



Board of Directors Meeting

August 26, 2021

Members Present: Bill Griffin, Reggie William, Paul Schandel, Pam Masters, Jim Weite, Robin King, Myra Middleton, Dr. Gilbert Evans, Geri Westfall

Staff Present: Karin Flositz (CEO), Tara Thompson (Chief of Operations) Kristin Pandolfi (Chief of Administration), Danielle Antoine (Chief of Programs), Christina Remmert (Executive Assistant) Tiffany Edwards (CPA with James Moore)

Guests: Lori McCray (DCF Government Operations Consultant), Christy Gillis (DCF Circuit 7 Community Development Administrator) Dennis Miles (DCF Interim Regional Director)

	DISCUSSION	ACTION	ASSIGNED TO & DEADLINE
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order at 4:05pm by Bill Griffin.		
INTRODUCTIONS	Introductions were made and new guests were present. Dennis Miles was introduced as the DCF (Department of Children and Families) Interim Regional Director. He stated that he has enjoyed working with Karin during this time. Christy Gillis was introduced as the DCF Community Development Administrator for Circuit 7. Tara Thompson was introduced as the new Chief of Operations for CPC (Community Partnership for Children).		

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CONSENT ITEMS	<p>Bill moved to approve the July board meeting minutes, Pam seconded, ALL APPROVED.</p> <p>Bill moved to approved June/July HR reports, Reggie seconded, ALL APPROVED.</p>		
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT	<p>Tiffany asked to approve a change in CPC's (Community Partnership for Children) bank account signers. Kellie McKenzie who no longer works for CPC will be removed and Tara Thompson will be added.</p> <p>Robin asked who has the authority to sign checks.</p> <p>Tiffany replied that the CPC individuals who are able to sign the checks are; Karin, Kristin, Danielle, Tara, and Becky Symons (Contract Manager). The person requesting the check cannot sign it. She stated that there are also two James Moore employees authorized to sign emergency checks.</p> <p>Bill moved to approve this change in check signers, Pam and Dr. Evans seconded. ALL APPROVED.</p>		

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DISCUSSION ITEMS	<p>Tiffany reviewed a summary of the June financials. She stated that CPC ended the year with one item over budget, OHC (Out of Home Care). She stated that the CPC team has done an amazing job of getting kids out of group care and into traditional foster home care.</p> <p>Tiffany stated that DCF (Department of Children and Families) is waiting on two CBC's (Community Based Care) to turn in their June financials to complete the reconciliation part.</p> <p>Bill asked if CPC is receiving any Covid funding.</p> <p>Tiffany stated that CPC will receive different Covid stipends for kids in IL (Independent Living). CPC has been turning in Covid related expenses to DCF but hasn't received any reimbursement yet.</p> <p>Karin stated that CPC is teleworking at this time and restricting access to the office. CPC is working through kids testing positive and finding placement. Foster parents are concerned about taking kids who are testing positive. The team is working really hard to make sure kids are not in the office with no placement.</p>		

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	<p>Karin stated that the CPC management had an 8-hour oral report for the ITN with DCF on Tuesday. The new contract date is currently set for Sept. 22, 2021.</p> <p>Karin reviewed the contract performance report. CPC continues to be in the green for many measures, even during Covid. The rate of abuse while in foster care continues to stay in the green. The rate of children being seen every 30 days is in the green. Exiting foster care to permanency in 12 months is below goal but we are moving in the right directions. CPC has reunified 62% of kids in the last 12 months.</p> <p>Medical services are below goal, but families are catching up from Covid. Tara has put forth effort to get reach our Dental goal.</p> <p>Robin asked if these numbers are cumulative or stand alone.</p> <p>Karin replied both; exit and reentering are time lagged and delayed. Time measures for permanency within 12 months is June. Medical and Dental are real time.</p> <p>Dennis explained that two years ago the legislature passed an accountability bill and child welfare is being evaluated in each</p>		

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	<p>circuit individually from June 2021-June 2022. Every circuit in Florida will be given a child welfare rating and once this report is issued to the legislature it will be broadly seen.</p> <p>Dennis stated that there will be one child welfare rating for the circuit including the investigative side, the CBC and legal.</p> <p>This is a new accountability rating that will be used to create a very strong child welfare system in each circuit. If there is a tragedy, we are able to say this circuit is one of the best in the state, we are going to find out what went wrong and fix it.</p> <p>Dennis asked Karin to align these measures with the ones in the quality metric system to include on every board meeting report. There are eight measures related to the CBC's and this will ensure the board will keep an eye on those metrics.</p> <p>Dennis stated that he wanted the board to be aware of what is going on in the community and that it will be highly publicized.</p> <p>Bill asked if each of the three parts, CPI (investigative), CBC and legal will be measured, what can the board do for our part.</p>		

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	<p>Dennis replied to keep an eye on the permanency metric and well-being metric but that we need to work together to achieve success. If any one of the three components is struggling, it will affect all. He stated that the Board's biggest goal is the governance.</p> <p>Karin replied there has been two quality meetings and they've changed the format for the CBC's. She is proud to say CPC didn't have any issues that we needed to address.</p> <p>Bill thanked Dennis for giving the board this update and stated that this accountability rating gives us a chance to show our performance and diligence.</p> <p>Dennis replied that he really enjoyed his time here.</p> <p>Karin stated that CPC reduced the group home count significantly, 116 to 89 children moved from group home to residential care. CPC is also down to 1201 children in care from 1270. The agency has been very focused on getting kids out of the system with reunification of families and adoptions.</p>		

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	<p>Dr. Evans asked about the operation of the agency working remotely.</p> <p>Karin replied that CPC did revert back to a teleworking agreement. The agency started to see staff testing positive for Covid, and had concerns about staff wellness and having less people to manage the safety of the kids.</p> <p>Karin stated that CPC is not seeing the applicants for jobs, although Kristin is conducting interviews as much as possible. She stated that Robin can speak to this issue.</p> <p>Robin replied that the labor force has shrunk. There are 500,000 job openings statewide and 400,000 people on employment. 29 million of back rent is owed in Volusia county alone.</p> <p>Karin replied that every CBC is struggling, some are offering huge bonuses and CBC's from Florida's West Coast are advertising in our zip code.</p> <p>Dr. Evans asked if there is any traffic in the office right now.</p>		

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	<p>Karin replied that staff can come to the office with permission from a supervisor and we are keeping track of the traffic.</p> <p>Dr. Evans asked for the number of CPC employees.</p> <p>Kristin replied 176.</p> <p>Reggie asked if there has been any movement on the DJJ legislative.</p> <p>Karin replied that NTF (Neighbor to Family) stepped up to take two more emergency placements, as of Oct 1st that will give CPC two beds for boys. FUMCH (Florida United Methodist Children’s Home) intends to have 5 foster family homes on their campus with the right supports in place. Karin stated that she asked FUMCH if CPC could use one of their cottages to help kids who are Covid positive, and they have agreed. CPC would need a plan to help these kids, but they wouldn’t be in the office. Karin stated that there hasn’t been any Legislative movement but there is a DJJ pilot program to keep kids from lock out. All funded by DCF and she’ll have more information next board meeting from a landscape perspective.</p>		

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	<p>Reggie replied that from his past experience the lock out situation is where parent refuse to let their own child come home. It would require these parents to be responsible.</p> <p>Karin replied that we will keep pushing on for legislation that makes sense, and she is excited about the pilot program.</p> <p>Danielle stated that CPC just concluded the back-to-school drive, serving 200 kids. She stated that donations and requests were down due to Covid and there were many other community drives. CPC will start to focus on the Thanksgiving food and Holiday toy drive.</p> <p>Geri asked if she needed to assist with finding a warehouse for the toy drive.</p> <p>Danielle replied that we do need to secure a location and preferably a different one from last year with better access if possible.</p> <p>Geri replied that she will start making calls.</p> <p>Danielle stated that CPC did really well last year with serving 800 kids.</p>		

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BOARD COMMENT	<p>Myra stated that <i>A Christmas to Remember</i> will take place on Dec. 11th at the Flagler county fair- grounds. She stated that they will need to coordinate with CPC on the Flagler kids.</p> <p>Danielle replied that she will get with Tara to assist.</p> <p>Robin thanked Karin and the team that has been holding everything together for the last 17 months. She is glad to hear that CPC is working remotely. She asked to be mindful of mental wellness including leadership, to unplug and take time off to avoid getting burned out.</p> <p>Karin replied that she really appreciates Robin’s words and the support from the board.</p> <p>Geri asked Robin how many rents are delinquent.</p> <p>Robin replied there are 8,500 households with delinquent rent in Volusia County equaling 29MM.</p> <p>Reggie stated that he has decided to run for Mayor for the City of Deland.</p>		

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PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>Bill thanked Reggie for his willingness to step up and serve the community as always.</p> <p>Christy stated that this is her first CPC board meeting. She is here to help and support CPC in every way that she can.</p>		
ADJOURNMENT	<p>Bill adjourned the meeting at 5:25pm.</p>		