

# Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

October 13, 2021

8am – 10 am

Via Zoom due to COVID-19 Restrictions

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Cedrick Baker, Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Heather Kilgore, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers, Mary Jo McGuire, Nicolee Mensing, Hoang Murphy, Ginny Nierad, Rebecca Noecker
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Jeanelle Foster, Daniel Yang
<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS PRESENT</b>	Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)
<b>Meeting called to order by MartinRogers at 8:05 am.</b>	
<b>Children’s Fire</b> The Children’s Fire was lit by Carter, with words from one of her favorite role models, Marian Wright Edelman, from The Measure of Our Success. “You just need to be a flea against injustice. Enough committed fleas biting strategically can make even the biggest dog uncomfortable and transform even the biggest nation.” It is instructive for the work we do, which cannot be done by any one of us, but all of us together can do it.	
<b>Consent Agenda</b>  <b>Motion to approve the Minutes from the September 15 2021 meeting and accept the information contained in the September update from Advance Consulting and the September 2021 finance report. Motion to approve by Baker. Second by Carter. The roll was called and the motion was approved.</b>	
<b>Youth Master Plan</b>  Kilgore and Baker shared information on the district’s recent <a href="#">needs assessment</a> and the subsequent plans for allocating a portion of the ARPA funding to support a Request for Proposals from youth-serving community programs. At the end of June, REA and others led that needs assessment process. The highest priority needs identified, and most negatively affected student groups.  The needs assessment then guided the rest of the process. SPPS received \$207M in ARP funding. A work group then worked to develop a plan, and they invited proposals from district departments to address the needs. The work group reviewed those and developed a draft spending plan. In addition,	

there was a group of community-based partners, including parents, to review the plans and suggest changes. A draft plan was presented to community for feedback and the final plan was presented to the School Board at end of September. It was submitted to MDE, and they are still waiting for final approval. They feel the plan is strong and inclusive of community and research-based and focused on needs of long-term student outcomes.

In the plan, still to be approved by MDE, there are about \$7M for grants to community organizations through an RFP process. The RFP was heavily influenced by the SPCC RFP. Grants will focus on four primary priorities: in-school social/emotional support for students; out of school time youth programs for middle-school students; in-school and school-aligned family support services; and in-school academic support, especially “targeted student” support (i.e., that targeted to students most negatively impacted by the pandemic). There is another focus on community-based out of school time programs, including a partnership with Sprockets to help families find those programs. Grant period will be Jan 31, 2022 – Sept 2024 (33 months). They will have community-based reviewers. Hope to release the RFP soon and present recommendations to the board in December. The reporting requirements will be around common outcomes on an annual reporting/review cycle. The district also allocated \$25M to schools directly, so they could also fund community partners. The grantees will work through the district’s common data sharing credential process.

There are three opportunities for funding: allocation to schools, the RFP, and other proposed initiatives using this funding that will require help from community organizations.

From the SPCC, they need help to make the funding process credible and fair. Contracting will be through SPPS. The approval of the grants will be by the School Board. They hope SPCC will help by sharing the RFP, with other duties TBD. There was a suggestion that there be a community of practice for the funded partners. Advance Consulting will be in conversation with Heather about what the scope needed from SPCC, and whether additional funds will need to be transferred from SPPS to SPCC to support that. Within the two weeks, SPPS will provide a draft scope for SPCC, understanding that it would be subject to MDE approval.

Continuing our focus on updating the board on individual goals from the Youth Master Plan, there was a discussion with the board about what type of data/from what sources would be of interest in pulling together a presentation on our goal of “safe and free from abuse/neglect.” Anne Berry is the right person from the county to start with on connecting the child welfare staff at the county (Windy Ross). Anthony McWell (unit supervisor) has done a presentation for Foster Advocates. Murphy also recommended Ed Morales at the Child Welfare Training Institute for statewide trends. MartinRogers asked about data on Native children in out of home placement, including the history with boarding schools. Murphy also suggested Sandy White Hawk from the ICWA Law Center. It may be a good Community of Care meeting, but it needs to be structured so that community providers understand what they can DO to support Native children/youth and know what to do differently.

### **SPCC Administration**

The board needs a nominating committee to fill the following vacancies and answer the following questions:

- All officers (current four officers have all served the maximum of two consecutive one-year terms).
- Community rep from the Indigenous community (MartinRogers transitioning off the board by the end of the year)
- Murphy's first term as community rep ends 12/31 (he agreed to stand for a second term)
- Question raised during discussion with the CAP/RW Executive Director about whether the Executive Director of CAP/RW or Head Start should serve on the SPCC board.

**Motion by Flowers to appoint Klebsch and Noecker to serve on a nominating committee to bring recommendations to the board by the December meeting. Second by Carter. The roll was called and the motion was approved.**

Advance Consulting has been meeting with staff from the county and other collaboratives to draft an updated agreement to govern the way the three collaboratives serving Ramsey County make decisions on allocation of the LCTS funding across the three collaboratives. A draft agreement is done. Next steps include the current members of the LCTS Partnership Board vote to dissolve that entity and then each of the three collaborative's boards needs to vote on adoption of the newly drafted agreement. At that point, the new LCTS Intercollaborative Committee would start the process of negotiating the allocation of the LCTS funds across the 3 collaboratives.

**Motion by Noecker to appoint Baker and Yang to represent SPCC on the Intercollaborative Committee when it is formed. and accept the structure and language proposed by the working group. Motion withdrawn due to concerns about the agreement and the need for more information from other collaboratives.**

In discussing what data is needed to make the case for retaining our current funding, it is worth considering that the Children's Mental Health Collaborative also serves children in Saint Paul, so if they were to agree to use a fair allocation of their funds to provide mental health services through community providers through an RFP process, with racial equity as clear criteria, that could improve services for Saint Paul children and youth. The board would like to see what metrics/criteria are used to distribute funds by other collaboratives, and how the funds may be earmarked for Saint Paul. There is a clear benefit to SPCC's approach of using all our LCTS funds to support community providers – we support deferring to the closer knowledge of community partners about what is needed and what works. Poverty data is critical to making the case. This board has no understanding of how the Children's Mental Health Collaborative allocates LCTS funds, and there is a desire to have Intercollaborative conversations to get to know how each collaborative uses their LCTS funds and how they are structured. At the end of the day, we need to know how the funds and process will benefit Saint Paul children. SPPS finds it challenging to navigate between SPCC and Children's Mental Health Collaborative is the philosophical difference in approach in how the LCTS funds are spent – allocating funds to community or providing services directly (and why is that second approach better than granting the funds to community providers). Other board members echoed the preference to have services delivered directly by community-based providers.

Before taking any action on the Intercolaborative Agreement, the SPCC board wants to hear, by the November meeting, how the other boards are composed, their sources and amounts of restricted funding, how they allocate their LCTS funds (both the process and the amounts allocated to specific grants or activities), the Children's Mental Collaborative's distribution between city and suburbs, and outcomes of the use of the LCTS funds.

The board needs to appoint a subcommittee to review the bylaws and make sure they accurately reflect the current situation. In addition, Advance Consulting would like that committee to make a recommendation about whether the SPCC's Collaborative Agreement should be amended to update its content.

**Motion by MartinRogers to appoint Carter, Mensing and Kilgore to serve on a bylaw committee to bring recommendations to the board by the December meeting for the bylaws and the joint powers agreement. Second by Murphy. The roll was called and the motion was approved.**

Nicole MartinRogers gave an update on her plans to transition from her current job at Wilder to her new position as Partner at Advance Consulting, which will be effective January 1, 2022. Related, while the board supported that transition at the September meeting, there was not an official action to retain Advance Consulting LLC as administrative support for the Collaborative in 2022, and the fiscal agent needs that action to amend the contract for another year (which would be year 3 of the five year period under this RFP). She plans to stay in community rep role through the end of the year, unless there is need for her to jump into the administrative support for the SPCC between November 15 and January 1 (particularly if the SPPS RFP needs more support).

**Motion by Flowers to extend Advance Consulting LLC's contract to provide administrative support the SPCC for 2022, maintaining the current administrative support and expense maximums of \$110,000 and \$10,000. Second by Klebsch. The roll was called and the motion approved, with MartinRogers recused herself from the vote.**

The board packet included the proposal from the League of Minnesota Cities to provide some insurance coverage to the SPCC, including Directors and Officers Insurance (per email from LMC to Minnesota Insurance Group). The total cost of one year is \$929. After discussing the proposal with Minnesota Insurance Group, their opinion is that this coverage is more comprehensive and less expense than we could obtain from another vendor. They have emails documenting that Directors and Officers coverage is included, even though not specifically referenced in the proposal.

**Motion by Murphy to bind the insurance coverage offered in the proposal from League of Minnesota Cities, effective today, and authorize the payment of the annual premium. Second by MartinRogers. The roll was called and motion approved.**

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

SPPS: Baker also gave an update on the Envision SPPS plan, with the understanding they cannot offer a comprehensive education in all their current buildings. On Monday, they submitted a [plan](#) to the board. It is a comprehensive plan (package deal) and they are working with the board to understand the implications of “picking and choosing” because the plan is intended to stand together. They have put a lot of effort into addressing equity in this plan. Board vote in November at the earliest. Community meetings/hearings happening between now and then.

**Anders shared a link to an upcoming panel discussion of the [film Blood Memory](#), showing on November 3, 2021.** Blood Memory will be available online for free to all registered attendees from October 29th through November 3rd. Pre-registration to view the film and to participate in the online panel discussion is required. Registrants will receive a follow-up email with screening instructions and a link to the event.

The Family Coach RFP closes on the 15<sup>th</sup> of October.

**Meeting adjourned 10:03 AM.**

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

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda	Motion 2 – Nominating Committee	Motion 3 – Bylaw Committee	Motion 4 – Admin Spt	Motion 5 – Insurance
Baker	YES	YES	Not present	Not present	Not present
Carter	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Donaby	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Flowers	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Foster					
Klebsch	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MartinRogers	YES	YES	YES	recused	recused
McGuire	YES	YES	Not present	Not present	Not present
Mensing	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Murphy	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Noecker	Not present yet	YES	YES	YES	YES
Yang- absent					