

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

**May 8, 2024**

**8:00am – 10:00am**

**Via Zoom**

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<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Emmanuel Donaby, Darlene Fry, Tonya Long, Nicolee Mensing, Rena Moran, Hoang Murphy, Rebecca Noecker, Erica Prosser, Jackie Turner, Erica Valliant, Daisy Vang, Gaolia Xiong, Mai Chong Xiong
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Dana Abrams, Angelica Klebsch
<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS PRESENT</b>	Nicole MartinRogers, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators)
<b>Community of Care event: Saint Paul Early Childhood Initiative Report presentation by MetrixIQ and Emmy Liss (first hour of meeting)</b>	
<b>Meeting called to order by Mensing at 9:04 am.</b>	
<b>Children’s Fire</b> Mai Chong Xiong, thinking about cultural practices from her community. She said that in her upbringing, it didn’t always feel like children’s voices were valued. One of the amazing things about being Hmong American is healing from that trauma and finding ways to incorporate things that really nurture children. She shared words from UNICEF about children’s rights as a model for thinking about our work and values.	

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## Consent Agenda

**Motion by Turner to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2024, board meeting and accept the information contained in the April update from Advance Consulting. Second by Noecker. Motion approved. Note that the fiscal agent has not yet sent the April finance report, so that will be included in a later meeting agenda. Motion approved.**

## SPCC Administration

Mensing sent the text for the draft RFP to the county, so they can put it in their format and publish it. We are waiting for them to send us back the draft. We may seek an electronic vote from the board on the draft once available. They are also working on feedback on last year's performance by Advance Consulting in the role of administrative support consultant. That will come next month in a closed session.

At the April meeting, the SPCC asked Advance Consulting to prepare a background document for the Partner Contribution subcommittee members, so that each partner organization's board could have it for background when considering the request for increased support. The draft was attached to the board packet. The members of the subcommittee should send that to their respective boards.

The annual renewal of SPCC's insurance policy is coming up with League of Minnesota Cities. The board was asked whether they'd like to waive the statutory limits on liability. The board has NOT voted to do so for the past three years we've had this insurance. Members who waive the statutory limits are waiving the protection of the statutory limits, up to the amount of coverage the member has. A claimant could recover up to the Trust's standard limit of \$2 million, rather than the statutory limit of \$500,000 per claimant. Because the waiver increases the exposure, the premium is 3.5% higher for coverage under the waiver option. Noecker pointed out that we'd be increasing our potential liability and would pay more for that coverage.

**Motion by Donaby to not waive the statutory limits for insurance purposes for the coming year. Second by Noecker. Motion approved unanimously.**

Klebsch shared last month that due to ongoing work conflicts, she is no longer able to serve as community representative. She suggested Camila Mercado Michelli as a nominee. We do not yet have a bio for Camila or confirmation that the board meeting time works for her, so we'll hope to bring that information to the board for action in June.

## Youth Outcomes Plan

The Youth Outcomes Plan Data subcommittee has received information from Wilder Research about options for updating the data. We will need the board to take action on a contract for updating the data. MartinRogers had to leave the meeting due to illness and she's

staffing the youth outcomes plan data subcommittee. The subcommittee members were not prepared to make a recommendation, so it was tabled until the June board meeting.

### **Youth Outcomes Plan: Young People are Ready for Kindergarten**

Mensing continued the presentation from last month, sharing information about Head Start and Early Head Start. They have 13 locations across the county and 11 are in City of Saint Paul. The program is very comprehensive – they have family advocates who help families connect to resources, they have some transportation, nutrition, mental health services, and early intervention. The program is designed to support two generations. They have lots of partnerships, including childcare partners, including Saint Paul Public Schools (starting this year). They also have three community programs that are partners. They have to meet Head Start performance standards in every program, as a condition of receiving federal Head Start funding. Commissioner Moran asked about the switch from part time to full day. Head Start also now has center-based services for infants and toddlers. Mensing talked about the parent policy council, and how that system works, electing parent/guardian members to be part of the council. It's a way for parents to have a strong voice in the program. One of the policy council members also sits on the CAP/RW board.

The board also debriefed the presentation by MetrixIQ. Moran asked if the money will follow families if they move out of St. Paul. It is the clear assumption/direction/policy that the money will ONLY go to St. Paul residents going to St. Paul programs. The City Council made an offer yesterday to a staff person to write the City's early learning plan which should be ready in September, for City Council consideration. There was a question about how Head Start fits into the St. Paul Early Childhood Initiative. With regard to the interaction with Head Start, there are currently 800 families on the wait list for Head Start. If a family wants to attend full day full year Head Start, there is a need for additional funding. Currently, that comes from Pathway 1 Scholarships or Child Care Assistance. Valliant asked about quality measures for the City's initiative. She pointed out that parents often have trouble finding programs if there is a quality requirement. The current thought is being inclusive, rather than exclusive, as the starting point, and help providers move toward increased quality. The current plan includes all program types that charge for tuition. Commissioner Xiong urged consideration of allowing parents to choose the location of the child care program they send their child to, especially given the challenge of finding programs in many areas. Long pointed out if the new program is going to seek families who already have CCAP or Scholarships, we may miss some of the most vulnerable children. That is not the intent – we know that the children who are NOT eligible for other sources are most at risk. Long pointed out that elders are crucial to the development of our children, and that SPCC needs to find ways to support them. Moran talked about the importance of parents getting access to care, and considered whether St. Paul residents are able to use providers who are located in other communities.

### **Partner Updates**

None this month.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.**

**Roll call votes for May 8, 2024, Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting**

	Motion 1 - Consent Agenda	Motion 2 – Insurance
Donaby	YES	YES
Fry (Alt – voting)	YES	YES
Klebsch (absent)		
Long	YES	YES
Mensing	YES	YES
Moran	YES	YES
Murphy (absent)		
Noecker	YES	YES
Prosser	YES	YES
Turner	YES	YES
Valliant	YES	YES
Vang	YES	YES
Xiong, G	YES	YES
Xiong, MC	YES	YES