



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative
APPROVED Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, August 13, 2014
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

Board Members Present: Mary Jo McGuire, Jackie Turner, Jane Eastwood, Jean O'Connell, Deb Moses, Toni Carter, Chris Tolbert (joined 9am), Robert McClain, Mary K Boyd

Guests Present: Katy Tuione (Breaking Free), Emily Baldwin (Breaking Free), Jackie Cooper (Commissioner Carter's Office), Cayenne and Catherine (summer interns)

Staff Present: Christa Anders and Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Co-Coordinator); Mike Hagen (SPCC Fiscal Agent)

Meeting called to order by Eastwood at 8:25 am.

I. Call to Order and Children's Fire

Robert McClain lit the Children's Fire with some words about what success means to young people. He encouraged young people to work hard at being a good person, a person of substance. He closed with this quote: "What's amazing is, if young people understood how doing well in school makes the rest of their life so much interesting, they would be more motivated. It's so far away in time that they can't appreciate what it means for their whole life." Bill Gates

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the June 11, 2014 Board meeting and accept the information contained in the July update from Advance Consulting. Motion approved.

There was an electronic vote between the June and August meetings:

BACKGROUND: The Youth Master Plan was published with baseline data in 2012. The Year One Update of our Youth Master Plan data was published in the summer of 2013. As with the baseline data, we paid Wilder Research to compile the data for us. The 2013 contract was capped at \$4,000. This year Wilder Research has submitted a bid for the Year Two update with a cap of \$4,250 which includes the following: an Excel document with tables, chart visualizations, and key observations; as well as a presentation to the board. With Chair Eastwood's consent, we are requesting Board action to approve this spending via electronic vote, since the Board doesn't meet again until August. Note that there is still no data on Kindergarten readiness, but there will be new data on our Connection to Caring adults goal this year, as the new Student Survey data is now available. We will explore alternate ways to distribute this material, including having more data on our web page and printing a shorter paper document.

Motion: We are requesting electronic approval from Board members to accept bid from Wilder Research and begin work on Year Two Youth Master Plan Update. Motion approved electronically.

III. Learn, Grow, Thrive Focus: Breaking Free

Emily Baldwin and Katy Tuione from Breaking Free gave an overview of the agency, and the SPCC funded project. Minnesota now has a Safe Harbor Act, which took effect August 1, 2014, which shifts the law to treat sexually exploited youth as victims, rather than criminals. Agencies like Breaking Free are stepping in to help those youth create a new life.

The SPCC grant funds the Strong Families program at Village Place, which provides comprehensive services for the children of residents there. They are currently offering groups with young children of residents of permanent housing. There is some transition of families at Village Place right now. They have engaged 15 children and 11 mothers participate in the project so far. They are working hard to connect with community resources for the children and youth. Boyd suggested that it will also be important to inform school staff of the trauma that these children have experienced. Breaking Free could do some education for teachers in SPPS about sex trafficking. Parent Academy could come out to Village Place.

SPPS will intentionally engage with Breaking Free staff to insure there are strong connections between their residents and the schools and school partners, such as Tutoring Partnership. SPCC staff will be kept in the loop on that, as well.

IV. Youth Master Plan Update

The electronic vote approved the contract with Wilder to update the data for the Youth Master Plan (see above).

There still will not be data on Kindergarten Readiness, but there will be updates on the other five indicators.

Advance Consulting gave an overview of the six month grantee reports. Follow-up items include meeting with the new Executive Director and current Board Chair at Breakthrough Twin Cities. Jackie Turner (SPPS) will follow-up with Breakthrough Saint Paul on the evaluation data issues.

SPCC is going to participate in My Brother's Keeper in the funders collaborative. It is not a good fit for us to be part of the programmatic working group, since our role in serving boys and youth of color is as a funder.

V. GradNation Update

Promise Fellow working with American Indian students will start on September 1. That project is also going to work with American Indian Education at SPPS.

Project Return is the project focused on returning 15 day drop students. The position has been posted at SPPS, so our grant agreement is with SPPS. The staff person will be housed in the Ramsey County Attorney's Office. Work has already started on recruiting the pool of applicants.

Attendance Awareness Month is coming up in September. SPPS is helping with the graphic design services. The materials are visually similar to the SPCC Youth Master Plan materials. The distribution will be targeted, with specific materials for specific audiences. Schools with highest levels of chronic absence will be targeted for parent/student materials. There will also be posters in every school. We are working with the Promise Neighborhood, and they may end up developing their own materials in coordination with us. There may be a media event in mid-September. The Board expressed concern about the use of the Ramsey County Attorney's Office as a contact on the materials. The Board requested to receive the Attendance Awareness materials when they are done. It may also be useful to have a press kit, for example, for use by SPPS public access show, etc.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- New grantees presenting on their work; organized by Learn, Grow, Thrive goals, rather than individual grantees: September focused on Right Track.
- Ramsey County Human Services regarding wraparound services
- R.T. Rybak come to talk about Generation Next Action Plans: September
- Kent Pekel from Search Institute- caring adults
- Parent Academy for Saint Paul Public Schools
- SPPS High School Start Time - Turner has a presentation
- Ramsey Interagency Early Intervention Council - Help Me Grow, SPPN Screening Group and GenNext Screening work group
- Check in with Breaking Free mid-way through the school year
- Everybody's In - Saturday October 4, 8:30 - 1:30

Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.