

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

**March 12, 2025**

**8:00am – 10:00am**

**Virtual Only Via Zoom**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Iyannah Burns, Emmanuel Donaby, Darlene Fry, Tonya Long, Nicolee Mensing, Rena Moran, Rebecca Noecker, Jackie Turner, Daisy Vang, Zang Vang-Lee, Mai Chong Xiong, Erica Valliant
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Camila Mercado Michelli, Erica Prosser
<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS PRESENT</b>	Nicole MartinRogers, Laurie Davis (Advance Consulting – Collaborative Coordinators) Andrew Lowe, Ramsey County fiscal agent Hannah Corbett, Ramsey County non-voting staff rep (absent) Dana Abrams, Saint Paul Public Schools (non-voting rep) Megan Jekot, Aide to CM Noecker
<b>Meeting called to order by Mensing at 8:05 am.</b>	
<b>Children’s Fire</b> Camilla Mercado Michelli was scheduled to light the Children’s Fire but was absent. Hopefully she can do it next month.	
<b>Consent Agenda</b>	

**Motion by Turner to approve the minutes from the February 12 board meeting and accept the information contained in the February update from Advance Consulting, as well as the finance report for February 2025. Second by Fry. Motion approved.**

### **Learn, Grow, Thrive Grants**

A board subcommittee (Mensing, Turner, Long, Xiong, and Moran) worked on a draft RFP over the past month, which was included in the board packet for advance review.

**Motion by Donaby to approve the RFP for the 2026-27 Learn, Grow, Thrive grants. Second by Turner. Motion approved. (Fry, Moran, and Vang-Lee abstained)**

The board had a discussion about how this RFP and the grants SPCC makes impacts outcomes at a community level. The subcommittee worked hard to reflect the SPCC board's priorities as reflected in the Youth Outcomes Plan in the RFP.

**Motion by Turner to distribute \$2M through the RFP and keep \$91,415 for additional emergent/emergency needs over the two year period. Second by Long. Motion approved.**

The board reviewed the posting seeking community reviewers for the RFP and discussed the review process.

**Motion by Turner to approve the community reviewer posting and to seek two community reviewers to participate in the review process and provide a stipend of \$750 to reviewers. Second by Long. Motion approved.**

### **Board member updates**

Long noted that a coalition of Native-led organizations are bringing in two Lakota elders from Canada this Sunday at AIM from 4-6pm (meal and child care provided). All are welcome. Flier was sent by email to all board members.

Dr. Fry talked about Urban Teen Wellness Bash for May 3 – all kinds of cool activities will be available at their site. Additional info will be sent by email to all board members..

Vang-Lee shared that the Hmong Early Childhood Coalition is hosting Play and Learn sessions at the Brooklyn Park and St. Paul Libraries – Arlington Hills on first and second Thursdays of each month from 11:30 – 1pm. Focus on social emotional development, open to all! March to May, then during summer the focus will be on transition to K. Flier was sent by email to all board members.

Turner shared she's at Harlem Children's Zone, and it's been hugely inspiring.

Davis shared that the Extended Time Learning bill is being heard at the legislature today.

Long noted that the Indian Child Welfare Act and the MN Indian Family Preservation Act are being challenged in Minnesota right now on equal protection grounds at the state level.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.**

**Roll call votes for online vote and March 12, 2025, Saint Paul Children's Collaborative Meeting**

	Motion 1 – Consent Agenda	Motion 2 – RFP	Motion 3 – RFP Amount	Motion 4 – RFP Review Team/ Stipend
Burns	(not yet present)	YES	YES	YES
Donaby	YES	YES	YES	YES
Fry	YES	ABSTAIN	YES	YES
Long	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mensing	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mercado Michelli (absent)				

Moran	YES	ABSTAIN	YES	YES
Noecker	YES	YES	YES	YES
Prosser (absent)				
Turner	YES	YES	YES	YES
Valliant	(not yet present)	YES	YES	YES
Vang	YES	YES	YES	YES
Vang-Lee (alt – voting)	YES	ABSTAIN	ABSTAIN	ABSTAIN
Xiong	(not yet present)	YES	YES	YES