



APPROVED MINUTES

Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

April 8, 2020

8am – 9 am

Via Zoom due to COVID-19 Restrictions

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Cedrick Baker, Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Heather Kilgore, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers, Nicolee Mensing, Rebecca Noecker

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Jeanelle Foster, Mary Jo McGuire, Hoang Murphy, Daniel Yang, Rolando Vera

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)

Meeting called to order by MartinRogers at 8:04 am

Children’s Fire

Baker lit the Children’s Fire with a reminder that a lot of people are doing amazing work during this COVID-19 crisis. He talked about those connected to supporting schools, many of whom have other roles, are still thinking carefully about making sure we are supporting our most vulnerable students/youth. While many of our systems are not as equitable as we’d like, people are really stepping up to support the kids who need it most. They are getting food out to students, child care, educational resources, despite being scared about their own safety and the safety of their own family.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Minutes from the March 11, 2020 board meeting and accept the information contained in the March update from Advance Consulting and the March finance report. Motion by Carter. Second by Noecker. Motion approved.

COVID-19 Response (DISCUSSION)

Advance Consulting has been checking in with current grantees to make sure they know we will be flexible with regard to outcomes and numbers of participants served.

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Saint Paul schools has asked their community partners to hold on until the district gets all students set up with technology. The district will work with partners to grant those permissions as things get stabilized, helping them see how the partnerships will be re-activated and adapted due to virtual environment. This week is for SPPS teachers to get connected with students directly and stabilize that first, then the district will bring on partners.

There was discussion about the OST transportation pilot resources to support children/youth in other ways. Baker said that this “new normal” is going to go on for a while, so getting the resources re-deployed in any way to help kids will be helpful. The board agreed to that. Also important to have partners connect with SPPS regarding distribution of materials to students, since they have infrastructure in place. The LCTS spending policy must still be observed.

The City’s emergency operations center is coordinating volunteers, so CM Noecker can check on what volunteer needs there are that SERVE MN Corps members can fulfill. Commissioner Carter talked about the desperate need for masks, including for children. The County has a [list](#) online soon for those needs. Advance Consulting will connect with grantees who have Corps members with City/County volunteer needs. District has a lot of support staff who will have to shift to supporting distance learning. They don’t need volunteer support right now, but may in the future.

Flowers asked how we are making sure our most vulnerable students are getting connected and supported? Commissioner Carter stated that county staff are still working in their roles to support homeless and other vulnerable populations. They’ve opened two new facilities (hotel and the old Dorothy Day center). Zach Hilton at Ramsey County is a point person on that. If anyone knows of needs, Commissioner Carter will make a connection to the right county staff person. Baker said Project Reach is still moving forward with supports to Homeless/Highly Mobile students. Again, if there are specific students lacking support, Baker will make that connection.

There was a question about whether the currently open RFP still makes sense, given COVID? Advance consulting will let the board know what is received after the deadline (which is April 9 at 5pm).

We did speak to staff from the YA! program through grantee CLUES. They expressed concern that some of their students have now gone to work, since their parents are undocumented and gravely concerned about lack of income. CLUES is working nonstop to help undocumented community members get support through this crisis. Minneapolis is using more inclusive language in their emergency fund, and CLUES has encouraged Saint Paul to do the same. They got a grant of \$400,000 from Minnesota Council on Foundations for food support for undocumented families (500-600 families).



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Saint Paul has an emergency fund established [here](#) for small business and for families (including for undocumented families). Ramsey County is considering removing penalties for late payment of property taxes. This is still in process.

Family Values for Life had to postpone their annual breakfast until a later date, TBD.

Meeting adjourned 8:58.