



Minutes of the Meeting of the
Board of Directors
 Eckerd Community Alternatives Circuit 13
 The Family Place
 Tampa, Florida
 Tuesday, June 24, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS		OTHER ATTENDEES
Attendees:	Dennis Hardiman	David Dennis
	Joe Clark	Ron Zychowski
	Patsy Feliciano	Lorita Shirley
		Pam Griffith
		Randy Luecke
		Jan Gregory - DCF
		Will Jones
Excused:	Eileen Kamerick	Kathleen Cowen
		Melanie Owens
Recorder:		Laura Hunt, Secretary

The Board meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by the Chair, Mr. Dennis Hardiman. Mr. Hardiman introduced Ms. Patsy Feliciano as our new board member for Eckerd Community Alternatives – Hillsborough (ECA Hillsborough). Mr. Hardiman told the group about Patsy’s many accomplishments.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Dennis Hardiman presented the minutes of the February 25, 2014 ECA Hillsborough Board meeting for approval. Mr. Hardiman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Joe Clark made the motion and Mr. Hardiman seconded the motion. With no comments the motion was unanimously passed. The Board did a quick review of the old business items to ensure there was nothing outstanding or not addressed.

Mr. Hardiman asked the public if they had any comments, with no comments from the public Mr. Hardiman asked Ms. Kathleen Cowan to give the Operation report.

Operations Report

Ms. Cowan explained the contract measures one by one to be sure that our new board member understood all our measures.

Ms. Cowan started by acknowledging that ECA Hillsborough's most recent performance. Eight contract measures that are reflected on the top chart. Six of the eight contract measures trended in the right direction since our last board meeting. Four measures Ms. Cowan wanted to discuss were measures 1, 3, 4 and 5. Measure 1: is the percentage of children not maltreated in out of home care (FS 106). Since the last board meeting performance has trended in slightly in the wrong direction. The Quality Department completed an analysis of performance and determined one primary factor impacting this performance. First, children were being maltreated during visits with bio-parents during a child/parent visitation. To improve performance, staff will develop a detailed visitation plan that includes who will be present at the visit, where the visit will occur, the time of the visit and when the child will return. Measure 3: Percentage of children reunified who were reunified in 12 months (FS301). Performance trended in the right direction since the last board meeting. Last quarter, we implemented weekly permanency performance discussions that focus on this metric with leadership of our sub contracted case manager agencies. Measure 4: Percentage of children with failed reunifications in 12 months (FS302). Performance trended in the right direction since the last board meeting. Staff is working with the Quality Department to use data analytics to identify cases most likely re-entering care. The principles used in Rapid Safety Feedback are in the process of replication. Measure 5 is total number of adoptions finalized. Since the last board meeting performance has trended in the right direction. As of June 9, 2014 we have finalized 227 and are projecting to finalize 272 adoptions by June 30th, exceeding the target of 270 adoptions by 2 adoptions.

The 2nd chart at the bottom of the page reflects our self-imposed non-contract measures. The three measures in the red are associated with children in out-of-home care. Measure 3: Number of children remaining in OHC > 12 months. (FS388). ECA continues with implementations of Permanency Round Tables to secure permanency for children in care greater than one-year. The high numbers of adoptions projections for June will positively impact this measure. Measures 4 and 5: Reduction in number of children in Out-of-Home care and licensed care by 5%. ECA Hillsborough experienced 63 more removals in March-May 2014 as compared to March-May 2013. Removals have since stabilized. Weekly "Permanency Improvement" calls with CMO leadership are in place to drive permanency and target case specific barriers. Independent Living Services (youth aged out of foster care): ECA Hillsborough is meeting three measures and continues to trend in the right direction. Eckerd continues to partner with High School Guidance Counselors and case management to ensure youth are on track for graduation.

With no more questions from the Board or the public, Ms. Cowan concluded her Operations report.

Community & Prevention Report

Mr. Hardiman asked Mrs. Lorita Shirley to give the Board the Community & Prevention update. Mrs. Shirley indicated that Ms. Jennifer Silver will be doing the community

engagement report going forward. Below are a few of the events that Mrs. Shirley highlighted in her report

Home Run Club: Kicked off March 31, 2014, Eckerd is now in its fifth year of our partnership with the Tampa Bay Rays to provide the Home Run Club to foster children in Tampa Bay. This year, nearly 100 children and youth are attending multiple Rays games with their foster families in a newly expanded luxury suite. Throughout the baseball season, the kids not only enjoy baseball games, but they participate in various arts and crafts activities and create personalized scrapbooks to commemorate their experience. Centerplate, the hospitality provider at Tropicana Field, donates popcorn, hotdogs, pizza and beverages for the kids and families to enjoy at each game.

Children's Week: Eckerd traveled to Tallahassee from the Tampa Bay area along with 13 foster families to participate in Children's Week. The families and Eckerd staff visited with 17 legislators or their Aides all in one day, sharing their stories and putting a face to foster parents and children from our region. State Representative Dwight Dudley was one of the legislators the families visited. Representative Dudley commented, "It was truly my honor to be able to meet with and listen to their stories. These parents are heroes in my eyes and I am grateful for their dedication in helping the children of Tampa Bay area. Thank you for your advocacy. "

Walk a Mile for a Child: The second annual Walk a Mile for a Child event was held on Saturday, May 24 at Al Lopez Park in Tampa. Nearly 600 walkers and runners came out to support children in Foster Care in Hillsborough County. Participants either ran a 5k or walked a mile for a child, with proceeds going directly to children in the Hillsborough County foster care system. The event included vendor tables from local businesses and nonprofits, a fun family photo booth, food trucks and a special appearance by newly appointed DCF Interim Secretary Mike Carroll.

With no questions from the Board or the public Mrs. Shirley concluded her report.

ECA Finance Report

Mr. Hardiman asked Mrs. Pamela Griffith to give the ECA Circuit 13 Finance update.

Mrs. Griffith started out by informing the about the April financials. Based on known expenditures and current trends, we are projecting a positive variance to budget of \$2.5 million for FY2014. After the distribution of the \$7.1M in MAS held back by DCF, the projected deficit in Maintenance Adoption Subsidies (MAS) is \$363K. The MAS proposal submitted to the legislature for an additional \$5M for this fiscal year was adopted in the back of the bill. Just this week we received a contract amendment incorporating the additional funding, therefore, ECA-Hillsborough will not have a deficit in this area.

ECA-Hillsborough is experiencing a positive variance of \$1.6M in Out of Home Care. This variance can be attributed to multiple strategies implemented by the Lead Agency to effectively manage the utilization of placement services. The other area Mrs. Griffith addressed is the contracted services which we are projecting a negative variance of \$291 thousand. At the request of the Board, ECA-Hillsborough reinvested surplus dollars into services during the current fiscal year in Public Safety Awareness, Reunification

Services, Visitation services and Case Manager Burn-out retention research. ECA-Hillsborough is currently anticipating a carry forward amount into FY2015 of \$2.5M.

ECA-Hillsborough is budgeting a breakeven for FY2015.

Assumptions: \$3.5M net increase in revenue – accounting for FY14 non-recurring funding and carry forward, and FY15 projected CBC funding plus grants & other funding, 0% cost of living increase, Vacancy Rate of 0% Employer pension contribution remains at 5%, Worker’s Compensation will decrease from 2% of lead Agency salaries to 1%, Health Insurance will remain the same.

Independent Living: Budgeted at \$3M which is less than FY2014 budget of \$288K. Number of youth electing to stay in Extended Foster Care is expected to increase over the next year but not to the extent initially anticipated.

Out-of-Home Care: Budgeted at \$12.8M. Provides a daily expenditure rate of approximately \$1200 more than April’s daily rate. Although successful at decreasing OHC cost during FY14, there has recently been an increase in children entering care therefore budgeted higher to ensure there is not a budget shortfall in this area.

Maintenance Adoption Subsidies: Budgeted at \$14.7M. \$670K more than FY14, received additional funding due to increased adoptions. Budgeted at funding level since DCF normally makes this line item whole.

FY2015’s budget is balanced ECA-Hillsborough will monitor financial performance and implement cost efficiencies with the intent to carry funds forward.

Mr. Hardiman then presented the FY15 budget for approval. The board approved the FY15 budget for ECA -Hillsborough.

With no questions from the Board or the public Mrs. Griffith concluded her report.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. by Chair, Mr. Hardiman.

Respectfully submitted by:

Laura Hunt, Secretary