

# Jackson County Community Children's Services Fund

## Board Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2017, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Mid-America Regional Council Office, Westview Room

Board Members Present:

Rhonda Holman, Chair  
The Honorable Ann Mesle  
Jovanna Rohs, Ph.D.  
Luis Cordoba, Ed.D.  
Marietta Parker, J.D.  
Rachelle Styles (by phone until 3:00 arrival)  
Bob Bartman, Ed.D.

Board Members Absent:

Dred Scott, Ed.D.  
Brian Kaberline

Guests/Affiliations: Jennifer Furla / HCap Search NP; Jay Haden / County Counselor's Office; Brittany Brown / Legislative Aide Galvin; Rick Chambers / Center School District; Barb Friedman, Community Together; Nancy Atwater Preferred Family Healthcare; Lynn Durbin / Steppingstone; Alinda Dennis / WWGKC; Monica Nielsen / WWGKC; Ann Spivak / NE Community Center – Harmony Project KC; Dean Olson / The Family Conservancy; Sally Groves / Hall Family Foundation; Amy Wickstrom / The Children's Place; Erin Balleine / The Children's Place; Angie Brummel

Dir. Holman called the meeting to order and roll call of the board was taken. Guests introduced themselves and their affiliations.

Dir. Holman presented the minutes from the October board meeting. Dir. Cordoba moved and Dir. Rohs seconded a motion to accept the minutes as submitted which was unanimously accepted.

Dir. Holman reviewed the agenda and invited discussion and desired revisions. There being none, the agenda was accepted and discussion followed accordingly.

Dir. Rohs presented the latest draft of the proposed RFP and requested that all copies be returned to her at the close of the meeting because the RFP was still a work in progress. Dir. Holman described the document review and the interviews she and Dir. Rohs had conducted to inform the process and emphasized that one of the important goals was to make the RFP informal and user-friendly. Dir. Rohs then discussed the various provisions. During the process, several issues were raised:

- \* Dir. Holman noted that the RFP should emphasize the fact that Jackson County's funding was intended for additional or expanded services and not to fund the status quo.
- \* Deadlines were discussed and Dir. Bartman moved and Dir. Mesle seconded a motion to adopt the deadline that called for four (4) week time periods for completion of proposed phases, which was unanimously approved.

- \* Dir. Bartman suggested that, although The Fund 's resources are not intended to fund existing programs, perhaps resources could be used to free up money devoted to existing services to be used to provide other services that CSF cannot fund, such as transportation.
- \* Dir. Baftrman suggested that the RFP should not preclude multi-year contracts and that language to make that fact apparent be included in the RFP.

Dir. Rohs explained the difficulties involved in determining appropriate units of service and suggested that although she had reviewed several methodologies from other organizations, it might be best to allow the applicants to define their own and to provide the rationale for their determination. Dir. Holman requested a motion to approve the draft and for authorization to bring a final product to the board electronically for a vote. Dir. Rohs so moved; Dir. Parker seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. Dir. Holman commended Dir. Rohs for her fine work on the RFP and the Board agreed.

Dir. Holman described her contacts with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation (GKCCF) and the Truman Heartland Foundation (THF) to obtain operational support services for the Fund's first round of funding. Although she was extremely impressed with the response from THF and had found the organization to be extremely professional and competent, their need to employ additional personnel to handle our requirements made their services considerably more expensive than the GKCCF. Dir. Bartman moved and Dir. Styles seconded a motion to engage the GKCCF for operational support for the Fund's first RFP process, which was unanimously approved.

Dir. Holman described the working group's efforts to identify an executive search firm to assist in the hiring of an executive director and that it was the unanimous recommendation of the working group (Holman, Cordoba and Parker) that HCAP Search NP be awarded the contract. Dir. Rohs moved and Dir. Styles seconded a motion to contract with HCap to conduct a search for an executive director, which was unanimously approved. Jennifer Furla was introduced as the Fund's contact at HCap who then described the process and timeline for completion of the project with a goal of having an ED on board by late February-mid March.

Dir. Mesle described the variables in that working group's analysis of the challenges involved in the search for a law firm to advise the Fund on organizational issues. Four potential attorneys were identified and two agreed to meet with the working group to discuss representation. After interviewing attorneys from both firms, the working group (Mesle, Parker, Kaberline and Scott) recommended that the firm of Copilevitz and Cantor be retained. Bartman moved and Parker seconded the motion to engage the firm of Copilevitz and Cantor as "originating counsel" for the purpose of advising the Fund on startup issues, which was unanimously approved.

Jay Haden suggested that before any payment is made to HCap, our new law firm should review and discuss the terms of the engagement contract.

Dir. Styles reported that as of the date of the October board meeting, the CSF had a bank balance of approximately \$4.3 million. Dir. Holman reported that on October 11, 2017, the balance was increased by \$1,007,836.91, meaning that the Fund could anticipate a first round of contract for services funding of approximately \$5.5 million.

Dir. Parker described the process undertaken by the working group (Cordoba, Holman and Parker) to procure the temporary services of an administrative support person. Because of the limited number of

hours the Fund currently needs, none of the three temporary employment firms contacted could provide assistance. The working group does not anticipate needing to pursue this matter further because GKCCF will provide someone to take meeting minutes as part of their support functions.

Dir. Holman asked the Board for recommendations for an outside speaker for the December meeting and a representative from the Boone County Children's Service Fund was suggested as was Theresa Bird of the Jackson County Juvenile Court Probation Office. It was agreed that Boone County would be contacted first and if unavailable, the Juvenile Court would be contacted and invited to speak at the next meeting.

The Board of Directors commended Dir. Holman for her tireless work on behalf of the Fund, especially over the last month when she participated in most of the meetings of the working groups and interviews with employment firms, law firms and the two community foundations, and assisted with the drafting of the RFP.

Dir. Holman invited comment from guests:

- \* Don Olsen suggested that the ED should have a mental health background.
- \* Angie Brummel suggested that the head of the Guardian ad Litem Office, Kathy Rogers, would be a good speaker.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be December 7, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the MARC Westview Room.