partnership Reports:

- 1. Family Strengthening/Infant Mental Health Task Force/Healthy Start Coalition:** The Florida Youth Survey will begin in November. The School District is currently working on the 2024-2025 vaping campaign. United Way is not going to renew their contract with Healthy Families. Healthy Start will be conducting a workshop on May 3, 2024. The workshop will give out 6 CEU's and the cost is \$20.00. Healthy Start is starting a Safety Council.

2. Child Abuse Prevention Task Force (CAPTF): Jessica Miles reminded everyone that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The pinwheels will be placed at the Sheriff's Office, the State Attorney's Office and at the School Board. Royal blue color will be worn in April to promote Child Abuse Prevention. The Dine-Out event will be held on April 3, 2024, at the Texas Roadhouse from 5:00 pm-8:00 pm. Judge McKibben will be reading the Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation on April 16, 2024, at 12:15 pm at the Court House. The CAPTF banquet will be held on April 19, 2024, from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm. The County Commissioner will be declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month at 9:00 am on April 23, 2024.

3. Brevard Prevention Coalition (BPC): Three Request for Proposals (RFP) went out for the Opioid Abatement Plan. Agencies have been selected for two of the RFP's and an announcement will be made once the agencies are under contract. Brevard has seen a decline in opioid overdose deaths. BPC will be working with Parrish Healthcare and Space Coast Health Center, 518 and Partnership and Addiction. The grant will include medication assisted treatment, school presentations, support of Parrish and their capacity for peer support services. On March 9, 2024, "I Choose Music" partnered with Brevard Symphony Orchestra and it went well. The "I Choose Art" event will be held on May 18, 2024, possibly at Field of Dreams in West Melbourne. The Drug Enforcement Agency will host the Takeback Day on April 27, 2024. BPC will be presenting the Better Without It Campaign at the National RX Summit. Terrell Melvin is the new Program Manager for BPC.

Brevard Homeless Coalition (BHC): The Point in Time Count results will be released on April 4, 2024, at 9:30 am at the Center for Collaboration. BHC will provide updates on Housed and Healthy Brevard which is the strategic plan. The Affordable Housing Summit hosted by HOME Consortium on May 31, 2024, at the Space Coast Convention Center. The new House Bill 1365 was signed into law by the Governor last week. This will be enforceable in October 2024. Brevard County does not have a drop in emergency shelter. Last year the unsheltered count for Brevard was number five.

4. Brevard Family Partnership (BFP): BFP was awarded the contract for Orange, Osceola, and Seminole County. BFP is expanding the reach for child welfare. The agency will still have Brevard and bring all four counties together. BFP is looking to take over the additional three counties in April.

5. Career Source Brevard: Career Source is focusing on young adults for the next few months. A Job Fair is being held on March 26, 2024,

from 10:00 am-1:00 pm. The focus will be on the age group of 16–24-year-olds. The Earn to Learn Program will focus on high school seniors and juniors who are receiving free and reduced lunch. The deadline to apply is May 6, 2024. The new grant is intended to provide education, training, and job placement for individuals. Career Source offers a certified Nursing Assistant Program for individuals that are eligible. The Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program helps to provide supportive services, employment, and training to individuals who are mandated to pay child support.

6. Domestic Violence Task Force: The Domestic Violence Task Force meet every other month. The next meeting is April 11, 2024, at 12:00 pm in the Space Coast Room. A member will provide training for injunctions for protection in the April meeting.

7. Regional Children’s Cabinet: Brevard Family Partnership will be the new vendor effective May 15, 2024. Town Hall meetings have been hosted to provide community members transition information. Alliance in Seminole County is having a resource fair on April 13, 2024, at the Altamont Spring Mall. The department state-wide system is also transitioning into a statewide and more user-friendly system.

8. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ): The House Bill 1181 and House Bill 1425 had some significant changes related to how Juvenile Justice looks. The diversion part is specific to Brevard County the Civil Citation Program has been renamed to Delinquency Citation. The program has a component that must be reported to the legislature on a quarterly basis. Brevard County has lowest recidivism rate next to Seminole County. A new committee will study data on why Civil Citation is not offered in Brevard County.

Unfinished Business: No Unfinished Business.

New Business: A suggestion made to start a committee to do a resource event in Brevard County. Stanley Brizz stated the Recovery Fest is a very large event that individuals attend. Laura McCarthy stated Brevard Recovery Fest bring community partners together that bring resources for treatment and recovery for mental health and substance abuse disorders.

Public Comments: The Brevard Recovery Fest is September 14, 2024, at Wickham Park from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Laura McCarthy gave an update on Recovery Fest. Ms. McCarthy is currently seeking sponsors, vendors, and volunteers. For more information, please visit BrevardRecoveryFest.org.

Ms. McCarthy has a new position in Brevard County as the new Outreach Specialist with Recovery Connections of Central Florida. Recovery Connections of Central Florida has now hired 25 Peer Recovery Support

Specialists in four counties. They also received the contract for Orange County Drug Court. A new resource is 24/7 hotline where you can call to get resources in all four Central Florida Counties. The number is 407-RECOVER. On May 1, 2024, is the Mental Health First Aid Certification Training held in Melbourne at 1509 Harbor City Boulevard at the Unconditional Love Inc. On April 11, 2024, is the gala for New Life International, which is a Human Trafficking organization in Brevard County. Human Trafficking is being offered by the County Health Department and One More Child on April 12, 2024, from 1:45 pm-3:45 pm at the Posey Center.

Leigh McElroy made an announcement that Eckerd Connects school services will slow down as schools close out for Summer. They are offering two Pop Up Summer Camps through a grant with Community Foundation to support families. One camp will be in partnership with Fairglen Elementary, and the second location will either be in partnership with Endeavour Elementary or Cambridge Elementary. When the details become available, they will share with the school so it can get listed on their Facebook page.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am The next meeting will be **May 20, 2024**, at **9:30 am**, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C, first floor Commission Chambers.