



CHILDREN'S
SERVICES
FUND
OF JACKSON COUNTY

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Penntower
3100 Broadway, Suite 130, Kansas City, MO 64111
Thursday, October 20, 2022 – 2:30 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Ann Mesle (Chair)
Brian Kaberline (Secretary)
Amy Harris (Treasurer)
Judy Morgan
Ajia Morris
Jovanna Rohs

Guests, Affiliations:

Nancy Atwater, Preferred Family Health
Brandi Bair, Hope House
Jim Giles, University Health.

Board Members Absent:

Justice Horn
Jessica Ramirez (Vice Chair)

Staff Present:

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

- I. Call to Order Ann Mesle
The Children's Services Fund of Jackson County (CSF) meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.
- II. Roll Call Ann Mesle
Roll call of board members was taken.
- III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes Ann Mesle
Dir. Mesle called for a motion or changes to the board meeting minutes circulated in the board packet. Upon hearing no comments, the following motion was made.
[A motion was made to approve the September 15, 2022, meeting minutes as presented.](#)
[First: Amy Harris](#) [Second: Jovanna Rohs](#) [Motion: Approved](#)
[Aye : 6](#) [Opposition : 0](#)

- IV. Review and Approval of Proposed Agenda Ann Mesle
No changes were requested to the agenda circulated prior to the meeting.

- V. Re-Authorization of Sales Tax Rob Whitten
A. Campaign Coalition Updates

Mr. Whitten shared that the reauthorization campaign has a current potential gap of approximately \$15k in its fundraising efforts.

A list of current and potential endorsements, speaking engagements and field work updates were shared. Next steps focus on the social media and traditional media aspects of the campaign, including paid digital to begin October 15, 2022, yard signs, texting the weekend prior to the election, and media messaging leading up to election day. Poll support volunteers are now in place in preparation for November 8th. The analytics for the campaign currently put approval at 62-64 percent.

- B. Campaign Budget Gap/CSF Support

The Campaign Coalition has made the determination that any unused campaign funds will be returned to the CSF. It is anticipated that the field work budget will be underspent. Public Progress continues to fundraise to close the potential \$15k gap. Should these fundraising efforts fall short, this would eliminate the texting plan and would cancel approximately \$10k in digital ads. Mr. Whitten recommended that the Board authorize the CSF to spend up to \$15k to fund that gap, with the understanding that any unused funds will be returned to the CSF. Dir. Rohs asked if these funds would come from the interest income. Mr. Whitten indicated that was correct, and that no tax dollars have been used to fund the campaign. Additionally, CSF counsel has indicated that a 501c3 may spend up to three percent of the budget for advocacy and lobbying work, even though this has not been done.

Dir. Morgan requested assurance that funding by the CSF was legal. In response Mr. Whitten indicated that he had obtained a written opinion from legal counsel that it was. Dir. Kaberline asked what the CSF has committed to date. Mr. Whitten indicated that the initial contribution that went towards printing the first mailer was \$45k, in addition to contracting with Public Progress for the past two years in the amount of approximately \$230k. Dir. Mesle offered that due to the presentation she felt more confident about where the current and past funding is going and thanked Mr. Whitten for his thorough explanations.

A motion was made to authorize the CSF Executive Director to spend up to \$15k to close the campaign funding gap.

First: Amy Harris

Second: Jovanna Rohs

Motion: Approved

Aye: 6

Opposition: 0

VI. Investing in Children

Amy Harris/Moji Shogbamimu

A. Financial Report – September 2022

Dir. Harris shared that to further demonstrate transparency, each month Dir. Harris and Ms. Shogbamimu are reviewing the financials prior to each board meeting. The September financials were very straightforward. There was a refund from Fervor as the only one that stood out, but again very standard.

Dir. Harris also offered that with the October financials, the board should anticipate an uptick in spend because of the quarterly payment cycle that will be coming due. Also, the remaining liability for rent in 2023 and 2024 will be booked due to the new accounting standards, resulting in a significant liability showing up at the end of the year rather than an adjustment by the auditors.

A review of the financials circulated in the board packet was completed with the following highlights:

- Tax Revenue
September - \$1.3M
YTD tax revenue was reported at \$12.1M which was 88% of budgeted tax revenue.
YTD investment income far exceeds budget at \$99k, which includes \$68k in interest generated from an investment of \$7.5M.
- Core Funding-Reimbursement to partners in September was \$680k
- Strategic Initiatives-Technology grant reimbursement to partners in September was \$88k
- YTD Program Support was reported at \$12.7M
- Tax Revenue – YTD Comparison
Tax revenue for 2022 was reported at \$12.1M (YTD). This is \$1.3M higher when compared to the same period for 2021.
- Operating & Overhead
No atypical expenses in operating and overhead were reported.

Anticipated budget variances for 2022 were reported in both the Partner Support for COVID relief and the Professional Contract for campaign related expense categories. It is anticipated that an underspend in other expense categories will keep actuals in line with the budget.

A question regarding technology overage YTD was related to the website refresh and purchases of new laptops for staff.

• Financial Position		
Assets		\$17.3M
-Cash	\$ 4.8M	
-Investments	\$12.5M	
Liabilities		
-2022	\$ 7.3M	
-2023	\$ 2.6M	
Net Assets		\$ 7.4M

Mr. Whitten offered that due to the previous board action in January to release the 25% cash match to partners, the partners support expense line will far exceed the \$16.1M and will be closer to \$19M for the year. This will result in a small reduction to the reserve. Dir. Rohs questioned that should the fund be reauthorized consideration should be given to the need of the cash match category when applying for funding.

- B. Discussion of 2023 Budget(s) Moji Shogbamimu/Rob Whitten
Two budgets, one if reauthorization is approved and one without, are currently being prepared for review first by the Internal Affairs Committee. Following that review a recommendation will be made for full board approval.

In response to a question regarding renewal there should be a small uptick in revenue in April, with full tax revenue at the new rate in May.

- C. 2023 Funding Slate Rob Whitten
Due to board approval of the 2022-2023 funding slate last year as one item, the funding slate has already been approved. However, four items vary from the funding slate from last year, and the following changes were recommended to the board for approval:
1. Comprehensive Mental Health Services (CMHS)
CMHS is electing not to pursue a second year of funding for their Trauma Specialty Therapist contract of \$51,128 in 2023.
 2. Children's Mercy Hospital (CMH)/Child Protection Center (CPC)
CMH requested a move for the ACT Raising Safe Kids contract to the CPC, this would increase the 2023 budget for the program from \$106,905 to \$155,000 (\$48,095 increase)
 3. United Way Greater Kansas City/Nurture KC
Due to significant restructuring at United Way, two programs were recommended for a move to Nurture KC. Because Nurture KC was not a current partner all screening was completed prior to moving forward with the recommendation to approve the move of the following programs to their organization:
Promise 1000 – 2023 budget \$300,000 (No increase)
Moving Beyond Depression - \$202,020 to \$276,030 (\$74,010 increase)

The above 2023 calendar project changes will reduce the total number of projects to 65 for a total of \$11,043,845.

Dir. Rohs asked if CSF is seeing partners who are not spending their current award amounts. Ms. Shogbamimu indicated there were partners slow in submitting monthly invoices as well as some organizations experiencing problems in hiring staff, resulting in a reduction in the number of kids they can serve. Dir. Kaberline asked if there is a way to see if partners are pulling budgets back resulting in not enough money going into the community. Guests were invited to provide their input.

The academic year remains as approved at 34 projects at \$5,496,707.

The revised total for the calendar and academic 2023/2023-2024 would be \$16,540,562.

A motion was made to approve the budget slate as revised and presented this date.

First: Brian Kaberline
Aye: 6

Second: Judy Morgan
Opposed: 0

Motion: Approved

VII. Strengthening Partners

Partner Engagement

Seth Baker

Program Officers continue site visits. Observations shared were that staffing, salary and right-sizing remain issues for CSF partners. Additionally, the issues presented post-COVID for those very young kids who were not in school or childcare programs during the pandemic are resulting in an increase in behaviors and outbursts. Partners are interested in tuition reimbursement and believe it will help with staffing. They report that referral networks are being rebuilt. Also, partners expressed that the opportunity to be heard during the recent CSF feedback sessions was appreciated.

Dir. Harris asked about tuition reimbursement. Ms. Rivard indicated that the pre-site visit survey this year included a question regarding staffing and what the CSF could do to help an organization attract, retain, or increase the pool. Responses are varied. This information is being compiled to present to a CSF committee for further discussion.

VIII. Honoring Community

Community Impact Framework (External Affairs)

Ajia Morris

A draft framework will be discussed at an upcoming External Affairs Committee meeting in the hopes of bringing it to the full board during the November board meeting. Mr. Whitten added that in addition to the framework, the structure for funding beyond 2024 will also be a discussion topic at the next committee meeting.

IX. Optimizing Organization

Rob Whitten

The Internal Affairs Committee is working on the following topics:

1. Bylaw Revision – These have been sent for review and the committee is awaiting response from legal counsel.
2. 2023 Budget – Work has started on anticipated CSF staff growth if reauthorization is approved. Calls have been scheduled with other CSFs to see how they are structured.
3. 2021 Form 990 – This form must be submitted by November 15. If schedules do not allow for a review by the Internal Affairs Committee prior to presentation to the entire board, this form will be circulated to all members for review and comment in order to meet the submission deadline.
4. Reserve Policy – The above issues remain a priority with continued work on the reserve policy pending.

X. New Business

Ann Mesle

Dir. Mesle called for any new business. No new business was brought forward.

XI. Board Chair Comments Ann Mesle
Dir. Mesle expressed her appreciation to staff for their work on the reauthorization and to partners for their input and feedback.

XII. Director and Guest Comments Ann Mesle
Mr. Whitten asked members to put a placeholder on their calendar for December 15 for a combined board meeting/board and staff social from 2:30-5:00 p.m.

An appeal for continued support for reauthorization by attendees through their social media platforms and yard signs is encouraged appreciated.

XIII. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Sue Richter



Brian Kaberline, Secretary

Next Meeting:–November 17, 2022 - 2:30 p.m.