



CHILDREN'S
SERVICES
FUND
OF JACKSON COUNTY

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 17, 2021 – 2:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Board Members Present:

Ann Mesle (Chair)
Jessica Ramirez (Vice Chair)
Anthony Mondaine (Treasurer)
Robert Bartman
Rhonda Holman
Justice Horn
Jovanna Rohs

Guest Presenters:

Terrence Waldren, CPA-CBIZ MHM
Brent Wilson, CPA - CBIZ MHM

Guests, Affiliations:

Nancy Atwater, Preferred Family Healthcare
Tahir Atwater, Jackson County CASA
Brandi Bair, Hope House
Terry Cunningham, CommCARE
Sarah Forgey, Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
Justin Horton, Cornerstones of Care
Gwen O'Brien

Board Members Absent:

Brian Kaberline (Secretary)
Ajia Morris

Staff Present:

Rob Whitten, Executive Director
Seth Baker
Sue Richter (Recording)
Katherine Rivard
Moji Shogbamimu

- I. Call to Order Ann Mesle
The Children's Services Fund of Jackson County (CSF) meeting was called to order at 2:28 p.m.

- II. Roll Call and Guest Introductions Ann Mesle
Roll call of the board members was taken, and guests were welcomed and invited to use the chat function to enter their name and organization.

- III. Review and Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2021 Meeting.
Dir. Mesle asked if upon review of the minutes circulated in the Board packet there were any changes. Hearing no response, she requested a motion to approve.

A motion was made to approve the May 20, 2021 meeting minutes without any modification.

First: Rhonda Holman Second: Justice Horn Motion: Approved
Aye: 7 Opposition/Abstention: 0

- IV. Review and Approval of Proposed Agenda Ann Mesle
Dir. Mesle asked if there were any additions or changes to the proposed agenda. Hearing none she requested a motion to approve.

A motion was made to approved the agenda for the meeting as presented.

First: Robert Bartman Second: Jovanna Rohs Motion: Approved
Aye: 7 Opposition/Abstention: 0

- V. Acceptance of Audit
Mr. Wilson and Mr. Waldren of CBIZ MHM reviewed the Financial Statements and the 2020 Audit Reporting Package, both which were included in board materials circulated prior to the meeting. It was stated that these documents were also reviewed in detail with the CSF Audit Committee in an earlier meeting.

A summary of this year's audit results indicated the following:

- Opinion that the Financial Statements were fairly stated in all material respects. They were considered a "clean" or "unmodified" report.
- Revenue Recognition - Footnote 1 contains a summary of revenue recognition policies associated with the activities of the Organization. Matters relating to revenue recognition are the most common errors in financial reporting and thus subjected to added assessment and testing.
- Other Matters - No instances of fraud or illegal acts were noted. No material uncertainties were noted. No significant changes to the planned scope or approach were required during year end fieldwork.
- All in all, this was a good audit.

A review of the Statement of Financial Position, Change in Net Assets and Cashflows for 2019 compared to 2020 was then conducted.

A motion was made to accept the audit report as presented.

First: Rhonda Holman Second: Jessica Ramirez Motion: Approved
Aye: 7 Opposition/Abstention: 0

VI. Investing in Children

A. Financial Report –May 2021

Moji Shogbamimu

Ms. Shogbamimu shared the following:

Tax Revenue

May 2021 - \$ 1,404,710
 YTD Tax Revenue - \$5,600,225

YTD Comparison

2018	2019	2020
\$5,436,006	\$5,502,745	\$5,267,138

Interest Revenue

May Interest \$ 199
 YTD Interest \$ 2,111
 Total YTD Revenue \$5,602,336 (includes interest and sales tax revenue)

It was reported that the total YTD revenue to date is 45% of the \$12.4M budgeted, excluding the planned release of \$3.2M from reserves.

Expense

Ms. Shogbamimu reported that expenses remain consistent with budget.

The financial position was reported as follows:

Financial Position – May 2021

- Current Assets \$20,725,586
 - Cash \$ 5,725,586
 - Investments \$15,000,000
- Accrued Liabilities (2021/2022 Contracts) \$13,599,856
- Net Assets \$ 7,125,730

Dir. Rohs asked for clarification regarding the increase in sales tax revenue both in current year (month to month) and prior years. Ms. Shogbamimu and Mr. Whitten indicated that there had been a significant increase in May which contributed to the increase in revenue when compared to prior periods, as well as some smaller revenue received for previous months. Dir. Rohs reminded that because the revenue reconciliation of the sales tax revenue from Jackson County is not all received in the month incurred, this would explain these increases.

B. 2021 RFP for 2022 Funding Update

Rob Whitten

Core Funding

Mr. Whitten reminded everyone that in April the CSF Board approved approximately \$30M in total for a two-year funding cycle (2022 and 2023).

Dir. Holman asked for the definition of Core Funding. Mr. Whitten responded that the term core funding would include primary partner support for both two-year Calendar and Academic year funding requests beginning in 2022 and then again in 2023.

The following was reported regarding the Letter of Intent (LOI) process:

- 143 LOI's were submitted.
Year one requests totaled \$26,285,427.
Year two requests totaled \$26,775,475.

Mr. Whitten indicated that even with some LOI's not moving forward, CSF will only have capacity to fund approximately 65% of the amounts requested. Mr. Whitten also shared that some existing programs will likely not be renewed, based on funding capacity.

Dir. Holman asked of those not moving on to the invitation stage how many agencies does that represent. Mr. Whitten estimated between 15-20 organizations. Dir. Homan then asked about the basis for not moving forward. Mr. Whitten stated that while all were good programs with no apparent quality issues, they were programs that could not be supported per statute.

Dir. Rohs wanted to be certain because this is a two-year funding opportunity that CSF reached audiences who had not applied before. Mr. Whitten indicated that there were a number of new organizations that completed the LOI. Mr. Whitten will provide further updated information in his July report to the Board.

Technology Grant

In response to the Board's approval to award a \$2M technology grant, with a cap of \$25k per organization, the 2021 Technology Grant will use a reimbursement methodology. A pilot program for this approach is targeted for June. This program will use a "one ask, one reimbursement payment made at the end" approach. This methodology is largely due to the length of time it took to receive expenditure information during the 2020 period where upfront dollars were awarded. Some receipts were not received for up to eight months following award, with some receipts never being submitted resulting in an adjustment to 4Q20 reimbursements.

Dir. Horn asked if there were scenarios where organizations might not use this? Mr. Whitten responded that although the limit was lower last year, this opportunity came from the listening sessions done earlier this year with partners who shared that this funding in the past was helpful. While the dollars released in 2020 for this purpose made a dent, it did not fully resolve the issue for needed technology funding.

Dir. Rohs asked if there was a way to request with the understanding that it might take a while to submit their reimbursement due to the backlog on technology items? Mr. Whitten responded that there are no caps on how quickly the request for reimbursement needs to be submitted, although the goal would be to close these out by the end of the year, for audit purposes. Dir. Holman asked for clarification regarding when technology is ordered, must an organization pay for it, prior to receipt? Dir. Rohs responded that the answer would be vendor dependent and as an example indicated that while computers might be received, docking station delivery might lag. She wanted CSF to be aware that if dollars were awarded that the timing to submit would be adequate. Dir. Holman also indicated

she would like smaller organizations to be included in the pilot to determine how this initial outlay of funds would impact them.

Dir. Holman asked, if money were still available in November, and if an organization had already made a funding request that was closed, could they make another request for some additional technology funds? In the current scenario, Mr. Whitten indicated they would not be able to make another request.

C. State of Missouri Legislative Update

Rob Whitten

During the most recent legislative session Mr. Whitten stated the following were legislative wins:

- Office of Childhood – merges 150 staff and \$640M in programs to align and better serve children from infants to kindergarten.
- House Bill 432 – Omnibus – Although there are many parts to this bill Mr. Whitten offered some highlights affecting children; a) this will ensure youth age 16+ experiencing homelessness can access services without triggering a report for abuse and neglect, b) this bill codified uniformity for parental notification for seclusion and restraint policies in schools, c) the bill added implications for a minor's right to counsel, and d) a "Hand-Up Childcare" pilot in Jackson, Clay, and Green counties, allowing parents to make slightly more than the cutoff, and not automatically reduce their childcare benefits.
- Raise the Age Funding – This bill raised the age from 17 to 18 for a child to be tried in adult court. Although passed last year, the legislature did not appropriate any additional funding to juvenile justice. So, the majority of counties did not enact the legislation. This is now funded.
- Development Screenings – This line item in the budget was increased by approximately \$2M.

Mr. Whitten then offered the following legislative opportunities:

- Medicaid Expansion – The issue has gone nowhere. The first round of lawsuits has been filed challenging this decision. The legislature also did not renew the federal reimbursement allowance. This jeopardizes the entire Missouri Healthnet program. Currently, 658k children are covered by Missouri Healthnet. Estimates indicate that this expansion would increase the number of children covered by 10%.
- Child Development Account (CDA) – Legislation on this initiative has not moved. This would create a CDA for every child upon birth, seeded by the state and used by the parents for higher education.
- Early Childhood Boards – This would allow counties to enact legislation that would create boards looking similar to CSF. This did not make it past the discussion phase.

Dir. Horn informed the board that he served as Vice Chair on a city LGBT Commission Board. In this capacity, during a recent meeting a social worker indicated that because of his role on the CSF board, he needed to make sure the children were not coerced into waiving their rights. This person also stated that neighboring counties were doing this, but asked him what Jackson County doing? Mr. Whitten asked that Dir. Horn point them back to the legislation recently passed

by both houses. It is his understanding that it is currently waiting for Governor Parson's signature. Dir. Mesle indicated that she has not heard of this complaint being a significant issue in Jackson County, but asked that Dir. Horn reach out to her should he hear otherwise.

VII. Strengthening Partners

Partner Engagement

Katherine Rivard

Ms. Rivard indicated that all site visits with 74 CSF partners have been completed. Program Officers are now shifting to review Letters of Intent, as well as preparing for the RFP training sessions. Discussion has begun regarding in-person fall site visits and creating opportunities for Board Members to participate as desired.

Dir Holman asked for a quick overview of any issues observed or concerns from partners. Ms. Rivard indicated there were a couple of themes which emerged. In terms of maintaining relationships for those "placed-based" services, creativity was required to retain services and relationships with kids. Most agencies have made this work, but this did result in service numbers being down slightly because not every agency could be connected to every child. Agencies shared that they plan to carry forward many of the therapeutic services and found that virtual platforms initiated during the pandemic sometimes enhanced participation of individuals and families, by removing barriers such as transportation. She anticipates services returning to normal in the fall, with much planning underway to ensure children are served. Dir. Holman wanted to ensure that challenges partners encountered were not with CSF, but rather the interaction of children and families with the school or other partner organizations. Ms. Rivard indicated that the challenges were not with CSF and that access given through the CSF technology grants gave partners the ability to continue to provide services.

VIII. Honoring Community

Rob Whitten

A. Community Impact Report

Mr. Whitten indicated that a hardcopy of the Community Impact Report had been sent to each Board Member. He shared the a few highlights from the report:

- CSF funded in seven of ten service areas, with the report showing the number of children and dollars spent in each area.
- One in three children in Jackson County were impacted by CSF funding.

This report will be uploaded to the website. Additionally, a small print run will allow for distribution to the county legislature with a breakdown of how the programs fall within their district.

Work is also underway with Fervor to create a mini report for 2019 and a micro report for 2018 to ensure transparency.

Dir. Mesle stated that she hoped all Board Members and guests will take the time to review the report. Dir. Rohs asked if a meeting with the Legislators is in the works? Mr. Whitten indicated that it was, and in addition the report would also be going to the County Executive in a face-to-face meeting with the hope it could be presented to the County Legislature. Dir. Horn stated that as we transition to reauthorization, he would like to see this report sent to the many mayors and city councils in Jackson County. He feels this would help get out the vote. Dir. Holman requested that the media be included in the distribution of this information as well

as including a statement that it is also available on-line. She feels this is a very good marketing piece.

B. Reauthorization of Sales Tax

Mr. Whitten stated that based on board action taken last month regarding re-authorization, two meetings have been held to date with Public Progress regarding this project. Three contracts are being prepared. Two of these contracts will be sent for review by CSF counsel. The first is for public engagement with CSF through 2021, the second for services provided to CSF during 2022. The third contract is for the Campaign Committee, which will be separate from CSF.

Work is also underway to identify and recruit steering committee members and hold a first meeting by late July. It has been recommended by Public Progress that the first polling take place quickly to better understand the work to be done regarding reauthorization.

IX. Optimizing Organization

Rob Whitten

GEO 2021 Learning Conference

Mr. Whitten, Dir. Ramirez, and Ms. Rivard attended the virtual conference held at the end of May. Ms. Rivard shared that the overall theme of the conference was "Equity in Grantmaking", with the overall emphasis on the gap between rich and poor and causing many funders to reconsider their approach. Ms. Rivard shared the most interesting session attended was by a Futurist from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, who shared the five things that will be important for organizations to track and evaluate:

- Evolving processes
- Scaling
- Immediate speed
- Transformative impact
- Implied metrics

Dir. Ramirez found that even though there were not other organizations funded like CSF the information was timely. She wondered if the data included in the recent CSF Impact Report could be broken down further to support and define equity. It felt good to know that others are being deliberate about equity like CSF was during the strategic planning sessions. Although further discussion regarding equity needs to take place, she felt looking at the data from our partners would be a great way to begin those discussions again alongside CSF partners.

Dir. Holman expressed her thanks for making time on the agenda to provide feedback from these sessions. She thanked each of the attendees for sharing their feedback.

Mr. Whitten shared that this was Dir. Holman's last meeting. He thanked her for the time and patience she has extended, and that her contributions will be missed. Dir. Holman expressed her appreciation for those remarks and reminded everyone that while she was the Chair she was surrounded by excellent people. The experience was gratifying to her, and she expressed hope as she leaves some good work behind. She is excited about the future of the organization, due to a strong Board of Directors, a strong staff and everything that is moving in the right direction. She explained she is

leaving because of a conflict of interest in serving on another board who receives funding from CSF. She thanked Mr. Whitten, her peers on the Board, the staff and in particular the agencies that CSF has had the honor to fund and work with over these past four years. She expressed a willingness to help support reauthorization, along with former board member Marietta Parker, when help is needed going out into the community to talk about the fund.

- X. New Business
Dir. Mesle called for any new business. There was no new business presented.
- XI. Director and Guest Comments
Dir. Mesle called for Director comments. There were no Director comments.
Dir. Mesle called for Guest comments. There were no Guest comments.
- XII. Closed Session – Executive Director Annual Performance Evaluation

I move that this meeting be closed, and that all records and votes, to the extent permitted by law, pertaining to and/or resulting from this closed meeting be closed under Section 610.021, subsection 13 RSMO, for the purpose of discussing the Executive Director's annual performance evaluation.

First: Rhonda Holman Second: Justice Horn Motion: Approved

Aye:

Robert Bartman

Rhonda Holman

Justice Horn

Ann Mesle

Anthony Mondaine

Jessica Ramirez

Jovanna Rohs

The meeting was closed at 3:47 p.m., on June 17, 2021, virtually via Zoom.

The Board came out of closed session at 4:22 p.m., on June 17, 2021, virtually via Zoom.

Roll call was taken. All Board Members who went into session were present. The meeting was then adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Sue Richter

Brian Kaberline, Secretary

Next Meeting: August 19, 2021 - 2:30-4:30 p.m.

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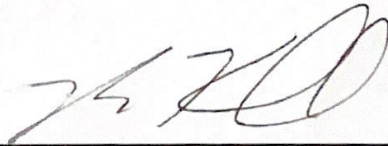
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