

THE COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S RESOURCE BOARD  
OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
April 25, 2022

**Meeting Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

**Roll Call and Guests:**

Present: Paul Boschert, Molly Dempsey, Ken Dobbins, Cory Elliott, Pastor Raymond Horry, Larry Marty, Matt Pirtle, Nancy Schneider, and Catherine Williams

Staff: Bruce Sowatsky, Michelle McElfresh, and Jeanne Spencer

Guests: Gabrielle Grundy-Lester (Behavioral Health Response), Jacquelynne McClelland (Boys & Girls Club), Julie Seymore (The Child Advocacy Center of Northeastern Missouri), Barb Griffith, Kristen Huggins, and Sheri Wiltse (Community Living, Inc.), Katrina McDonald Fuller (Compass Health Network), DiAnne Mueller (Crisis Nursery), Paula Ellis and Stephanie Klopfer (Epworth Children & Family Services), Rachel Svejkosky (Family Advocacy & Community Training – F.A.C.T.), Anne Zink (Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition), Rhonda Liming (Gateway Human Trafficking), Courtney Knipp (Lutheran Family & Children's Services), Tina Meier (Megan Meier Foundation), Angela Berra and Kyle Dooley (NAMI St. Louis), Denise Fondren and Rachel Young (Our Lady's Inn), Kelly Broeker and Megan Payton (Preferred Family Healthcare), Saundra Barker (Saint Louis Counseling), Katie Roam and Rebecca Ingle (The Sparrow's Nest), Tracy Williams (Thrive St. Louis), and Cara Merritt (Youth In Need)

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the March 28, 2022 Board Minutes. (M.S.P.: Boschert/Marty) – Motion passed.

**Partner Presentation:**

- **Community Living, Inc.:** Sheri Wiltse presented an overview of the respite services available to St. Charles County youth and their families. Sheri reported the program continues to be affected by a staffing shortage and they have increased recruitment efforts. She also shared the respite services are available to families an average of three weekends each month.
- **NAMI St. Louis:** Angela Berra, Director of Programs, and Kyle Dooley, Director of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Community Policing Programs, presented overviews of the programs funded by the CCRB for St. Charles County youth, caregivers, and professionals. Angela reported staff have given seventy Ending the Silence presentations to high school students and community members since January. They are seeing an increased demand for this program throughout their service region. Kyle reported the CIT program consistently trains 100-200 law enforcement officers in mental health de-escalation techniques annually. Kyle shared approximately 23% of law enforcement calls in St. Charles County are from youth under 19 years old.

**Public Comment:** No Public Comment.

**Report of the Chair:** No Report of the Chair.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Cory Elliott gave the Report of the Treasurer and reported on the financial statement ending March 31, 2022. The following balances were reported:

<b>Balance</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget for Month</b>
Services Fund	\$4,465,257.20	
Current Assets	\$6,244,930.33	
Actual tax revenues	\$778,228.27	\$775,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$95.00	\$50.00
Total Revenue	\$778,323.27	\$774,550.00
Services Requests	\$803,345.68	\$921,152.74

Explanations of the 31 line items that were over the 5% variance and over \$1,000 included: The Child Advocacy Center (counseling), Community Council of St. Charles County (Coordinated Entry), Compass Health Network (PWF care coordination), Crisis Nursery (home-based), Eleventh Circuit Family Court (Supervised Visitation), FamilyForward (counseling), Gateway Human Trafficking (presentations and program specialist), Lutheran Family and Children's Services (counseling), Megan Meier Foundation (Counseling – counseling-individual), Our Lady's Inn (teen parents), Preferred Family Healthcare (Outpatient Substance Use Treatment – assessments, drug tests, and group counseling), UMSL Center for Behavioral Health (psychological assessments) and Youth In Need (Counseling - counseling-student) were due to high demand. CHADS Coalition for Mental Health (prevention and mentoring), The Child Advocacy Center (prevention), Compass Health Network (Pinocchio-group and -individual, Prevention, and School-based Mental Health Specialists), Megan Meier Foundation (Counseling-group), NAMI St. Louis (Prevention and CIT), Saint Louis Counseling (crisis interventions), Thrive St. Louis (prevention), United Services for Children (behavioral services and specialized classrooms), and Youth In Need (counseling-student) were over the variance due to school-based usage.

A motion was made to approve a wire-transfer for \$803,400.00 for the month of March. (M.S.P.: Elliott/Dempsey) – Motion passed.

All CCRB invoices and bills paid were completed with 100% accuracy.

**Report of Standing Committees:**

- Finance: No Finance report.
- Personnel: No Personnel report.
- Executive – Policies and Procedures: Nancy Schneider reported Matt Pirtle has agreed to serve on the Executive – Policies and Procedures committee.

**Report of Executive Director:** Bruce Sowatsky reported:

- Michelle McElfresh presented on the 2021 Year-End Clinical Outcomes reports for CCRB-funded programs. A copy of the reports was previously emailed to the Board. There were 50 out of 52 agencies who reported on one or more clinical outcome goal this reporting period. Six agencies and fifteen goals were not reported on during this reporting period because agencies already reported on client progress in the mid-year

report and/or did not have any clients who had the goals during this reporting period. Overall, the fifty CCRB-funded programs achieved 91.3% (158 out of 173 goals met) of their clinical outcome goals in 2021. In addition, Michelle reported on 2021 racial and gender data reported on by agency partners. The data indicates the percentage of children receiving services through CCRB funding for each race category is higher than their percentage of the St. Charles County population recorded in the 2020 United States Census data for all races except for Asian.

- The CCRB 2021 Annual Report is complete, and a digital copy will be emailed to the agency partners. Printed copies are available upon request and on the CCRB website.
- Bruce conducted interviews with the public school district Superintendents about the students' mental health needs. Results will be shared in New Business.
- Staff have been working on drafts of the 2023 Concept Paper and Application for Funding – New Programs. This will be discussed further in New Business.
- Work on the new CCRB website has been going well and it should be published in May.
- The CCRB staff began spring site audits.
- Bruce participated in strategic plan sessions with the Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Charles County and with United Services for Children.
- Bruce recommended the Board form an Ad Hoc Technology Committee to review proposals for the new grants management database software. Board members should contact Bruce or Nancy if interested in serving on the committee.
- Bruce began working on the 2022 Needs Assessment which should be complete in August.
- Bruce met with five agencies interested in applying for 2023 new program funding.

**Old Business:** No Old Business.

**New Business:**

- **2023 Application Process:** Bruce reported the staff would like to add a Concept Paper step to the 2023 application process for new programs. The Board was surveyed, and the Concept Papers will be reviewed by staff. Eligible programs will be invited to complete the full application process. The Board will make final funding decisions. Ken Dobbins suggested a change to the Concept Paper in the question soliciting program delivery history.

A motion was made to approve adding a Concept Paper to the 2023 application process once the suggested change to the content is made. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Elliott) – Motion passed.

- **ARPA Funding Discussion:** Bruce met with the County Executive's office, and they are still working on the final American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) contract. ARPA funds will be kept at the county in a separate account and payments will be handled in the same process as the CCRB's current system with tax dollars. Bruce reported the agency partner and Board survey results indicate a priority to use funds in this order:
  1. Grants to assist agencies who lost funding during the pandemic
  2. Capital projects to improve service delivery
  3. Programs for youth negatively affected by the pandemic

Bruce reported the results from the school district interviews indicate the following increased instances with students and staff:

1. Truancy
2. Re-acclimation to school from remote learning
3. Disciplinary problems
4. Suspensions
5. Suicidal ideation
6. Depression and Anxiety
7. Staff to manage mental health and disciplinary needs
8. Social-Emotional programming
9. School-based counseling
10. Parent resources and support groups
11. Trauma-training for staff

Bruce requested the Board submit any additional feedback at their earliest opportunity so the process for granting funds can be finalized.

**Announcements:**

Angela Berra, NAMI St. Louis, announced the 20th Annual NAMI Walks Your Way St. Louis at Creve Couer Park on May 14 and Mental Health Awareness night with the St. Louis Cardinals on May 26, which has almost sold out. Both events are family friendly and will feature activities to increase awareness about mental health.

DiAnne Mueller, Saint Louis Crisis Nursery, announced their free professional conference on April 29 which will feature topics such as diversity, equity, and inclusion and resilience.

Jacquelynne McClelland, Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Charles County, announced:

- The gala on April 2 exceeded their fundraising goals
- The annual Athena Leadership Foundation Summit and Luncheon will recognize Bruce Sowatsky, Sheri Wiltse (Community Living, Inc.), and Amy Robins (The Child Advocacy Center of Northeast Missouri) on May 6 at Ameristar. The CCRB Treasurer Cory Elliott will be the keynote speaker.
- An expansion plan for a school-based location in Wright City for students in the Wentzville School District was approved by their board.

**Suicide Prevention 988 Hotline Presentation:** Lauren Moyer, Compass Health Network, presented an overview of the nationwide 988 Crisis Line scheduled to go live on July 16, 2022. Compass detailed their role in the system, how the calls will flow through the system, and the predicated impact the centralized system will have on people in crises and mental health providers.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 a.m. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Dempsey) – Motion passed.