

Saint Paul Children’s Collaborative Board Meeting

June 12, 2024

8:00am – 10:00am

Hybrid via Zoom and in person at 450 Syndicate Street North, St. Paul

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	Hannah Corbett, Emmanuel Donaby, Angelica Klebsch, Tonya Long, Nicolee Mensing, Rena Moran, Hoang Murphy, Jackie Turner, Daisy Vang, Gaolia Xiong
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	Dana Abrams, Darlene Fry, Rebecca Noecker, Erica Prosser, Erica Prosser, Erica Valliant, Mai Chong Xiong
STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT	Nicole MartinRogers, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators) Carlo Franco (SPPS Board of Directors, for Erica Valliant) Janice LaFloe and LaVon Lee (Montessori American Indian Child Care Center)
Meeting called to order by Mensing at 8:06 am.	
Children’s Fire The Montessori American Indian Child Care Center’s LaVon Lee lit the children’s fire, centering us on our shared focus on children. The board also expressed thanks to Angelica Klebsch for her service as Community Representative to the SPCC board since 2019. We’ll miss her wisdom and commitment to Saint Paul’s children!	
Consent Agenda	

Motion by Murphy to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2024, board meeting and accept the information contained in the May update from Advance Consulting, as well as the finance reports for April and May. Second by Xiong. Motion approved.

SPCC Administration: Nominee

Klebsch suggested Camila Mercado Michelli as a new nominee for Community Representative – Alternate. Her bio was included in the board packet, and she confirmed she is able to serve. She, like all community representatives, will be serving as an individual, not in her professional capacity at Blue Cross Foundation.

Motion by Klebsch to nominate Camile Mercado Michelli as Alternate Community Representative. Second by Murphy. Motion approved.

Motion by Murphy to nominate Darlene Fry as Community Representative. Second by Vang. Motion approved.

Youth Outcomes Plan: Young People are Ready for Kindergarten

Learn, Grow, Thrive grantee Montessori American Indian Child Care Program leaders Janice LaFloe and LaVon Lee shared information on their program with the board.

The Board then discussed the information presented on Kindergarten Readiness over the past three months, and what additional actions the SPCC could take to improve K readiness. Currently, the SPCC has two grantees working toward this goal (Montessori American Indian Child Care Program and Hallie Q. Brown). SPCC has also been engaged in program development for the Saint Paul Early Childhood Initiative, through creation of the blueprint for the program, ongoing participation in program development, and most recently, funding the work of MetrixIQ to create a more robust document to be used for development of a detailed plan. There is a challenge in the restrictions for use of our LCTS funds only for direct service, given the very high per child cost of early learning programming.

The gaps in K readiness that were pointed out are funding (huge!), finding other culturally-specific early learning programs and supporting those. When you have a board of directors (like SPCC), they need to get out in the communities that we are trying to support.

Transportation is a big barrier – Montessori American Indian Child Care’s ability to provide transportation helps many families access the program. Long asked a question about whether Montessori follow-up with families after they enter public school. YES! They come back in the fall. They also promote with families to make an informed choice about elementary school – what do you expect? Families have

choices and Montessori help them navigate that for their children. One suggestion – learn more from/about the CLUES child care incubator model – perhaps an idea for a site visit.

Youth Outcomes Plan: Data Update

The subcommittee working on the plan for updating Youth Outcome Plan data has been gathering information, but does not have a specific recommendation for the board. Part of the challenge is the higher cost for including some of the data points the subcommittee explored, particularly given the SPCC's limited unrestricted funding, and the pending increase next year. This data is important to us because it's focused on Saint Paul young people, it's racially disaggregated, and more. The subcommittee met on Monday of this week. They understand that this year's budget may not support all the questions being answered. They wonder why we don't try to find other ways to gather the data? They said keep the current data for now, and Commissioner Xiong and others will see if they can get additional data from Ramsey County or other sources. The data does get provided by partners without charge – the cost is to disaggregate and analyze and present the data.

Motion by Moran to contract with Wilder Research for \$10,000 to update the current data indicators and have the data subcommittee explore how other data points could be included through in-kind contributions or through work by Advance Consulting. Second by Vang. Motion approved.

SPCC Administration

Mensing gave board members this reminder. SPCC bylaws state “all representatives are expected to attend regularly scheduled board meetings. If a representative has two (2) unexcused absences or three (3) consecutive absences over a twelve (12) month period, the board upon majority vote, may request the appointing party to designate a new representative.”

[Advance Consulting left the meeting at this point.]

Mensing has been working with Ramsey County to finalize the Request for Proposals for administrative support for the next five year period.

The administrative support subcommittee reviewed Advance Consulting’s document showing accomplishments over the previous year and shared their response with the board. Commissioner Moran asked to extend the draft of the consultant evaluation for the board to provide their feedback. Mensing allowed the draft to be extended till June 14th.

Motion by Moran to anonymously vote to publish the RFP through Ramsey County with the projected timeline of the beginning of July to the end of July posting period. Second by Xiong. Motion approved

[Advance Consulting rejoined the meeting at this point.]

The board discussed how the new process of three-meeting cycles focused on a Youth Outcome Plan goal worked the first time with K readiness, and decided the next focus should be possibly mental health. Moran pointed out that it may be helpful for grantees to get together, and from that SPCC could capture outcomes of those discussions. It is helpful for them to know each other. Long pointed out that there are still cultural communities that are not getting mental health services, and we should try to gather more information about that.

Partner Updates

Vang asked for the board’s advice about her major choice, and what to pursue. Follow your passion!

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.

Roll call votes for June 12, 2024, Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting

	Motion 1 – Nominee Mercado	Motion 2 – Nominee Fry	Motion 3 – Consent Agenda	Motion 4 – Data contract with Wilder	Motion 5 – Admin Spt RFP
Donaby	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Fry (Alt – absent)					
Klebsch	YES	YES			YES

Long	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mensing	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Moran	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Murphy	YES	YES	YES		
Noecker (absent)					
Prosser (absent)					
Turner	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Valliant (absent)					
Vang	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Xiong, G	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Xiong, MC (absent)					