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Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Board Meeting

March 13, 2019

8am – 10am

CAP/RW: 450 Syndicate Street North, Saint Paul

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Cedrick Baker, Toni Carter, Alfreda Flowers, Heather Kilgore, Nicole MartinRogers, Robert McClain, Mary Jo McGuire, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Mary Vanderwert, Daniel Yang

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Molly Cave

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)
Alexis Walstad & Pkwa Htoo (Karen Organization of MN)
Catherine Penkert (Saint Paul Public Libraries)
Erik Skold (Sprockets)
Steve Walvig (Greater Twin Cities United Way)

Meeting called to order by Carter at 8:05 am

Children's Fire

Ms. Alfreda shared a story from her granddaughter. Her grandma taught her that helping others helps you move focus off things that are distracting you. She knew the "small" things people do matter a lot, which was her start in volunteering to help others, as an important step in her future, and a source of joy.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the February 13, 2019 meeting and accept the information contained in the February update from Advance Consulting, and the February finance report. Second. Motion approved.

College Savings Account Update (Daniel Yang)

Yang gave the board an overview of our children's College Savings Account initiative through Mayor Carter's office. This will impact 5,000 children/year in our city. Many from the SPCC participated in the development process. Launch is planned for January 1, 2020. The full report was sent following the board packet – if you'd like a copy, please contact Advance Consulting. There was a discussion

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about how community partners can help connect families to the CSA program. There was specific discussion about how to engage immigrant communities in this effort, given the many barriers they face. There was discussion about how to engage financial institutions to give back by helping through matching grants. There will be an RFP for the institution to hold the savings accounts.

Out-of-School-Time Gaps in Saint Paul Discussion

Based on direction from the Board at the January meeting, Advance Consulting gathered information from grantees and other community partners on gaps in the Out-of-School-Time (OST) system in Saint Paul. We were joined in this discussion by Pkwa Htoo & Alexis Walstad (Karen Organization of MN), Catherine Penkert (Saint Paul Public Libraries), Erik Skold (Sprockets) and Steve Walvig (Greater Twin Cities United Way).

Walvig presented results from survey of United Way grantees. Penkert asked the board to look at the Libraries' new [strategic plan](#). Skold and Penkert focused particularly on school start time changes. Skold will send their new Sprockets data analysis. They are also surveying youth (and it's youth led) about OST participation, barriers, desires over summer 2019. [East Metro Pulse Report](#) is a great resource on OST and many other topics.

Karen Organization of Minnesota shared their perspective on the gaps. They confirmed that transportation makes a big difference. OST programs are often the only space where students can process their social/emotional issues and needs. Kereni and Karen are two different cultural groups with two different languages.

Regarding funding, the President's budget proposal includes an elimination of the 21st Century Schools funding, which is the largest source of funding for OST programs.

The issues that resonated for the SPCC board in terms of opportunities for us to have impact include: bring community partners together/leveraging our networks; raising the critical issues at the legislature; including youth voice; engage Mary Catherine Ricker in supporting OST, given her connection with SPPS; year-round schools and/or longer days; focus on middle school to insure students are really prepared in 9th grade (when 40% of failed classes/missed credits happen in high school); need to support parents during middle school; and transportation (circulator buses). Many others are listed in the slides.

Discussion following the presentations include: engage Mary Catherine Ricker at MDE by inviting her to future meeting; use the county/city/school district to increase awareness of OST importance and availability of OST programs; transportation; OST funder network; need to include focus on building joy through the programming, not just addressing deficits; funders network: focus on changing the model for giving/grant-making by thinking out of the box; nonprofits not empowered by funders need to inform the work, because they actually do the work; important to include MDE in the funders'

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network, at least with regard to OST programming that happens through schools; place to provide space for funders and programs to have honest conversations together; longer grant cycle; more unrestricted (or at least less restricted) funding.

Carter summarized the discussion that the funders' network, including youth voice and program voice, may make sense. May make sense to ask our grantees about what a funders' collaborative should include in order to make an impact on their work and our community in a supportive way. What are the critical partnerships necessary for this work? More discussion at future meeting.

Regarding funding, the board asked for an update on the state OST funding legislation and to send a letter to our senators and Congressperson McCollum regarding our support for the federal OST funding.

SPCC Administration

Commissioner Carter made a suggestion to add a non-voting member to the SPCC board, representing Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health. Rolando Vera would be the designee. The board was clear they would like one designated representative to attend the meetings, as others partners do. Guests are always welcome.

Motion to invite Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health to nominate a dedicated staff person as non-voting member to participate in the Saint Paul Children's Collaborative. Second. Motion approved.

Advance Consulting provided the board with a summary of the Year 1 reports from the Learn, Grow, Thrive grantees at the February meeting, and included it again with the March board packet. If anyone has questions or would like to include this in the April agenda, they should contact Advance Consulting.

Advance Consulting left the meeting and the board discussed the draft RFP for administrative support. Matt Hill from Commissioner Carter's office has been coordinating the drafting of the RFP for the SPCC subcommittee (MartinRogers, Carter and McClain). MartinRogers will follow-up with Matt Hill with suggested changes.

Motion to approve the RFP once the suggested changes are made and ask Ramsey County to move forward with issuing the RFP. Second. Motion approved.

Sharing/Agenda Items for Future Meetings (Discussion)

- Council for Black Male Success (Stephanie Battle)
- Discussion with Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative; Children's Mental Health Collaborative



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Meeting adjourned 10:05.