

**Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting**

**April 10, 2024**

**8:00am – 10:00am**

**Hybrid (In person and via Zoom)**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Darlene Fry, Angelica Klebsch, Nicolee Mensing, Rena Moran, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Erica Prosser, Jackie Turner, Erica Valliant, Daisy Vang, Gaolia Xiong
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Dana Abrams, Emmanuel Donaby, Tonya Long, Mai Chong Xiong
<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS PRESENT</b>	Nicole MartinRogers, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators) Stephany Lopez (Youth on Boards) Stevenson Morgan (Assistant to Commissioner Moran)
<b>Meeting called to order by Mensing at 8:04 am.</b>	
<b>Children’s Fire</b> Mai Chong Xiong was going to light the Children’s Fire, but had a family emergency so was unable to be with us.	
<b>Consent Agenda</b>  <b>Motion by Murphy to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2024, board meeting and accept the information contained in the February and March updates from Advance Consulting and the February and March finance reports. Second by Noecker. Motion approved.</b>	
<b>SPCC Administration</b>	

Klebsch shared that due to a promotion at work, she's going to have an ongoing conflict with our meetings, so is going to step down once we have a new nominee for the community rep seat. Advance Consulting will work with Klebsch to share the posting and connect with potential candidates (one at a time) to bring to the full board. Dr. Fry will become a full voting member and the new community rep will become the alternate.

**Motion by Murphy to accept Klebsch's resignation once the community rep seat is filled. Second by Noecker.**

The SPCC subcommittee charged with evaluating Advance Consulting's 2023 performance and running the administrative support RFP process in 2024 gave an update. The draft of the text of an RFP was shared with the board in advance of the meeting. Mensing has shared the draft RFP with Ramsey County, who will publish the RFP. The subcommittee also has the Advance Consulting self-report on their annual accomplishments. The subcommittee has started the administrative support review process and will meet this month and bring the scores/comments to the board in May.

**Motion by Murphy to approve the draft RFP language. Second by Noecker. Motion approved.**

The SPCC subcommittee charged with working with organizational partners to increase the partner contributions to support the operation of the Collaborative gave an update and presented their recommendation and asked for action by the SPCC board. Commissioner Moran pointed out that doing a resolution from SPCC doesn't guarantee that each partner organization will approve the additional funding request. She asked for something written that she could take to Ramsey County board to talk about the value of the investment, and what SPCC would do with the funds. Vang asked how the amounts were determined. The subcommittee looked at current contributions, time passed since last increase, and the respective budgets of the partner organizations.

**Motion by Prosser to ask partner organizations to increase their contributions starting in 2025 as follows: Ramsey County \$70K (current is \$50K), Saint Paul Public Schools \$70K (current is \$50K), City of Saint Paul \$35K (current is \$20K) and CAP/RW \$11K (current is \$10K). Second by Murphy. Motion approved.**

The original agenda had an item related to Youth on Boards recruiting, but that was covered earlier this year. We again encourage SPCC board members to share this great opportunity with young people in their networks. The next round of recruiting starts in January 2025.

## **Program Development**

MetrixIQ completed work on the SPCC-funded effort to create a more detailed plan for the proposed St. Paul PreK program that will be put to voters in November. The draft was shared with the SPCC board on Monday April 8. The report will be shared publicly in advance of the November ballot initiative, so voters have a much clearer sense of the program.

MetrixIQ is available to do a presentation on the plan to the SPCC, and it was suggested that that be done through a Community of Care event so more people could learn about the plan. We will also post the draft on our website and officially send it to the Saint Paul City Council members and other SPCC partners for their review/information. We will also put out a press release so that the report is more widely available. There was a question about how the potential program would be funded, which is through a St. Paul tax proposal, which will be on the ballot in November 2024. The plan lays out how the tax revenue would be spent to support a city-wide PreK program. Vang asked if the ballot proposal has to say how the money will be used. Noecker explained that that is a requirement of any ballot measure, but the detail on the actual ballot is limited, which is why this plan is useful. Turner suggested that one of the key points of the plan is that this would allow us to serve more young children, being as specific as possible. Also being clear that this is not funding for an existing city program, but a new effort that will serve more children. Noecker said that MetrixIQ is working on an executive summary, and SPCC will work with partners to draft talking points and figure out who should be the media contact. Mensing pointed out that it is not the SPCC's scope to determine how the PreK program would run, but rather to make the information public.

**Motion by Murphy to accept the MetrixIQ Saint Paul PreK report and make it publicly available by posting on our website, sending it to the City Council members, county commissioners, CAP/RW, and the Saint Paul Public Schools, and hosting a presentation of the highlights by MetrixIQ in May, and sending a press release. Second by Noecker. Motion approved.**

In the board packet, we shared a request that SPCC facilitate a work group including the City, the school district, and Sprockets to develop a common vision and goals for out-of-school-time programming for Saint Paul youth. The City, district, and Sprockets met and believe there is need for more vision for the shared work together on behalf of young people. It will probably take four to six months. Anyone from the SPCC board would also be welcome to join. Mensing talked about how this is a great example of how the SPCC can and should do systems integration. Advance Consulting stated that they have capacity, based on what they understand now about the scope, to do this work, and if the scope ends up being more than is possible in the current contract, they will bring that back to the board.

**Motion by Murphy to have SPCC facilitate a work group to create a common vision and goals for youth programming in St. Paul. Second by Vang. Motion approved.**

**Youth Outcomes Plan: Data Update**

The Youth Outcomes Plan subcommittee shared info on an updated cost estimate from Wilder Research to do the five-year update on the outcomes. Moran asked if this information is available elsewhere. MartinRogers said that yes, the sources are all public data, but the SPCC has done this work so that it is specific to Saint Paul and accessible to the community in an understandable way. There is a real challenge for community, potential grantees, partners, and others to understand the publicly available data in this case. Murphy asked if this effort could be pushed to next year, once it is more clear what unrestricted funds are available. Murphy also talked about concerns about child welfare data being limited to children living in the city. Mensing and Moran suggested we wait on entering into a contract with Wilder until we know more about partner contributions. MartinRogers said that completing this by early 2025 would be necessary for the board to review the data before developing the next RFP for SPCC grants. Noecker pointed out that the case for increasing partner contributions is about the work we're already doing, not prospective new work, so we could move forward now. Noecker said the City's budget for 2025 won't be known until December of this year. Another option is to leave the scope of the data the same as it's always been, and then the contract amount already budgeted would be adequate. We need to bring that back to the board next month with more detailed info on the budget for 2024, and consider the amount needed to keep current indicators and/or expand.

**Youth Outcomes Plan Goal: Young People Ready for K**

In the first of three planned meetings on the topic, Advance Consulting shared some background data on our Youth Outcome Plan goal that young people are ready for kindergarten. There was a question about why Minneapolis school readiness rates are higher than Saint Paul. Advance Consulting will follow-up with Generation Next about this. Turner talked about how going to full day PreK has had good outcome benefits, but meant only half as many children being served. Same is true for Head Start. And the pandemic was really hard on childcare industry as a whole. Moran said that SPCC has an awesome opportunity to make grants to improve outcomes on our Youth Outcomes Plan. She's wondering how well organizations know each other, so they can leverage other program's strengths, and she suggested that we increase the opportunities for our grantees and other organizations to connect.

**Partner Updates**

None this month.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:58 am.**

**Roll call votes for April 10, 2024, Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting**

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda	Motion 2 – Partner Contributions	Motion 3 – Admin Spt RFP	Motion 4 – Partner Contributions	Motion 5 – PreK Plan
Donaby (absent)					
Fry (Alt – voting)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Klebsch	YES	YES	YES		
Long (absent)					
Mensing	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Moran	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Murphy	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Noecker	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Prosser	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Turner		YES	YES	YES	YES
Valliant			YES	YES	YES
Vang	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Xiong, G		YES	YES	YES	YES
Xiong, M (absent)					