



# **Children's Cabinet Advisory Board Meeting**

## **Meeting Minutes-April 12, 2016**

### **Claiborne Building, Room 1-136-A**

#### **Greetings & Introductions**

Dr. James Gilmore, Children's Cabinet Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 10:00am and asked everyone to introduce themselves. The following information was disseminated to the members: a. the minutes and a list of the attendees/contact information from the last advisory meeting which was held on March 8, 2016, b. a list of potential advisory board appointees and c. a list of bills that are being tracked by the Children's Cabinet.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Dr. Gilmore indicated that he was excited of the many who have been engaged in the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board over the past few years, and that he was appreciative of the knowledge and expertise in the room to support an agenda to move children forward in Louisiana. He encouraged the attendees to network and share contact information.

##### **a. Kid Dashboard**

Dr. Gilmore advised that in 2011, the Kid Dashboard was created to track indicators related to children. He informed the attendees that it had not been updated in a while, and since the board agreed at last month's meeting the site was still very important, Dr. Gilmore encouraged the group to visit the Kids Dashboard, and provide recommendations for updating or improving the dashboard. Dr. Gilmore informed attendees that the Kids Dashboard was maintained by a group at ULL (University of Louisiana Lafayette) who are contracted through DHH. He advised that the group is eager to work with them to improve the Dashboard. Dr. Gilmore thanked Teresa Falgoust of Kids

Count, Dr. Dana Hunter and Sherry Guarisco for agreeing to serve on the Kids Dashboard Upgrade Committee. The three volunteered to be the coordinating committee for the Kid Dashboard to help identify anything that needs to be changed and additional indicators that may need to be included. He advised that the Kids Dashboard will be updated quarterly. The next action item is to connect with state agency contacts to identify who is DHH, DCFS, DOA or any department contact for providing that data.

**b. HCR 12**

Childhood addiction to pornography study was created in 2011. Jessica Braun with Louisiana State Law Institute indicated that she heard about the energy of the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board and she wants a volunteer to from Advisory Board to serve on the committee to study childhood addiction to pornography. Jesse Hartley volunteered to serve as the representative from the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board. This study group will meet monthly or quarterly.

**c. Advisory Board Membership**

Dr. Gilmore advised that the Boards and Commissions Director asked that he populate a spreadsheet with those to fill positions on the Advisory Board. Dr. Gilmore asked requested the Advisory review the spreadsheet and fill in any blanks.

The Floor was opened for comments and questions:

The representative for the Children's Advocacy Center of Louisiana advised that her name was not on the list.

Another attendee asked about the after school networks serving on the Board. Dr. Gilmore stated that he would recommend an appointee.

Appointments from DHH: Another attendee stated that the leadership at DHH was being careful to identify appointees that would best fit the board.

Dr. Gilmore also advised that he is reaching out to Sue Ketchins, related to school base healthcare.

Dr. Gilmore advised that the names listed on the spreadsheet meant these individual completed the online application. Background checks were being completed, as required. If their names were not on the list and they wished to be considered a member, applicants had to complete the online application

**d. Governor's Office Legislative Support Membership**

Dr. Gilmore reviewed the Bill Tracking Report and asked members to email him if there were additional bills that would like for him to track/report or a bill they believed the Governor's Office should support, oppose, or have a more engaged conversation about.

He highlighted the following bills:

HB97- Being supported

HB197- Creates crime of failure to properly operate child day care center

HB229- Expands juvenile court and jurisdiction delinquency case to include 17 year olds

HB283- Screening of newborns for Krabbe disease

HB302- Requires an evaluation for each child entering kindergarten or 6<sup>th</sup> grade

HB361- Provides penalties for persons operating early learning center without valid license

HB372- provides relative to students discipline (has governor's support)

HB397- Provides relative for equal pay for women

HB475- Provides for the organization of the Dept. of Children and Family services

HB482- Creates a task force to recommend means by which the state may better facilitate permanency for foster children

HB545- Prohibits discrimination and employment of domestic abuse dating/family violence

HB753- Provide prospective taxes in poles in Orleans Parish for support of early childhood programs

HB833- Provide relative to student discipline, including creation of the commission on state support of discipline (DOE and Governor's Office supporting – decreases the suspension and expulsion across the State of La.)

HB906 Governor and DCFS Secretary supporting

SB70- Prohibit sex offenders for soliciting door to door business

SB212-Requires employers to give workers paid sick leave

SB301 – Has pass committee and our office supports

SB302- Create Safe return act of 2016

SB303- Provides for educational programs in juvenile justice facilities

SB313- Provides relative to the council on the status of grandparents raising grandchildren (the council already exists and many of the members are also members of the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board. DCFS suggested that the Grandparent's Committee be brought up under the C.C. Advisory Board)

SB324- "Raise the age" bill (17 under juvenile justice jurisdiction) 6 or 7 million dollars will be needed to be able to house another age group of juveniles into our Juvenile Justice System. Therefore, the plan is to plan a full implantation by 2020. The committee, under this bill, will be under the Juvenile Justice Commission with Dr. Gilmore serving as a member (He stated that the Governor was passionate about this bill).

The Floor was opened for comments and questions:

What is the cost offset from the adult prison? Dr. Gilmore responded that the fiscal note identifies costs which are around 6 to 7 million dollars, but fiscal note did not include the savings from youth being placed in the Adult Correctional System. An attendee responded that the savings are long term and comes from keeping the kids from getting into the adult system, being

that it costs a lot more for the supervision of juveniles than adults in criminal justice system.

Also, SB 326 & SB 397 is being tracked.

HB283-screening for newborns: An attendee stated that the labs that have these screenings do not exist in Louisiana, so we would have to contract outside the state. New York State puts this screening in place and we should look broadly before we support it.

**e. Bayou Health Transition Update**

Darrell Montgomery, a social worker with Medicaid for 18 years, presented information on the Bayou Health transition. Mr. Montgomery will provide a copy of his presentation. Also, he provided his contact information as [bayouhealth@la.gov](mailto:bayouhealth@la.gov)

Questions Asked during his presentation:

Is there a need to send kids out of state for psychiatric services?

Answer: Mr. Montgomery stated that this is very rare to have to send a child out of state for psychiatric residential treatment level of care, only if the provider meets the best needs of a child.

Dr. Gilmore discussed the human trafficking bill: SB397 creates a license for a safe haven that is on the verge of being created, for those who have survived human trafficking. An attendee commented on the importance of those working in the facility be properly trained and stated that LaCAP La. offers training.

Dr. Gilmore advised that he will be heavily engaged in childcare licensing policy over the next few weeks and if anyone was interested in licensing process and procedures to let him know.

He also informed that the Governor issued an executive order that will create an interagency council for homelessness which impacts children and if anyone is interested to notify him.

## **Alice Report**

Sarah Berthelot, President/CEO of Louisiana Association of United Ways, presented some information from the ALICE Report and a copy of the report was given to each person in attendance.

Ms. Berthelot would like to be informed of how those are benefiting from the ALICE Report.

Dr. Gilmore welcomed Marsha Shuler with DOA, who was appointed to support the Advisory Board in matters related to the Children's Budget.

No Public Comments: Meeting Adjourned.