

# Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

July 14, 2021

8am – 10 am

Via Zoom due to COVID-19 Restrictions

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Cedrick Baker, Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Jeanelle Foster, Heather Kilgore, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers, Mary Jo McGuire, Nicolee Mensing, Hoang Murphy, Ginny Nierad,
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Rebecca Noecker, Daniel Yang
<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS PRESENT</b>	Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators); December Brakefield and Jennifer Schuster-Jaeger; Pang Vang (fiscal agent)
<b>Meeting called to order by MartinRogers at 8:05 am.</b>	
<b>Children’s Fire</b> The Children’s Fire was lit by Baker, sharing an experience about going to Hazel Park Prep to do the harambee, and read a book. The kids are focused on getting their hands on all the opportunities they can find. They don’t care about grown-up problems, and those problems shouldn’t be pulled into their lives and spaces. The innocence of those children and youth should be protected by all of us adults trying to support them – it’s on us to do the hard work and make the hard decisions to support them.	
<b>Consent Agenda</b>  <b>Motion to approve the Minutes from the June 9 2021 meeting and accept the information contained in the June update from Advance Consulting and the June 2021 finance report. Motion to approve by Murphy. Second by Flowers. The roll was called and the motion was approved.</b>	
<b>Youth Master Plan: Kindergarten Readiness</b>  This month is the first time in 2021 that the board focused on one of our six Youth Master Plan goals, starting with Kindergarten Readiness. Nicolee Mensing shared the Head Start Community Needs Assessment data, as well as information about other public funding streams.  December Brakefield and Jennifer Schuster-Jaeger from Ramsey County presented on the County’s work with young children.	

There was discussion about making sure all these various efforts/resources impacting young children across the city are connected and coordinated. That is one of December's key roles. There was a question about what SPCC can do, in our respective lane, to support K readiness. There was also discussion that Ramsey County's track record in services to young children from the Native community is not great, and there is hope there can be more focus on that population. The County is working with Saint Paul Indians in Action, and it may be helpful to have a report from them on progress (Kelly Miller is chair, and she is current SPCC grantee).

### **Youth Mater Plan: RFP**

Advance Consulting reported that we received 30 proposals by the July 9 5pm deadline, requesting more than \$3.5M total (with only \$1M available to allocate). The review team will meet the 19<sup>th</sup> for training and then on July 30 to do initial scoring and determine open questions/site visits.

Kilgore reported that the district's plans on coordinating an RFP with SPCC. They are doing needs assessment that will provide the basis of allocating funding through RFP. Need for extra time/OST related supports to help students catch up. Based on what is indicated in needs assessment, the district is still interested in partnering with SPCC on an RFP. Timing would be late 2021/early 2022. The RFP will hopefully be drafted in the fall.

There was a question from the board about if we can connect the applicants to other potential funding sources. Note that SPPS is working with YouthPrise to allocate \$174,000 in federal funding right now.

There was an update from the City on their internal process for allocating ARPA funds, and Baker pointed out the various entities will also have public RFPs. The county, city and district are also coordinating federal funding allocation/needs, trying to make sure efforts are aligned. There are different timelines and requirements, so while there are connections, it's not one process. The areas most relevant to SPCC in the connected priorities is workforce services (youth/families), housing/homelessness, and violence reduction. They are searching for a consultant to help with that, through an RFP issued by the county.

The transportation pilot (\$200,000) that was put on hold due to COVID was discussed. Goal was to increase the number of youth served and increase the dose. We are wondering if any of the federal funds could be used to support transportation needs. There was discussion on holding off for the pilot, given the needs expressed in response to current RFP. The board remains committed to the pilot, and also thinks there is benefit in holding off until we see the "new normal." We need to re-assess community need by listening to community. The consensus of the board is that we do not carve out funds for a transportation pilot this year, we explore and promote use of other federal funds for this purpose, and we talk to community partners and come back to the board potentially next year to explore this again. Donaby gave an update on how parents at Freedom School are thinking about COVID concern – masks, kids indoors together – it's just very challenging to have young people social distance, mask.

### **SPCC Partner Updates and Ideas for Future Meetings**

Ramsey County is celebrating Commissioner McGuire getting elected, on a first ballot as Second VP of the National Association of Counties, so she will become President after this term!

Commissioner Carter celebrated her 46 year anniversary!

Family Values for Life is hosting their annual golf fundraiser – check in with Ms. Alfreda if you want to attend.

Legislature passed proposal to reduce funding for Child and Teen Checkups, starting in July 2022 (\$2.4M), with Ramsey and Hennepin most impacted. They are working to keep all staff in place.

The district is watching COVID numbers, especially given Delta variant and uptick in case numbers. District will focus and take guidance from CDC and Governor's orders. They can "strongly encourage" but that is pretty toothless.

**Meeting adjourned 9:50 AM.**

**Roll call votes for July 14, 2021 Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting**

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda
Baker	YES
Carter	YES
Donaby	YES
Flowers	YES
Foster	YES
Klebsch	YES
MartinRogers	YES
McGuire	YES
Mensing	YES
Murphy	YES
Noecker - absent	
Yang - absent	