Children’s Cabinet Advisory Board (CCAB)

Regular Meeting

Tuesday June 10th, 2014

Unapproved Minutes

**Welcome and Introduction of Members:**

Alexandra Hazlaris (Louisiana Children’s Advocacy Center), Rochelle Dunham (DHH, OBH), Lindsey Usry (Institute of Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health at Tulane University), George Murray (Louisiana Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges), James Sprinkle (Families Helping Families), Jennifer Karle (Louisiana Association of Childcare Agencies), John Wyble (Louisiana Court-Appointed Special Advocate Association), Kahree Wahid (State Head Start Collaboration Project), Lynette Celestin (FINS) Dr. Kris Kaliebe (Louisiana Council of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry), Cindy Ramagos (Department of Education), Ashley Politz (LA Chapter: American Academy of Pediatrics)

Interested Parties: Lenell Young (LAPEN), Allison Prevost (OLOL Peds Residency), Jasmine Williams (FINS 23rd JDC), Connie Thai (CACLA Vista), Stacie Suffrin (DHH-BHSF), Thomas Thompson (DHH-OS), Nasha Patel (LDE-ECE), Brenda Sharp (DHH-DCDD), Danny Bosch

Quorum was secured

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve April 8 and May 13th minutes was made by George Murray, seconded by Cindy Ramagos and approved by all.

**Action Items:**

Strategic Plan Review:

As part of our plan to communicate and collaborate better, we have organized binders for everyone that contain the strategic plan, vision, mission and the CCAB One-Pagers that contain the contact information, background, and the indicators addressed from each member so that everyone has all the information available in one place. Christie asked that everyone please use this resource as much as possible. She also mentioned that she received a call from Judge Lauren Lemon from St. Charles Parish who was impressed with the strategic plan and is looking into restructuring the Youth Planning Board in her parish and would like to collaborate with us.

**Action Items:**

Legislative Session Updates:

Rep. Harrison’s bill which would have combined DHH and DCFS was defeated in the Senate Health and Welfare Committee.

There are a handful of bills based on Erin’s law that were worked through the session this year. In particular, SCR 69 creates a statewide task force called the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, within the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Louisiana Children’s Cabinet was named to that taskforce as well. We should expect to see that taskforce formed between October and January. Another bill was HB 733 by Katrina Jackson addressing prevention education in the schools where they took out reference to “sexual abuse” and replaced it with the term “child assault.”

The Children’s Cabinet authorization was extended until 2018.

Guest Melanie Bronfin made a statement regarding the Early Childhood Education Bills, commenting there were three from the Department of Education that were passed. One was an authorization or reconfirmation of the LA-4 bill, the Early Childhood Pre-K program in schools. Melanie explained it is a premier program that has been around for many years with full day care and certified teachers. The original statute that was passed years ago had all of the quality components in the statue itself and the new/reenacted bill was not going to have all of those statutes. Melanie reported that they were able to make sure that the quality components from the original LA-4 bill were included in the statute of the new/reenacted bill.

**Public Comments:**

On the radar: October 28th-30th is the Together We Can Conference which will be building on the Summit for Child Well-Being.

**Adjournment:** Meeting Adjourned