



## Children's Services Advisory Board

April 21, 2021

A meeting of the Children's Services Advisory Board of Manatee County, Florida, was held at the Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5th Floor Manatee Room on Wednesday April 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present:** (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Jannon Pierce, Rita Smith; (Virtually); Connie Shingledecker, George Van Buren,

**Absent/Excused:** Amy Diss, Kelly Hunt, and Gail Wynne; **Absent/Unexcused:** None

**Also Present:** County Staff: Kristi Hagen, Lawanda Timmons, Chris Handy-Honeycutt, Johanna Beville; Members of the Public (In Person): Alexandra Green, Kelly Staswrak, Stacey McKee, and Char Young, (Virtually): Andi Watson, Becky Canesse, Bridget Harry, Christina Speidel, Dawn Stanhope, Ginger Zebel, Katrina Bellemare, Kristie Skoglund, Mary Glass, Melissa Schwab, Melissa Spillenkothen, Rebecca Blitz, Sean Staffieri, and Sheila Helpin.

### Call to Order/Welcome

Debbie Tapp, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** Minutes for April 14, 2021, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Kimberly Kutch, **Seconded by** Jannon Pierce, **Vote:** Motion passed (**Summary:** Yes = 8, No = 0, Abstain = 0). (In Person) Debbie Tapp, Xtavia Bailey, Hon. Scott Brownell, Charlie Kennedy, Kimberly Kutch, Jannon Pierce, Rita Smith; (Virtually); Connie Shingledecker.

### Discussion of Investment Applications

The CSAB Members had an open discussion on the review process. Seven programs were reviewed and scored. Comments, concerns, or questions voiced are noted below:

- EASTER SEALS SOUTHWEST FLORIDA– Family Support Services: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed no priority.*
  - *Program not requesting an increase in investment.*
- EASTER SEALS SOUTHWEST FLORIDA- Children's Therapy: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed no priority.*
  - *Program requested an increase in investment and reasoning for request. CSAB Members utilized Decision Making Guide – Request for Increased Investment and determined the Agency may be considered for increase.*

- Family Network on Disabilities of Manatee/Sarasota, Inc.- Sarasota/Manatee Respite Services:  
*Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed no priority.*
  - *Program not requesting an increase in investment.*
- Family Network on Disabilities of Manatee/Sarasota, Inc.- Parent Mentoring and Support Program:  
*Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed no priority.*
  - *Program not requesting an increase in investment.*

**George VanBuren entered @ 4:31 pm**

- Foundation for Dreams- Dream Oaks Camp: *Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed no priority.*
  - *Program requested an increase in investment and reasoning for request. CSAB Members utilized Decision Making Guide – Request for Increased Investment and determined they will not be considered for increase at this time but will revisit during recommendation meetings if funding is available.*
- Sarasota Manatee Association for Riding Therapy- Therapeutic Riding and Equine Assisted Learning: *Initial CSAB Member scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed no priority.*
  - *Program requested an increase in investment and reasoning for request. CSAB Members utilized Decision Making Guide – Request for Increased Investment and determined they will not be considered for increase at this time but will be revisit during recommendation meetings if funding is available.*
- Manatee Education Foundation Inc.– Soar in 4: *This is a new program for the Manatee County Children's Millage. Initial CSAB Members scores were reviewed.*
  - *Program claimed priority: Children (birth- Pre-K) demonstrate age-appropriate literacy skills predictive of becoming successful in kindergarten. CSAB Members will consider as a priority by member consensus.*

## Staff Updates

Kristi Hagen provided the following updates:

- Batch scores are due the Friday after the Wednesday meeting in which they are discussed. Scores for Batch 4 are due on Friday, April 23.
- The next meeting, April 28, will be to discuss Batch 5.
- Anticipated amount for the millage for funding year was shared. Finalized amount will be provided in June.
- Proclamation from the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida. April 2021 shall be known, designated, and set aside as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Manatee County.

## Old/New Business,

Debbie Tapp would like for the CSAB Members to create notes throughout this funding year's process concerning the application process, scoring applications, and reviewing applications to discuss during the CSAB Retreat.

Community events shared:

- Zachary Gibson, the Child Advocate for the Governor's Office, will be presenting on how local communities can do to help. Scheduled to be offered on zoom on 4/22/2021
- Tiger Bay meeting scheduled for Thursday, 4/29/2021, at Pier 22 at noon for Child Abuse Prevention and a panel of providers from the local community will be present.

### Public Comment

Agencies provided a public comment during the meeting were:

(In Person): None, (Virtually):

- MELISSA SPILLENKITHEN, Sarasota Manatee Association for Riding Therapy's Board of Directors, spoke to clarify additional aspects of the program with participants and those reaching results. Thanked the CSAB Members for their funding consideration.

### Next Virtual Meeting

April 28, 2021 – 3:00 pm, Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, 5th Floor Manatee Room.

### Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Approved

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie Tapp, Chairwoman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date