

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES SUMMARY
Approved: 3-19-07**

DATE: February 19; 2007 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Indian River County Administration Building, 1840 25th Street, Vero Beach, Florida, 32960, Conference Room A.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean Kline, Chairperson, Lou Aprile, Karen Deigl, Erin Grall, Kip Jacoby, Bob Johnson, Judy Jones, Gerry Lamothe, Roy Raymond.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Kanarek, Vern Melvin, P. Pritchett, Peter O'Bryan, BCC Liaison.

STAFF & GUESTS: Beverly O'Neill, Miranda Swanson, Brad Bernauer, and Marion Masterson

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: by Jean Kline, Chair; a quorum was present; Notice of Meeting was duly mailed and published.

INTRODUCTIONS: The Committee welcomed Erin Grall and Gerry Lamothe as new members. Gerry also serves on the Grant Review Subcommittee. Welcome Erin and Gerry.

MINUTES: Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of December 2006. (There was no meeting in January, 2007.)

**ON MOTION BY Bob Johnson, SECONDED BY Karen Deigl, the
Committee unanimously approved the Minutes of December 2006.**

NEEDS: Brad Bernauer reported for Karen Deigl. The Needs Assessment Subcommittee met on February 1, 2007 and reviewed the list of Strategies outlined in the Countywide Needs Assessment. The subcommittee reviewed the list, paying particular attention to the "tiers" of importance accompanying the Strategies. The subcommittee is currently reviewing the draft and will have a final draft for the Committee next month. Committee members discussed the issue of creating a "new gap" as a result of not funding current projects; and the scope of the Children's Services Advisory Committee being to fund projects focusing on primary and secondary prevention, rather than intervention. Needs Subcommittee will meet again March 1, 2007 to finalize the Focus Areas of Need List, and prepare a letter to the Grant Review Subcommittee concerning the new funding guidelines.

The Focus Areas of Need List is incorporated into the Indian River County portion of the RFP. The RFP will be before the Children's Services Advisory Committee next meeting for approval, and will be before the Board of County Commissioners for approval on April 3rd.

GRANT: Grant Review Subcommittee met on February 5, 2006. The dates for the annual grant review will be June 8 and 9th. The RFP Timeline is attached.

Two agencies presented to the subcommittee, Dasie Hope and Samaritan Center.

Dasie Hope: This program is designed to help educate and ensure the safety of youngsters who normally would have to stay unsupervised in their homes after school, or throughout the day, because their parents are working and childcare is unavailable. Numerous activities and after school tutoring has provided positive changes in attitudes and school academic performance. There is no fee for joining Dasie Hope, but parents must enroll the child, allow access to the child's report card, meet once a month, and donate an hour a month to the center.

Dasie Hope is continuing to expand and needs more space. In the 2005-2006 funding year Dasie Hope Program served 88 children and has 98 children attending as of today. Two new portable classrooms will be delivered to the center in April, adding 2,000 square feet to the center. (They are purchased with funds other than Children's Services Advisory Committee funds).

Samaritan Center: Samaritan Center is a transitional housing facility open to homeless families with staff available 24 hours a day. The (up to) two-year program includes instruction in life skills, positive parenting, budget and money management, conflict resolution, anger management, employable skills training/computer skills training, and more. The Children's Services Advisory Committee funds the children's portion of the program to assist these children who are traumatized by their status as homeless. The curriculum includes: self-esteem, anger management, positive problem solving, homework assistance, and subjects tailored to the age of the child. The center has created an E-Bay Sales Website of donated items; for the purpose of training residents in computer skills, while raising additional funds. Lou Aprile noted that Samaritan Center has nine bedrooms, so space is limited for this successful, long-term program. A number of the former residents now own habitat homes and are self-sufficient.

Grant Review Subcommittee's next meeting is Monday, March 5, 07, 5:30 P.M. Presenters will be: GYAC and Boys & Girls Clubs, at 6:00 P.M.

ALLIANCE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST: The Board of County Commissioners appointed Brad Bernauer, IRC Human Services and Leslie Spurlock, IRC Healthy Start as members of the Alliance. The current members are: Bill Brunner, Under-sheriff, IRC Sheriff's Office, Michael Kint, Indian River County United Way and Beverly O'Neill.

The Shared Services Alliance of Okeechobee & The Treasure Coast was formed in 2003, with a mission to provide the opportunity for all children to reach their full potential. One of the major purposes of the Alliance is to encourage joint planning for local resources. The Alliance is a forum through which services for children mandated and funded by the State and Federal government are planned, organized and coordinated. By-Laws state that there shall be five representatives of each county.

FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS: The committee discussed the issue of the additional \$20,000 expense of forensic examinations of children who are suspected of being abused. This is an obligation of the county by Florida State Statute, 39.304, that holds the respective county financially responsible for the initial cost of the forensic medical evaluation on a child, who is suspected of being abused or neglected. This is billed through the Children's Home Society. The committee discussed the possibility of this expense being listed as a "line item" in next year's budget; and/or billing the parent for the services.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Brad Bernauer reported that the Board of County Commissioners approved the Year End Monitoring Report and Annual Report for 2005-06. Brad is also continuing the impromptu monitoring of the programs funded this year; and it has been a primarily positive experience. Any member who would like to monitor can contact him (226-1467).

IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE: Some responses to an introductory letter have been received from individuals interested in serving on the Implementation Committee. Brad Bernauer will continue to contact potential members. The purpose of the Implementation Committee is to facilitate solutions to the community-wide areas of need specified by the countywide needs assessment. It should be noted that this committee would be addressing issues for all ages of individuals living in Indian River County.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCILS IN OTHER COUNTIES. Brad Bernauer has contacted other Children's Services Councils to inquire about their individual organizations. He distributed a synopsis of this research to the Committee for their review and comment in the future. He related that there is a wide variety of budgets, scope of services they deliver, or whether or not they are

indent/non independent taxing districts. There is also a Children's Services Council that has hired a lobbyist to raise awareness about children's issues.

CHAIR'S REPORT - RESIGNATION OF CHAIR. Jean Kline is resigning her position as Chair of the Children's Services Advisory Committee as of this meeting. She has accepted a position as one of five Deputy Secretaries of Health of the State of Florida; and will be moving to Tallahassee. She has informed the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, who will be appointing her successor as Chairperson of the Children's Services Advisory Committee. Miranda Swanson will be on the committee as an ex-officio representative of the Health Department. She was presented with a plaque by the members, along with their best wishes for her success in her new job. Many thanks to Jean Kline to her services to Indian River County.

The Chair adjourned the meeting and reminded the committee that the next meeting will be held on Monday, **March 19, 2007 6:00 p.m.** in Conference Room A.

Meeting Adjourned

TIMELINE FOR RFP 2007043

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| MARCH 8, 2007 | NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE COMPLETE THE FOCUS AREAS OF NEEDS LIST |
| MARCH 19, 2007 | CSAC APPROVES RFP AND FOCUS AREAS OF NEED |
| APRIL 3, 2007 | BCC APPROVES RFP 2007043 |
| APRIL 6, 2007 | RFP MAILED/RELEASED BY PURCHASING |
| APRIL 13, 2007 | ORIENTATION MEETING FOR APPLICANTS |
| MAY 8, 2007 | DUE DATE FOR RFP RETURN TO PURCHASING |
| MAY 14, 2007 | RFP DELIVERED TO GRANT REVIEW MEMBERS |
| JUNE 8 & 9, 2007 | GRANT REVIEW MEETING |
| JUNE 18, 2007 | CSAC MEETS TO APPROVE/DISAPPROVE FUNDING |

