



Together in Partnership Steering Committee

Meeting Report

Monday September 30, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Brevard County Government Center, Viera
Florida Room, 3rd Floor Building C

Members Present: Lisa Bradley, Lisa Elam, Traci Klinkbeil, Mackenzie Quirarte, Patricia Seibert, Phil Scarpelli, Caroline Joseph-Paul, Ana Lewis, Patricia Sierra, Amber Padrick, Jennifer Floyd, Doug Reynolds

At-Large Members Present: Stanley Brizz, Kathryn Parker, Monique Pommell, Beatrice Boursiquot, Chris McPhenson

Guests Present: Jonathan Weiss, Natalie Page, Elizabeth Fears, Jim Carlson, Jeannine Doyle, Ana Lewis, Denise Devlin, Cindy Mitchell, Chana Speir, Gina Iannone, Lily Fredrickson, Erin Lyons, Darla Williams, Maribeth Misch, Latoya Watson, Chantal Riggins, Amaya Vinuela, Laura McCarthy, Sharona Franklin

Call to Order/Introductions: The meeting was called to order by Phil Scarpelli at 9:34 a.m. Introductions were made by everyone present.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve July 29, 2024, minutes, a second was made. The motion passed unanimously. (no quorum?) Represent Approval at 01/27/2025 meeting.

Chairman Updates: Nothing to report.

Together in Partnership Reports:

1. Family Strengthening/Infant Mental Health Task

Force/Healthy Start Coalition: An anti-vaping campaign is in the works that targets middle and high schoolers, even as young as 4th grade. The campaign will consist of monthly activities, such as poster contests, student videos for the morning announcements, banners, etc. A festival of Wreaths took place on November 23rd, 2024, by the

Homeless and Housing Prevention group from 12-4 PM on Eau Gallie. The cost was \$10. They also collected shoes from soles for shoes. Two anti-bullying campaigns are being run: one for elementary schools and one for secondary schools. The campaigns involve morning announcements and a challenge of the day. The first day of announcements is all about telling everyone about the campaign and the definition of bullying and cyberbullying, and the challenge of the day is for the kids to go home and tell their parents about the campaign and teach them those same definitions. Day 2 is the kids knowing their rights and what bullying, conflict, and meanness are. The challenge of the day would be doing some activities with a partner. They also go over what it means to be an upstander versus a bystander and what it means when they see bullying happening or when it's happening to themselves and things they can do as a community within their school such as telling a trusted adult, walking away, being a friend, etc. The main thing is to make everyone aware that this campaign is not just a one-day or one-month thing but instead, it's an everyday and all-year-long occurrence. On Oct 9th, there was a fundraiser where Texas Roadhouse donated from 4-8 PM 10% of their proceeds towards the Bullying Prevention campaign which would be put back into the schools. The next Family Strengthening and Healthy Start Subcommittee meeting will be on November 19th, upstairs in the Atlantic room.

- 2. Child Abuse Prevention Task Force (CAPTF):** Beatrice Boursiquot, the Vice chair for Child Abuse Prevention Task Force, talked about the guest speaker Juante Vanderpol at CAPTF's previous meeting and his program. Mr. Vanderpol, the previously mentioned guest speaker from Aware Recovery (8:54), spoke about his program, the Recovery, which is 52 weeks of services in the client's home including intensive case management, therapy, etc. The person has to be in their home or in transition housing. They can't be homeless or anything of the sort. They are covered under Florida Blue insurance a Medicaid provider. She also mentioned Project Response Incorporated for which she is an outreach coordinator and is a non-profit HIV organization. There are flyers for the Grand Opening Gala happening on October 18, 2024. Project Response provides clinics, prevention, raising awareness regarding HIV and STIs, letting individuals understand about prevention, treatment, collaboration with others, and being able to have transparent conversations.
- 3. Brevard Prevention Coalition (BPC):** On Saturday, October 12th, 2024, at 10 AM at Cocoa High School, they will be co-hosting the 6th man basketball tournament with Hays Blue (12:37). The teams consisted of two police officers from Titusville, Cocoa, Satellite Beach, West Melbourne, and Palm Bay police departments playing on teams

against each other. Two youths from each of their respective communities and one all-star pro basketball player per team. 6 teams are playing. There will be food trucks, as well as the #PADBus which will be a cool and fun activity for the kids to help build leadership and resilience. There will also be a video game bus for the kids to enjoy. Resource tables will be there which will include naloxone and other resources.

According to the Florida Health Department's numbers, in Brevard County, there have been 13 deaths in the 4th quarter of the year 2022. However, in the 2nd quarter of 2023, it did increase to 50. Looking at the monthly data, dating back to July of 2024, EMS reported there were 89 overdoses with 3 fatalities. In August, there were 77 overdoses with 0 fatalities. According to Stanley, in comparison to the year 2023, the number of opioid overdoses is around the same, however, the opioid deaths in the county have begun to rise. Increases in fentanyl potency and fentanyl poisoning could be a factor. Data from the hospitals has yet to be obtained.

The East Coast Symposium (16:35) on addictive disorders is coming up on November 6th-8th in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, put on by HMP Global. It is being sponsored by the Florida Association of Managing Entities in the Central Florida Cares Health System. Those interested in attending can go to the website at HMPGlobalEvents.com/east-coast-symposium or Google East Coast Symposium. Stanley will be a featured presenter there, speaking on what the latest on cannabis is and how it is impacting youths. He hopes to share some state data, as well as how the schools are handling it and informing professionals on why we are so concerned about the potency of marijuana as it relates to the developing youth in the brain.

National Night Out, courtesy of local police departments, is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and comradery. BPC will be participating in Palm Bay's event and hosting Melbourne's event. Palm Bay will have a table at Fred Poppe Park and Melbourne's event will be at Carver Park.

They will be hosting a meeting in the Atlantic room at 11:30 AM on the 3rd floor. They will be covering Titusville's Opioid Abatement funds project, as well as Palm Bay's Opioid Abatement project and their next steps. They will also cover the CORE updates as well as the summit. The Melbourne Police Department will be sharing some updates on some things they have coming up. Jonathan Weiss, Brevard County Community Health Coordinator, will check to see if he includes BPC into quarterly meetings with local ED's.

- 4. Brevard Homeless Coalition (BHC):** They are currently working on a messaging campaign, and CTS will help market that. The focus is to show that this is a housing problem and not necessarily a homelessness problem. The goal is to reach those who seem to be more resistant to this message and those who do not believe it affects them and show them that, yes, it does affect them financially, socially, etc. They also want it to be an appealing message and something to look at instead of a general and ignorable PSA. They have a meeting at the Posey Center from 9 AM to 11 AM on Thursday, October 3rd, 2024, and are highly encouraging folks to attend.
- 5. Family Partnerships of Central Florida:** As of June 1st, they had officially gone into a former 5-year contract with the Department of Children and Families formerly known as Brevard Family Partnership. They were also previously awarded a contract to oversee circuits 9 and 18; child protection including the continuum of diversion prevention services, foster care, adoption, independent living, and related services. They are also on the heels of instituting a 4 county-wide advisory group, representing all 4 counties and service providers. They are talking about how to expand and integrate model programs that are mobile in nature, due to the amount of mobile services around these days.
- 6. Career Source Brevard:** Caroline stated that they had been going through a consolidation with both Career Source Brevard and Career Source Flagler-Volusia since the last time she was seen at a meeting and that has since been completed. As of July 1st, they will be known as Career Source Brevard-Flagler-Volusia and their new website will be CareerSourceBFV.com. For now, they still have two separate websites. They have also been awarded the Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program for a second year.

They have applied for an opioid grant which would be called Brevard Recovery Works Grant. They are unaware of if they have been awarded it quite yet, however, if they are awarded it will be the second time that they have that grant. She mentioned that they offer quite a bit of workshops and recruiting events, which can be found on their website. They are also offering some workshops and individualized appointments at The Family Promise location in Cocoa every Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. The intent of this is to take care of customers when they cannot travel to the Rockledge Career Center in hopes that at some point, they will be able to make their way to the larger center.

- 7. Domestic Violence Task Force:** Unlike what was in the minutes the August meeting featured a speaker from the Resource Center for Disability Solutions who talked about disabilities and domestic

violence and the services offered. In the minutes, it is accurate moving forward, they are having a speaker from the sheriff's office talk about RPOs, red flag injunctions, etc. Speaker (unknown) stated that in addition to October being bullying prevention month, it is now also domestic violence awareness month.

On October 17, 2024, the Brevard County Commission recognized with a Resolution that October is awareness month. They meet every other month on the second Thursday at noon in the Space Coast Room.

8. Regional Children's Cabinet: No report for the cabinet but Tracy did state that DCF has a hurricane Helene recovery section on their website. They have also activated Hope Florida which is where their hope navigators do connection to families, assessments, help families get services and support, among many others. When Hope Florida was activated, folks went out and handed out tangible items, helped out with any services people might need, helped people find ways to replace any items they might've lost in the storm, and much more.

9. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ): Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: The review subcommittee is already established, and the recommendations committee is looking to be established soon upon TIP Advisory board voting on the incoming members for year 2 Recommendations. It will be a committee of 9 and the members have to be members of TIP.

Public Comments: Laura McCarthy spoke with a Brevard County Recovery Fest update. They had over 2,000 people show up, ate over 1,000 meals, gave away a lot of stuff, and had over 100 vendor sponsors and donors. They had the Titusville police department as well as the Brevard County Sheriff's office there as well. Kelly Romero is in training at the moment and will be taking Laura's position in the fest soon. September 13th, 2025, save the date for this next fest and registration will open on January 1st, 2025. George Lynch, a new peer, will be covering south Brevard County up to Cocoa. They will be having meetings with Daily Bread as well as a few others. She gave an alternative to 211 which was 407-RECOVER, the number for Recovery Connections of Central Florida. It is manned by peers 24/7 and they help people get placement into treatment or recovery options. Laura has Narcan and Yellow Cards.

Beatrice Bourisqiot, the outreach coordinator for Project Response Incorporated, spoke about the Project Response grand opening gala. She mentioned their ribbon cutting on October 17th from 3:30 PM – 6 PM at 378

N Babcock Street, Melbourne 32935, with the ribbon cutting itself at 4:15 PM at their new location. Melbourne, Palm Bay, and Cocoa chambers will be included. The gala will be on October 18th at 5:30 PM. All the funds and proceeds are going to go back to helping the people that they serve. There will also be an opening on October 19th from 11 AM – 2 PM for those who are unable to attend the gala. The tickets for the gala are \$50. All the information will be in the back.

Motion to adjourn with a second.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am. It was decided by the Advisory board to have no meeting in November, and so the next meeting will be on **January 27, 2025, at 9:30 am**, at 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building C Commission Chambers, 1st Floor.