

# Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Board Meeting

November 10, 2021

8am – 10 am

Via Zoom due to COVID-19 Restrictions

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT** Cedrick Baker (acting as chair from 8- 8:30), Toni Carter, Emmanuel Donaby, Alfreda Flowers, Angelica Klebsch, Nicole MartinRogers (joined 8:30), Mary Jo McGuire, Nicolee Mensing, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Daniel Yang

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**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT** Jeanelle Foster, Heather Kilgore, Ginny Nierad

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**STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT** Christa Anders, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)  
Mary Sue Hanson (Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative) and Wendy Goodman (Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative)

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**Meeting called to order by Baker at 8:01 am.**

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## Children's Fire

The Children's Fire was lit by Donaby, with words about leading with love. He shared that he's in the process of changing jobs, from Science Museum of Minnesota to Saint Paul City School, now that he in school for his master's for Leadership and Community Ed. Leading out of love is the message – Mr. Donaby's mom advises him (and us) that is how to best help others and stay true to his craft of working with youth and advocating for families and community. He shared some words from Common about leading from love and doing our best and know our why.

*Love is beautiful. It amplifies human life and nature. Those who create with love know and have revealed to themselves the light of the world. In dire circumstances, some of the world's most beautiful and poetic art has been created by people moved by love. Creating art is so inexact. What the mind imagines and what is actually created are two different things, and the artist is often frustrated by the separation. But love is worth the effort. The effort itself is love.*

- Common

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## Consent Agenda

**Motion to approve the Minutes from the October 13, 2021, meeting and accept the information contained in the October update from Advance Consulting and the October 2021 finance report. Motion to approve by Flowers. Second by McGuire. The roll was called, and the motion was approved.**

## Electronic Action Between October and November Meetings

On October 28, 2021, a majority of SPCC Board members (Donaby, Murphy, Yang, Baker, Flowers, Carter, Mensing, MartinRogers) approved the electronic motion made by MartinRogers and seconded by Noecker:

**Motion to adjust the 2022-2023 grants as recommended by the review committee in the table shown below:**

<b>Org</b>	<b>Initial Review Team Rec</b>	<b>Grantee Request/New Rec</b>
Breakthrough Twin Cities	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
Change Inc.	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
CLUES	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
Face to Face Health and Counseling Services	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
Family Values for Life	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 137,975.00
Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul	\$ 77,759.00	\$ 180,000.00
Karen Organization of Minnesota	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Minnesota African Women's Association	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
Montessori American Indian Childcare Center	\$ 77,760.00	\$ 153,361.00
New Vision Foundation	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 150,000.00
Project for Pride in Living	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood	\$ 57,759.00	\$ 150,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 978,278.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,436,336.00</b>
REDUCTION FROM REQUEST DUE TO LIMITED FUNDING	\$ (458,058.00)	
LCTS EARNINGS FROM OCT 2020 - MARCH 2021	\$ 537,602.08	
REMAINING AFTER FULLY FUNDING REQUESTS – EMERGENCY GRANT FUND	\$ 79,544.08	

### **Ramsey County Collaborative Presentations**

Mary Sue Hanson (Executive Director – Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative) and Wendy Goodman (Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health Collaborative) each gave presentations to answer the questions asked by the SPCC board at the October 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 Health Collaborative’s distribution between city and suburbs, and outcomes of the use of the LCTS funds.

SRFC has meetings with Ramsey County department heads on a regular basis, especially during their quarterly meetings. There was also a request for explanation of [school-linked mental health](#) services, including the collaboration with RCCMHC. There was a question about how/why the Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative shares funding with the RCCMHC, which was something that just started during COVID.

The board expressed gratitude to Mary Sue and Wendy for their time and helping us gather so much useful information about how the collaboratives work, and can work, together.

### **SPCC Administration**

Fiscal Agent Pang Vang prepared a draft 2022 SPCC budget, which Davis walked through with the board. No changes were requested, and the vote will take an official vote at the December Annual meeting.

The board then discussed the need to invoice collaborative partners for 2022 support for collaborative operations.

**Motion by Baker to invoice City of Saint Paul for \$20,000, CAP/RW for \$10,000, Ramsey County for \$50,000 and Saint Paul Public Schools for \$50,000 to support and sustain the operation of the Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative for 2022. Second by Noecker. Motion approved unanimously.**

The board discussed the proposed Intercolaborative Agreement that was drafted by staff from Ramsey County and the staff of the three collaboratives. There was discussion about what criteria the Intercolaborative group would use to make allocation decisions regarding LCTS funds across collaboratives. There were concerns expressed about any non-competitive allocation of LCTS funds and again the desire to push the service delivery to community organizations closer to children and youth. There was discussion about not wanting the collaboratives to “compete”; and that the three collaboratives should seek opportunity to work together as appropriate. There was discussion that SPCC would like to add some additional language to the agreement about equity, population of children in need, and possibly other considerations in allocation of funds before adopting the agreement. Several board members were assigned to bring recommendations for action on the Intercolaborative Agreement in December: MartinRogers, Klebsch, Baker, Murphy, Yang

As described in the board packet, the fiscal agent and SPCC co-directors did a deep dive into the LCTS receipts and the Reserve Policy adopted by the board in May 2021 and recommend an adjustment to the Reserve Policy to maintain a reasonable reserve and insure maximum funding is available to support community organizations serving children and youth in Saint Paul.

**Motion by MartinRogers to adopt the following changes to the SPCC Reserve Policy:**

*Restricted Reserve Fund shall always include at least six months of LCTS earnings. So for example, LCTS funds accrued from ~~July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019~~ April 2021 - March, 2023, including the interest earned on LCTS for 2021 and 2022 are available for the two-year grant period beginning January 1, 2024, leaving the LCTS earnings accruing between April – December 31 of 2023 in the Restricted Reserve Fund. In cases where the board continues to award grants on a two-year cycle, the Restricted Reserve will increase to as much as 2.5 years of earnings before the next round of grants are awarded. This has been the operational practice of the SPCC for the past decade.*

**Second by Murphy. Motion approved unanimously.**

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

CM Noecker reported that the leadership group for SPARK approved moving forward with property tax referendum campaign to support SPARK in St. Paul. She hopes the SPCC will continue to be at the SPARK table in a leadership role.

Baker said SPPS is still moving forward with potential merger/closure/relocation of elementary schools, with the school board voting on 11/16. Heather Kilgore's mother passed away and she has been on leave.

Murphy raised an issue on behalf of Eastside families, regarding safety concerns at Battle Creek. Baker will follow-up on that. There was discussion about how the city is experiencing so much trauma and so much frustration. The district is trying to provide support and the needs are so great. Murphy offered to connect Baker with families who are raising these concerns.

Ramsey County had a workshop of violence prevention. They are going to allocate \$16M of ARPA funds to violence prevention.

**Meeting adjourned 10:08 AM.**

**Roll call votes for November 10, 2021 Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting**

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda	Motion 2 – Invoice Partners	Motion 3 – Reserve Policy
Baker	YES	YES	YES
Carter	YES	Not present	
Donaby		YES	YES
Flowers	YES	YES	YES
Foster - absent			
Klebsch	YES	YES	YES
MartinRogers		YES	YES
McGuire	YES	YES	YES
Mensing	YES	YES	Not present
Murphy		YES	YES
Noecker	YES	YES	YES
Yang	YES	YES	YES