
Minutes

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 1:00pm – 2:30pm
Room 311, Kent County Administration Building
300 Monroe Ave NW – Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Council Members/ Alternates Present:	Chris Becker, Tiffany Clarke, Tracie Coffman, Candace Cowling, Tracey Fountain, Kristin Gietzen, Maureen Kirkwood, Jason Loepp, Adam London, Judge Deborah McNabb, Mary Muliatt, Joas Occes, Shaunte Paul-Oliver, Tracey Silas, Scott Smith
Council Members Absent:	Misti DeVries, Lynne Ferrell, Madelyn Hall, Kendrick Heinlein, Ron Koehler, Jacob Maas, Eileen McNeil, Leadriane Roby, Michelle VanDyke, Bill Ward
Council Partners/Guests: Kent County Staff:	Tawana Brown, Jenn Harrod, Karen Lezan, Wende Randall Christopher Eakin, Sandra Ghoston-Jones, Brian Hartl, Jenny James

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Adam London called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Attendees took time to break into smaller groups to answer two questions:

1. What brought you to join KCFCCC?
2. What have you done recently in the interest of children and families?

Attendees came back together as a full group and had the opportunity to share what was discussed in the smaller groups.

- Jason Loepp shared information about a grant opportunity from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to provide refrigeration units to small food pantries to keep fruits, vegetables, and dairy products fresh for those served by these pantries. He will share information about the grant, which is accepting applications until July 14.
- Adam London shared that the County recently opened the North County Campus that will house Kent County Sheriff's Office and Health Department services and staff. Both entities are committed to protecting Kent County residents and this location will help toward that end.
- Candace Cowling shared that Family Futures recently piloted car seat distribution and education and there was overwhelming demand from the community. She stated she would love to talk with anyone who is interested in partnering to help meet this demand. In addition to this, Family Futures is looking at the possibility of offering other safety-related trainings including safe sleep and gun safety.

After this time of sharing, roundtable introductions were completed.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes of April 11, 2023

A motion was made by Scott Smith and seconded by Judge Deborah McNabb to approve today's agenda; the agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote. A motion was made

by Maureen Kirkwood and seconded by Mary Mullett to approve the minutes from April 11, 2023; the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

3. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

4. **Prioritization Exercises (Related to Strategic Plan Initiative 1, Tactic 1)**

Brian Hartl stated that today's presentation and exercise were related to one of the tactics identified in the new KCFCCC strategic plan (Strategic Initiative 1, Tactic 1). The key actions identified for that tactic are:

- Familiarize KCFCCC membership with the priorities identified via the Kent County Community Health Needs Assessment, Health Equity Council, and other community assessments
- Engage KCFCCC membership in a process to identify priorities that are most impactful to family and child welfare

To help frame the conversation, Brian presented on priorities identified in the 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment and subsequent Community Health Improvement Plan, as well as priorities identified recently by the Kent County Health Equity Council. Additionally, he wanted to share data from the Kids Count Data Book, which is published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and looks at various metrics related to child well-being. The data shared also highlighted disparities in outcomes among different population groups.

After Brian's presentation was finished, members were asked to reflect on three questions:

1. What resonates with you?
2. What is missing?
3. What priority areas should be the KCFCCC's focus during the upcoming year?

A few members shared their responses. There are many different issues to be tackled, but KCFCCC will need to narrow down to the most important one(s) to focus on. No decisions were made, but members were encouraged to take the next couple months to think about where KCFCCC could make an impact.

5. **Agency Updates**

There were no agency updates.

6. **Miscellaneous**

Tracey Fountain stated that she is transitioning to a new assignment (anticipated on June 30). James Geisen will probably be attending these meetings in the future; however, Tracey intends to continue attending Executive Committee meetings. She also reported that MDHHS has a new partnership with AYA Youth Collective; they will have a specialist on site to help disrupt youth homelessness.

Adam London reported that Lynne Ferrell is fighting an aggressive form of cancer right now, so he asked everyone to keep her in their thoughts and prayers. It is hoped that she will be back sometime this fall.

7. **Adjournment**

Adam London adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Next meeting is September 5, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at the Kent County Health Department (700 Fuller Ave NE, Grand Rapids).