



**Saint Paul Children's Collaborative
APPROVED Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday, February 11, 2015
8:15- 10:00 @ CAP/RW**

Board Members Present: Jean O'Connell, Robert McClain, Tyrize Cox, Charles Gill, Chris Tolbert, Jane Eastwood, Toni Carter, Mary Jo McGuire, Deb Moses, Jackie Turner

Guests Present: Albert Green (Project Return); Beth Harrison (Ramsey County Attorney's Office – Project Return)

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

Meeting called to order by O'Connell at 8:20 am.

I. Call to Order and Children's Fire

Tolbert lit the Children's Fire with a quote from Franklin D. Roosevelt – we can't always build the future for our youth, but we can build the youth for our future.

II. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes January 14, 2015 Board Meeting and accept the information contained in the January update from Advance Consulting. Motion approved.

III. Youth Master Plan: Project Return Update

Albert Green, Beth Harrison and Tyrize Cox gave an update on the first six months of activities for Project Return. There have been 12 students already re-enrolled this school year, and another 22 connected to Never Too Late to Graduate, with 15 confirmed as enrolled in that program. He gave a very rich picture of the hand-to-hand work he's doing with 15 day drop students in the community.

IV. Youth Master Plan: Off-cycle Proposals

The Board discussed a proposal for the next 12 months of funding for Project Return (\$80K). Note from the minutes of the April 9, 2014 meeting of the SPCC Board, when the first grant was made to Project Return, at the recommendation of the Grad Nation Work Group:

There was a question whether this funding is one-time. The GradNation work group expects to request funding for a total of three years (July 2014 – June 2017). Funding requests for the remaining 2.5 years would be brought to the board, and would be contingent upon satisfactory performance against the project objectives. In the long term, the idea would be to self-sustain the project based on revenue recovered for re-enrolled students and costs avoided.

The Board also discussed a proposal for summer 2015 funding for Right Track summer youth employment.

Motion to approve \$80,000 in funding for Project Return for the period March 1, 2015 – February 28, 2016.

Discussion about amending the motion to include both proposals and bring them into alignment with our two year Learn, Grow, Thrive grant-making cycle going forward.

Motion to amend the original motion as follows, and amendment was approved unanimously:

Motion to approve \$68,334 in funding for Project Return for the period March 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 and to approve \$100,000 in funding for Right Track for summer 2015, with the intention that both projects would be invited to participate in the Learn, Grow, Thrive RFP process going forward. Motion approved as amended.

General information provided to the board on grant-related funding:

2015 Grant Making

Total Available 717,150 in 2015 Budget

RFP: 450,000 (planned – first half of two year RFP funding)

Remaining for Off Cycle Grants in 2015: 267,150

-6,900 Promise Fellow (approved previously)

-15,000 Youth Philanthropy (forthcoming – likely reduced to \$7,500)

- 80,000 Project Return (Feb)

-100,000 Right Track (Feb)

-50K - Freedom School (expected in March)

-50K Bell Power Scholars (expected in March)

V. My Brother's Keeper

Eastwood and Carter provided a handout update on what's happening with the My Brother's Keeper initiative in Saint Paul (and Minneapolis). The two Mayors have invited 35 community service providers to meetings which began in January. There is work going on across sectors and across Cities to develop a My Brother's Keeper plan that reflects where we are, here in the Twin Cities. The Board wants to make sure this effort leads to results, given the intensive commitment of time involved in this effort. Also, there is a need to engage young people in these efforts – especially young black men. There is also a need to get to the public information stage as soon as possible, because community is already asking questions. We also need to be inclusive in new entities and new players in this effort.

VI. Youth Philanthropy

YouthPrise is changing their approach to youth philanthropy to adopt the Youth Bank model. Two sites in Saint Paul were trained in the Youth Bank model – Saint Paul Youth Commission and New Lens Urban Mentoring. Both attended the four day training. McClain and SPCC staff met with all the staff from New Lens after the training. They are very interested in participating in Youth Bank. Saint Paul Youth Commission does not feel they have the capacity to participate this year, but would be very interested in doing so next year.

YouthPrise will give each Youth Bank site \$10,000 in funding, and would match up to an additional \$7,500 in funding for them to direct.

Motion to approve \$7,500 to support the matching funds for New Lens Urban Mentoring to participate in Youth Bank in 2015, with the intent to invite them to participate in the Learn, Grow, Thrive RFP process going forward. Motion approved.

Jackie Turner disclosed that SPPS is funding the director of New Lens. Toni Carter is also distant cousin with Glo Martin, executive director at New Lens.

VII. 2014-15 Learn, Grow, Thrive Grantees: Year 1 Progress

Advance Consulting distributed a summary of the Year 1 progress reports from the nine current Learn, Grow, Thrive grantees and provided some highlights. Most of the grantees appear to be on track and generally achieving their planned objectives. There is some concern about Breaking Free, and McClain and SPCC staff intend to visit them to check on their progress. Staff will send the GAP report. Board asked next time that we report % and numbers regarding outcomes.

VIII. 2016-17 Learn, Grow, Thrive Request for Proposals

Advance Consulting distributed a proposed schedule for the 2016-17 RFP process. The board asked that we move all existing off cycle grants into the RFP after their first year of funding. The board would also still reserve some funds for new off-cycle proposals.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- New Lens Urban Mentoring overview
- Update on My Brother's Keeper
- Ramsey County Human Services regarding wraparound services
- Kent Pekel from Search Institute- caring adults
- Ramsey Interagency Early Intervention Council – Help Me Grow, SPPN Screening Group and GenNext Screening work group
- Michael Rodriguez from the UM on Minnesota Student Survey (social emotional, connection to one or more caring adults, etc.)

Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am