

Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council

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KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2018 12:00pm – 1:00pm
Kent County Administration Building
Room 311

Members/Alternates

Present:

Melanie Beelen, Ron Caniff, Susan Conrad, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Judge Patti Gardner, Sandra Ghoston-Jones, Scott Gilman, Cynthia Gladyness, Jack Greenfield, Adam London, George Meek, Jackie O'Connor, Savator Selden-Johnson, Diana Sieger, Michelle VanDyke, Matthew Van Zetten, Patti Warmington, Jessica White-Hatinger, Michael Zoerhoff.

Members Absent:

Chris Becker, Tracey Fountain, Lynn Heemstra, Ron Koehler, Harold Mast, Jacob Maas (Jessica White-Hatinger attended), Yazeed Moore, Teresa Neal, Jim Paparella (Susan Conrad attended), Julie Ridenour

Guests:

Joanna Bascom, Veneese Chandler, Rachel Jantz, Neil Carlson, Maureen Kirkwood, Carol Paine-McGovern, Kate Parr, Pam Parriott, AnneMarie Valdez, Wende Randall

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Adam London, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

After a review of the January minutes, a motion to accept them was provided by Lynne Ferrell, second by George Meek – vote was UNANIMOUS.

Adam asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting, provided by Lynne Ferrell, second by Jackie O'Connor – vote was UNANIMOUS.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Strategic Planning Update

Sandra Ghoston-Jones gave a brief update on Strategic Planning for the KCFCCC. She said she is currently conducting a listening tour with the Executive Committee of the KCFCCC. The conversations are going very well and Sandra said she appreciates the candid conversations. There are two more to complete and then she will compile some of the themes that have been identified. The next meeting will include a survey based on some of those themes in an effort to bring the whole Committee into the conversation to figure out a way forward for the KCFCCC.

4. Network180 Update

Scott Gilman updated the group on this issue, saying there continue to be numerous discussions across the state regarding the overall revenue decline. Elected officials have continued to rally for us and continue to have interaction with the Department and the Senate Fiscal office. There has been a lot of clarifying of numbers. There seems to be a growing willingness on the State's side to do something.

The Regional Board continues their work. They have passed a resolution and have issued an RFP for an alternative management organization. This would involve unplugging the Lakeshore Regional Entity (LRE), maintaining the Public oversight of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors could contract with a well-functioning managed care organization or one of the other PIHPs that are in good shape.

That RFP has not gone out yet. The Department will weigh in on the RFP

Scott said they now wait to hear back from the State on next steps. He thanked the group for their advocacy on behalf of Network180.

5. Kent County Community Health Needs Assessment Results – Adam London introduced Rachel Jantz, who gave an update on the Community Health Needs Assessment. She provided handouts to the group.

Rachel gave an overview of the CHNA. She said it happens every three years, based on a National model. It is required for accreditation. The four areas identified that will be the focus of the work are: Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Obesity and Poor Nutrition. She went on to describe the data for each of the categories. Kent County tends to have a lower drug-related mortality rate than the State or National averages. Also, Kent County has lower heavy alcohol or binge drinking rates than the State and National averages. The Adult prevalence of Obesity typically is lower in Kent County than State or National averages, but 2017 rates are not in yet for this category. The Obesity rates in Kent County have increased from about 20.8% in 2004 to 34.1% in 2017. Substance Abuse, including drugs and alcohol tends to be higher among the lower income levels. Obesity and nutritional food access follows that same pattern.

Discussion on these results took place. One thing that Rachel noted is that Kent County has had a sharp increase in mortality rate by drug use due to Opioid-related deaths in the County.

The group agreed that toxic stress seems to be an underlying factor in these results and that further research might determine what could be done to reduce that stress and improve health outcomes.

Adam London stated the next phase will be Community Health Improvement planning, which will involve looking at the priorities that have been determined and to get a cohort of experts from the community, from diverse perspectives and build a strategic plan around each priority.

6. **KConnect System Map Presentation** – Pam Parriott gave an update on KConnect. She reiterated the vision of KConnect is: a network of public and private organizations working to advance a collective movement aimed at ensuring all children in Kent County have a clear path to economic prosperity through quality education, community support and family.

Pam said the work that KConnect does is to join the forces of every resource available to ensure an equal path to economic prosperity for our young people.

Pam provided KConnect's annual report, which is considered their work plan. The 10 success measures the work is focused on include: Kindergarten Readiness, 3rd Grade English Language Arts, High School Graduation, Career Readiness, 11th Grade SAT, Social-Emotional Learning Assessment, Associate's Degree or Higher, Income Disparity Gap, Family Income Threshold and Basic Needs Index.

Pam said conversations have taken place on whether the right people are involved in each of the work groups.

Neil Carlson (from the Calvin College Research Institute) talked about the structure of the teams and what connections may need to be created and where redundancies exist.

The stakeholder network map shows the evidence of the collaborative work to document things, used in grant applications and to approach sponsors to show the value of the available resources in the community and for individual organizational planning.

Pam and Neil went on to explain the elements of the stakeholder map. He said they are curating a tag list so there is a common language on what gets tagged and how.

7. **Miscellaneous**

- a. **Patti Warmington** – She reported to the group that the fiscal issues for health centers is still present. Any support in letting your representatives and senators know that financially they still need to settle in the budget that the health centers get some money, otherwise about 75,000 people that Cherry Health serves in this community are served by that funding.

- b. **Jack Greenfield** – He thanked the presenters for their excellent reports.

c. **Neil Carlson** – He offered a hypothesis on the stress issue that is going on right now. He said that the cultural tension is a losing, but angry battle, a culture tied to the post-war, cold-war era, industrial assembly line hierarchical culture that says accountability has to do with punishment. Intergenerational slander against millennials claiming them to be lazy isn't helping either. He said he feels that social media has contributed to the stress issues.

d. **AnneMarie Valdez** – She mentioned that invites are going out and registration is opening for the April 26th Ready by Five for Kent County Conference, taking place at the Eberhard Center. Dr. Renee Boynton-Jarrett, a pediatrician from Boston Medical Center who does a lot of work on 0-3 Trauma Informed and Toxic Stress, will be the keynote speaker.

The registration is on the 1st Steps Kent website. Printed invitations will be in mailboxes by the end of March.

e. **Adam London** – Get your flu shot. It is starting to come down off the peak, but it's not unusual for a second peak in March or April. It has been a pretty severe flu season so far. It will likely continue for some time.

8. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday April 10, 2018, at the Kent County Administration Building, Room 311.