



CHILDREN'S
SERVICES
FUND
OF JACKSON COUNTY

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Penntower, Room 130
3100 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64111
Thursday, April 21, 2022 – 2:30 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Ann Mesle (Chair)
Jessica Ramirez (Vice Chair)
Brian Kaberline (Secretary)
Amy Harris
Justice Horn
Ajia Morris
Jovanna Rohs

Staff Present:

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

Guest, Affiliations:

Nancy Atwater, Preferred Family Healthcare
Cheryl Costabile, KVC Niles
Sarah Forgey, Greater KC Community Foundation
Jim Giles, University Health
Justin Horton, Cornerstones of Care

- I. Call to Order Ann Mesle
The Children's Services Fund of Jackson County (CSF) meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m.

Dir. Mesle announced that Dir. Mondaine had resigned his board position due to his recent election to the Independence School Board and in accordance with the statute governing CSF.

- II. Roll Call and Guest Introductions Ann Mesle
Roll call of the board members was taken, and guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

- III. Review and Approval of Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting – February 17, 2022
Upon hearing no comments regarding the minutes circulated for review in the board packet prior to the meeting, Dir. Mesle called for a motion.

A motion was made to approve the February 17, 2022, meeting minutes.

First: Ajia Morris

Second: Brian Kaberline

Motion: Approved

Aye: 7

Opposition: 0

Abstention: 0

IV. Review and Approval of Proposed Agenda
There were no comments or changes to the agenda.

Ann Mesle

V. Investing in Children

A. Financial Report – February/March 2021

Moji Shogbamimu

The following highlights from the Financial Activity Report circulated in the Board packet prior to the meeting was discussed with the following highlights noted:

Revenue

- Total revenue for 1Q2022 was reported at \$3.7M. This includes tax and investment income revenues.
- 2022 sales tax revenue received to date is higher than any prior year since fund inception.

Expense

- Total program support was reported at \$7.9M. This includes \$7.7M for core funding support to partners and \$191k for strategic initiatives. The core funding expense line currently sits at 49% of the 2022 budget. This was attributed to the approved release of the 25% match. In response to a question regarding the underbudget in this category, it was explained that due to reserves which were underutilized last year, there are more than sufficient funds to cover this expense.
- Nothing atypical was reported for operating or overhead expense, which was reported at 18% of budget for 1Q2022.

Financial Position – January 2022

- Current Assets \$14,550,777
 - Cash \$ 5,550,777
 - Investments \$ 9,000,000
- Liabilities (2022) \$11,686,143
- Liabilities (2023) \$ 2,615,798
 - The liabilities for 2023 represent reimbursement for the 2022 academic contracts that will be paid in the first half of 2023.
- Net Assets \$ 248,836

B. 2021 Audit Update

Moji Shogbamimu

A draft of the audit should be received the week of May 16. A presentation by the auditors to the Internal Affairs Committee is anticipated in late May, with plans to present to the full board for approval in June.

VI. Strengthening Partnership

A. Partner Engagement

Katherine Rivard

Semi-annual site visits by Program Officers are underway, with the following learnings reported:

- January 2022 reporting due for 4Q2021
 - Access in many schools is still being limited
 - Staffing remains a critical issue (i.e., burnout, recruitment, retention)
 - Service numbers reported at lower than expected
 - Partners are experiencing a rise in demand for service

- Current Site Visit Learnings
 - Access to students in schools improved, although virtual learning continues
 - Transmission rates are down
 - Service numbers are climbing
 - Decrease reported in the overall mental-health and social-emotional wellbeing of children served, with demand for services high
 - Staffing shortages continue to be a challenge
 - Agencies feedback regarding how CSF could continue to help include:
 - Facilitation of discussion between funding partners regarding how to address the challenges to service delivery. Suggest funding a collaboration of providers in this regard.
 - Continue flexible funding for specific need areas (i.e., technology, mental health needs of refugee families, workforce development). The 25% match and the reduction in the number of quarterly reports has been very helpful.
- B. Clinician Capacity Building Rob Whitten
 It was reported that UMKC has interest, and a meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2022, to accelerate further discussion regarding a cohort effort to increase clinical licensure. Health Forward has also expressed a possible interest in participating in the project. UMKC remains the largest and the least expensive should tuition reimbursement be an approved approach. Dir. Rohs indicated that there are many questions in building a cohort and the network to support the effort. CSF priorities will need to be determined to determine how best to fund.

VII. Honoring Community Rob Whitten

- A. CSF Event – May 4
 The CSF celebration will be held at the KC Public Library, Plaza Branch in the Truman Forum Auditorium.
- B. Re-Authorization of Sales Tax
 The Coalition has raised \$33k against a \$333k budget. New polling will be conducted in late May. Six community forums will be held in May and June by district and organized by sector. Members will be asked to attend the forum for the district they represent. Ballot language has received tentative approval from two legislators. Dir Harris asked if there was language on the ballot that would convince someone not well informed to support reauthorization. Mr. Whitten indicated he would raise the question with the next poll going out. Dir. Morris asked about polling number percentages. Mr. Whitten responded that 71 percent support renewing as is, with 52-54 percent favoring a renewal with tax increase and elimination of the sunset.

Members were encouraged to like, follow, and share on all CSF social media sites in order to assist with community education efforts.

- C. Community Impact Framework Ajia Morris
 Two External Affairs Committee Meetings have been held, with both focused on the community impact project. Partners, regional funders, and other CSFs were surveyed, with responses informing upcoming Listening Sessions to be held May 19 from 9:30a.m. - 11:30a.m and May 26 from 1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m.

Based on the information gathered during the Listening Sessions, the design framework will include drafting:

- Community Impact Statements
- Shared Outcomes by service area
- Community Impact Roadmap, to connect the two components.

VIII. Optimizing Organization

A. Nominating Committee

Jessica Ramirez

1. Board Member Resignation

As mentioned earlier in the meeting, with the resignation of Dir. Mondaine the CSF Board has two open positions.

2. Election of Board Officers

The following slate of Board Officers was presented for consideration:

Chair	Ann Mesle
Vice Chair	Jessica Ramirez
Secretary	Brian Kaberline
Treasurer	Amy Harris

A motion was made to accept the slate of Board Officers as presented.

First: Jessica Ramirez Second: Jovanna Rohs Motion: Approved

Aye: 6 Opposed: 0 Abstention: 0

(Note: Dir. Horn was not present for this vote.)

B. Internal Affairs Committee

Jessica Ramirez

Current tasks being undertaken by this committee include:

- Nominating – Currently there are two open board seats, with one requiring a candidate from district four. There is a potential candidate who has been identified by the county. Redistricting impacts have also been reviewed by the committee for the impact on recruitment efforts.
- Bylaws – The CSF bylaws will be reviewed to ensure statute requirements are consistent in them. This will require both revisions and additions. Additions being discussed include new committee structure, board responsibilities, possible term limits, and membership relating to holding other political office. Dir. Mesle indicated that these issues should involve some concurrence from the county, especially around term limits. Dir. Horn asked about how appointments were made. Mr. Whitten responded that appointments are made through the County Executive's office but must be approved by the Legislature.
- Reserve Policy - A review of the reserve policies from the other CSFs is underway to craft a policy for the organization.
- Executive Director Evaluation – This annual effort is underway, and the Committee should have something in the next week or so.

C. Equity Work – Ad Hoc Committee/RFP

Rob Whitten

It was anticipated that the RFP would be released as early as May 13, with engagement starting by July 1. Conversation within the community continue to shape the process that will hopefully impact the next funding cycle.

D. Staff Recognition

Rob Whitten

Seth Baker, Katherine Rivard and Moji Shogbamimu were all recognized and thanked for their three years of service to the CSF.

IX. Board Chair/Director Comments

Ann Mesle

Dir. Mesle expressed her appreciation for board and staff in recognition of how far the fund has come since inception. She also extended her thanks to the guests who attend the meetings and share their thoughts as they are the purpose of what is done by the fund.

Dir. Kaberline expressed his thanks to Seth, Katherine, and Moji for stepping into a new organization and building a culture when we could not be in the same room, making the job extremely difficult.

Dir. Morris shared her appreciation that even with the challenges of the recent pandemic CSF has operated seamlessly with a very small staff in serving the children that need it the most.

X. Guest Comments

Mr. Horton, Cornerstone of Care, offered that sometimes school language is different than therapist language. It would be interesting to ask truancy numbers, IEP's, etc. to better understand the effects of the pandemic. Mr. Horton indicated that discussion around capacity building is very encouraging, however along with increasing the number of therapists more supervision must also be provided. He would like to see a metropolitan hub for supervision, training, and intern placement. Advocacy regarding accreditation would also be welcomed. Dir. Rohs indicated that she will be attending a Workforce Action Task Force and this might be beneficial information to gather regarding barriers impacting the workforce.

XI. Adjournment

Ann Mesle

Dir. Mesle called for adjournment of the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Sue Richter



Brian Kaberline, Secretary

Next Board Meeting: May 19, 2022 - 2:30-4:30 p.m.