

Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

June 9, 2021

8am – 10 am

Via Zoom due to COVID-19 Restrictions

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Cedrick Baker, Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Jeanelle Foster, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers, Mary Jo McGuire, Nicolee Mensing, Hoang Murphy, Ginny Nierad, Rebecca Noecker, Daniel Yang
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	Heather Kilgore
STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT	Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)
Meeting called to order by MartinRogers at 8:05 am.	
Children’s Fire The Children’s Fire was lit by Noecker with two thoughts. First, when she was asked to light the fire, she panicked because the email subject line was “children’s fire” and we adults are always expecting/preparing for the worst, as compared to kids, who are usually seeing the world with excitement and joy. Second, she was thinking about the long-term aspects of our work, with an analogy that we’re people trying to plant seed in a forest that is on fire. There is so much temptation to stop planting and focus on fires. We need to take time for the long-term tasks, too, so future trees grow.	
Consent Agenda Motion to approve the Minutes from the May 12 2021 meeting and accept the information contained in the May update from Advance Consulting and the May 2021 finance report. Motion to approve by McGuire. Second by Foster. The roll was called and the motion was approved.	
Youth Master Plan/RFP The board discussed the 2022/23 Request for Proposals, which was revised since the May meeting using an equity framework for grantmaking. Major changes included shortening the timeline to have board action on grants at the September meeting, inclusion of a minimum of one grant to support mental health needs, releasing grant funds in two up-front payments, and shortening the list of questions in the RFP, as well as simplifying the budget format. The review team also drafted a review rubric and recommends publishing it with the RFP.	

Motion by Klebsch to approve the RFP. Second by Carter. Motion approved.

Since the May meeting, Donaby agreed to be part of the review team if needed.

Motion by Carter to add Donaby to the review team. Second by Klebsch. Motion approved.

The review team, after consultation with several youth-driven organizations, suggests making the team eight members (to allow for some attrition, if necessary, given the many obligations of the members), including four SPCC board members (now appointed) and four youth people (ages 16-24). We put out a community reviewer job description to gauge interest and have already had eight young people apply. Staff recommend giving the review committee authority to select the four youth members.

Motion by Cater to include four young people on the review committee, to be selected by board members on the review committee. Second by Murphy. Motion approved.

Davis gave a brief update (based on communication with Kilgore last week) on the Saint Paul Public Schools' potential RFP to award grants to community organizations funded using federal dollars. It's still a possibility, no further details worked out yet.

Community First Public Safety Plan

[Saint Paul Community-First Public Safety Report](#) was released several weeks ago, and the SPCC board members who were part of that working group shared key recommendations. The mayor announced this commission last November, and it included the Commissioners plus many staff people, researchers, and others. Charge: alternative response for priority 4 and 5 calls (non-emergency calls which are the majority of all calls), ongoing community involvement, and potential creation of Office of Neighborhood Safety. The Mayor/Council received the recommendations in time for inclusion in the budget process. The board walked through the recommendations, paying particular attention to those related to the scope of the Children's Collaborative.

Discussion from the board pointed out that some of our work, including some grantees, are more upstream, prevention-focused than the report recommendations. City Council is unanimously eager to take the recommendations forward at the city level. There is a need to dig into the recommendations to understand what they really mean. It may make sense for SPCC to choose a couple of the recommendations and do that kind of deep dive to see what's there, what can be improved/added. The Citizen's League process report was to create guiderails and vision – the implementation work is forthcoming. Suggestion that we include these recommendations and a link to the report in our RFP community of care meeting. We should review the rubric and make sure these are connected. Baker pointed out the primary nexus with the SPCC's scope is around youth-serving programs/activities that are more prevention-focused.

There was a question about whether SPCC should engage in advocacy to get the Council/Mayor to support the recommendations. CM Noecker said that there is definitely support from the Council around the Office of Neighborhood Safety, not as clear the details are worked out on some of the higher-level recommendations.

SPCC Administration

Advance Consulting asked the board for recommendations of insurance brokers to give bids on Directors and Officers insurance. Please send to Laurie.

SPCC Partner Updates and Ideas for Future Meetings

Noecker gave an update on Saint Paul 3K – the new name is Saint Paul All Ready for K (SPARK). They hired an organizer to activate community around support for SPARK!

Murphy shared that Fostering Higher Education Act was included in the final higher ed legislative deal, including \$7.8M in the outyears to provide scholarships for young people who have experienced foster care after age 13 for a full ride for higher education.

McGuire and Carter shared about a county workshop on integration of public health and social services at the county level. At some point, that would be a good topic for the SPCC to explore.

Carter will share some info on the MN Children's Cabinet's deep poverty report, which is another topic for deeper dive for SPCC.

Nierad said the Child & Teen Checkups programs are facing a cut at the state level, due to proposed increased outreach by clinics. It may help to have a letter to Governor Walz in opposition to this cut, explaining how the C&TC program extends beyond what clinics can do.

Flowers shared that Ramsey County Equity Action Circle is coming to its end as a whole – they will be splitting into various action groups, including Family & Youth (which is the one Flowers is on). They will be working directly with relevant county departments. Also Family Values for Life golf classic is July 26.

Baker talked about the “abrupt end” of the school year, given the heatwave. He acknowledged it was a tough way to end what was already a terrible year, but necessary for health and safety. There was a question about what it would cost to add A/C to school buildings without it. Only 14 of 64 building have A/C – so it would cost “multi-millions” to do it of funding they don't currently have. Also question about using ARP funds to add those improvements.

Meeting adjourned 9:48 AM.

Roll call votes for June 9, 2021 Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda	Motion 2 – RFP	Motion 3 – Review Team add Donaby	Motion 4 - Review Committee Youth
Baker				
Carter	YES	YES	YES	YES
Donaby	YES	YES		YES
Flowers	YES	YES	YES	YES
Foster	YES	YES	YES	YES
Klebsch	YES	YES	YES	YES
MartinRogers	YES	YES	YES	YES
McGuire	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mensing	YES	YES	YES	YES
Murphy	YES	YES	YES	YES
Noecker	YES	YES	YES	YES
Yang	YES	YES	YES	YES