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Success By 6 (SB6) Leadership Council (LC) Meeting Minutes

Date: January 15, 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: 3304 SE Lake Weir Avenue, Suite 2, Ocala

MEMBERS PRESENT

Angie Lewis, Brandi Cooney, Bruce Seaman, Chris Sandy, Nancy Young (Manager of the Children's Division at the Marion County Public Library) for Julie Sieg, Tom Dewey (Vice Chair) via conference call, Toni James, Troy Strawder

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dr. Nate Grossman, Dyer Michell, Jane Fontaine, Representative Kurt Kelly

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Roseann Fricks (Executive Director), Geraldine Lochren (SB6 Coordinator), Elizabeth Moore (Operations Director), Anita Winter (Community Resource Manager), Tee Rosario (Support Services Director)

OTHER ATTENDEES

Maureen Quinlan (President of United Way of Marion County, Inc. (UWMC))

Introduction

Nancy Young introduced herself to the Leadership Council.

CALL TO ORDER

Tom Dewey called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Tee Rosario announced the meeting had been properly noticed. She called roll and a quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Toni James moved and Bruce Seaman seconded the approval of the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda included: SB6 Leadership Council Meeting Minutes from November 20, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

ELCMC/UW agreement for SB6 FY 2010-2013

Requested approval of the proposed ELCMC/UWMC three-year agreement for the SB6 Initiative, FYs 2010-2013. An ad hoc committee was created which included four members of the SB6 Leadership Council to discuss and draft a revised agreement for SB6 for FYs 2010-2013. This draft is a three-year agreement to be reviewed on an annual basis, as needed. The current agreement ends June 30, 2010. The proposed draft of ELCMC/UWMC three-year agreement for SB6 was included for review. Discussion on the floor. The Leadership Council recommended the following change to the agreement on page 2 noted in strikethrough and underlined:

4. An annual budget for each year 2010-2013 will be developed based on the goals, objectives, mission and vision of Success By 6® and will include adequate funding for at least one full time professional staff member. ...The budget will then be presented to the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, Inc., which will have final approval of all budgetary matters (however, any changes in total financial support required by The United Way of Marion County, Inc. will require re-approval by the United Way of Marion County, Inc. Board of Directors). The Early Learning Coalition of Marion County will invoice United Way of Marion County, Inc. ~~in July of each year~~ for said funds to be paid in equal installments.

Toni James moved and Bruce Seaman seconded the approval as amended as stated above. The motion carried unanimously.

The draft agreement will be presented at the February 2010 UWMC Executive Committee.

Next Powerful Parenting Targeted Area

Requested selection and approval of targeted area for Powerful Parenting Series January through June 2010.

A final report regarding Powerful Parenting Series July through December 2009 was included in the packet for review. Kindergarten Readiness Scores for Fall 2009 were presented to the Leadership Council for discussion as well. The past three Powerful Parenting Series have been held in Marion Oaks, the northeast side of Ocala at Eagle Medical and centrally located at the Marion County Public Library headquarters in Ocala. Staff at ELCMC and SB6 are recommending that the next parenting series be held in an outreach location to target a specific at-risk community to maximize outcomes for at-risk children. The Kindergarten Readiness scores for Fall 2009 were provided as a handout.

Discussion on the floor. Chris Sandy discussed information on the ECHOS (Early Childhood Observation System) and FAIR (Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading) assessment results for Fall 2009.

Brandi Cooney moved and Chris Sandy seconded the approval as stated above. The motion included to hold two or three classes in the north area of the county to determine what type of response/attendance is received before committing to a location. Staff to determine a meeting location. The motion carried unanimously.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Geraldine Lochren highlighted the Strategic Plan update. The Strategic Plan was included for review.

- Heart of Florida Health Center children's services are promoting and will refer families as appropriate to ELCMC and SB6. Many agencies came and spoke to parents at the last parenting seminar on Utilizing Community Resources. Agencies included: Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, Childhood Development Services, Inc., Domestic Violence/Rape Crisis Shelter, Heart of Florida Health Center, and Department of Children and Families. Several business and community locations participated in collecting and donating pajamas, children's books and other miscellaneous items to SB6 2nd Annual Pajamas and Books for Bedtime. Kids Central Inc. continues to provide space to hold the Caring Through Cribs parent trainings. Kids Central Inc. also provides space to store the cribs and other supplies for the program.

- In addition, two RFP were completed and submitted to UWMC: one for Caring Through Cribs in the amount of \$56,223 and the second for Imagination Library in the amount of \$43,520. SB6 is meeting with the UWMC Allocations Committee in February 2010 for the committee to have the opportunity to ask Geraldine Lochren questions regarding the two RFP submitted.

Geraldine Lochren will email the date and time of the presentation to the Allocations Committee at UWMC to the Leadership Council to determine their availability to attend.

- A new follow-up evaluation for Powerful Parenting participants is being introduced and was included in the Leadership Council packet. At the November 2009 Leadership Council meeting, Toni James suggested that SB6 follow-up with parents/caregivers that completed the Powerful Parenting Series six months after completion the Series. This is to determine if they continue to utilize resources learned and/or materials received. Geraldine Lochren discussed the form in detail. Geraldine Lochren suggested that feedback regarding the form be emailed to her.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Zero to Three

At the last Leadership Council meeting, Dr. Grossman requested that the Leadership Council members and staff pitch one or more ideas on how SB6 may affect pre natal or very early childhood activities to present at today's meeting. Discussion on the floor:

- o Geraldine Lochren will be visiting the Barnes & Noble store to look at book options for parents/caregivers targeting early learning birth to age three.
- o Geraldine Lochren suggested giving it to parents/caregivers that attend the Powerful Parenting Series. Also to have it available at the ELCMC office in the event parents/caregivers request resource information.
- o The specific parenting book can be part of the incentive packet given to parents/caregivers that attend the Powerful Parenting Series.
- o Toni James suggested that the Powerful Parenting Series be advertised/presented to reach all parents/caregivers not just low income parents/caregivers.
- o Chris Sandy offered to include zero to three information in the Marion County Public Schools monthly newsletter with a target date of August 2010.
- o Troy Strawder suggested that SB6 partner with the newspaper to include zero to three information.
- o Maureen Quinlan discussed that UWMC can dedicate another half page ad to SB6 to include zero to three information.
- o Nancy Young discussed the following:
 - o Currently the Marion County Public Library offers story times, Born to Read, Every Child Ready to Read and Baby Talk early literacy programs.
 - o Approximately 3,000 Born to Read bags are distributed annually at Munroe Regional Medical Center to new parents. The program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

- The Marion County Public Library is writing a grant for a potential \$80,000 to develop additional early literacy programs in targeted areas in Marion County.
- The Marion County Public Library is going to begin offering parenting classes using resources from the Baby Talk newsletter/program.
- Maureen Quinlan suggested that Geraldine Lochren research the United Way World Wide website for additional information on the Born to Learn program. Geraldine Lochren will review the website again for information.
- Angie Lewis suggested that Geraldine Lochren coordinate with the Marion County Pubic Library for the same programs.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Powerful Parenting Series (July through Dec.) Results

- The evaluation result for the last class of the last Powerful Parenting Series was included for review. The class was held on December 9, 2009 with 21 participants attending. The topic was Utilizing Community Resources.
- The breakdown of participants by zip code and the number of seminars attended of the Powerful Parenting Series from July through December 2009 was included for review. There were 89 participants that attended the Series. Several participants attended three or less seminars and several attended four or more seminars.
- With the new Powerful Parenting Series from January 2010 through June 2010, Geraldine Lochren will require participants to attend four or more seminars in order to be eligible to receive incentive packets. Children's books will continue to be distributed at every class to parents for each of their children.
- The press release from UWMC was included for review. The press release announces the non-profit programs in Marion County that were awarded grants from the Endowment Fund. SB6 was awarded \$6,250 to be used for the upcoming Powerful Parenting Series.
- Geraldine Lochren is looking for speakers for the upcoming Powerful Parenting Series.

2nd Annual Pajamas and Books for Bedtime

- The pajama and book drive was a success. The flyer in the packet included donors of the drive. The top three winners of the drive were: Ocala Civic Theatre, the Marion County Public Library employees and patrons, and the Storm and Chris –WTKM morning radio show. There were 2,818 pajamas and 3,222 children's books donated for children and teens residing in shelters, group homes, and low income homes in Marion County. Approximately 1,400 pajamas were collected last year.
- Over ten volunteers assisted with sorting the pajamas and children's books.
- A press release dated December 21, 2009 regarding the drive from Anita Winter, ELCMC Community Resource Manager, was included for review.
- SB6 coordinated with Children's Medical Services to hold a holiday party at Arnette House, Inc. The party was held on December 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Over 40 children and teens attended the party. WOCA radio station staff attended the holiday party and sang holiday songs and karaoke was also available for the children. Cookies and hot chocolate was provided. Pajamas, books and slippers were distributed at that time as well.

Coalition Update

ELCMC Website

Anita Winter reported on the new ELCMC website. The website has information in English and Spanish. There is more flexibility to manipulate the website. The previous website was completely funded by AWI. The current website is funded with unrestricted funds. Feedback on the website was encouraged. Start up funds for the website were approximately \$5,000; monthly hosting cost is \$25.

Waitlist for School Readiness Services

ELCMC was successful in removing the children off the wait list for school readiness services in December 2009. The wait list (67 children) for school readiness services as of December 29, 2009 was included for review. As of today, January 15, 2010 there are approximately 100 children on the wait list.

ELCMC obtained the required match funds for school readiness services for FY 2009 – 2010 early in the FY.

Provider Training Update Report

The Provider Training Update summary from July 2009 to December 2009 was included for review. Elizabeth Moore discussed in detail. Seven trainings have been offered for the first half of FY 2009 - 2010, 142 teachers/directors (duplicated) have attended the trainings with 100% positive evaluation outcome.

Provider Task Force Committee

The Committee is comprised of child care providers. They meet monthly and discuss early childhood topics including their needs.

The next Provider Task Force Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, January 19th at 5:30 p.m. at the ELCMC office. Chris Sandy and Michelle Kernan from the Marion County School System will attend the next Provider Task

Force meeting to help bridge the gap between VPK/early learning and kindergarten. The Leadership Council is welcome to attend.

Child Care Resource and Referral service (CCR&R)

At the Leadership Council’s request, Elizabeth Moore will be discussing one ELCMC program per Leadership Council meeting.

- o CCR&R is a national database that links to each state and then to each county. ELCMC currently contracts with Childhood Development Services, Inc. to provide the local CCR&R service. The CCR&R database includes every legally operating child care provider in Marion County. The database is updated once a year. Child care providers submit their contact/service information to Childhood Development Services, Inc. to be included in the database. Information is sent to parents/caregivers upon request with the specific services from child care providers that they are seeking, ex. that they offer sign language or 24 hour child care services.

Request For Proposal for Early Learning Services FY 2010-2011

Early Learning Coalitions are required by Florida Statute to release an RFP for services every three years. ELCMC has contracted with Childhood Development Services, Inc. for six years.

The RFP for SRS and VPK services was released on January 4, 2010 in accordance with the RFP Timeline. The RFP was separated into categories including IT services.

ELCMC’s independent audit for FYE June 2009

Roseann Fricks discussed the results of ELCMC’s independent audit for FYE June 2009. The Board approved the independent audit at the December 2009 meeting. There were no findings. ELCMC received a clean unqualified audit. The independent audit report is available upon request.

ELCMC Board Membership

Part of the state mandate for Board membership through legislation is that a county commissioner or appointee be on the ELCMC Board of Directors. Previously, Commissioner Barbara Fitos held a term on the ELCMC Board. Effective October 1, 2009, Commissioner Jim Payton has been appointed to the ELCMC Board.

CCEP (Child Care Executive Partnership) Update

ELCMC has received an additional \$18,300 for the CCEP program. The CCEP program works with employers who have child care as a benefit and provides a dollar for dollar match. Currently the businesses participating in the CCEP program include child care providers and a bank.

Media

The following media were included for review:

- Ocala Star Banner article dated December 2, 2009 entitled Wanted: Warm pajamas for the children of the homeless
- Let’s Get Connected newsletter dated December 1, 2009

OTHER BUSINESS

- o Information on the Annual Kindergarten Readiness Scores was distributed and discussed by Roseann Fricks.
 - o Overall Marion County is doing well with preparing children for success.
- o Maureen Quinlan distributed gift certificates/posters for free tax preparation to be distributed to the community. There are 14 certified IRS tax preparers ready to assist individuals in completing their taxes.
- o Toni James announced that the Public Policy Institute is starting to embark on their second Quality of Life study (conducted every five years). One of the components is a section on education - readiness for kindergarten. Judi Zanetti is chairing this section. Roseann Fricks will contact Judi Zanetti to offer any resources needed from ELCMC/SB6.
- o The 211 service has begun in Marion County. The kick off is set for February 11th. From December 28th through January 11th, 2-1-1 received 600 calls for referrals to local services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Adjournment

Troy Strawder moved and Chris Sandy seconded the approval to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Note taker: Tee Rosario

Approved By

(signature on file)	3/19/10
Signature	Date