

MINUTES

Kent County Local Management Board Meeting

February 15, 2024, 9:30am – 11:30am, Hybrid Meeting

Newlin Room at Washington College's Miller Library

Attendance

Board Members: Shelley Heller, Tracey Watters, Jamie Barrett, Lauren Searce, Zita Seals, Jillyn Coleman, Susan Berman, Julie Gill, Claudia Wayne, and Shelley Neal Edwards

Staff and Guests: Rosemary Ramsey Granillo, Niara Wilson, Rachael Carmody, Paul Tue, Ron Dixon, William Johnson, Joe Grabis, Harry Kettner

Absent: Terrance Moody, Wanda Boyer, Samantha Rivera, and Vandrick Hamlin

Agenda and Minutes

Reviewed agenda, Motion to approve November 16, 2023, minutes: Tracey Watters, Second: Niara Wilson

Director's Report

Rachel Carmody, Systems of Care Coordinator starts on Tuesday February 20, 2024.

Connected Devices/Kent County Free Laptop Program- KCLMB is still accepting applications for the Connected Devices Program. Approximately 150 laptops are left to distribute. If you are interested in partnering with the LMB for a distribution event, please contact us.

The Mental Health Resource Fair will be held on May 2, 2024, at Kent County High School. Findlay House Global will facilitate sessions in all three elementary schools using the Kent County Health Department Disparities Grant Funds. Findlay House Global have begun their pilot phase of "Beyond Your Mental" peer mentoring program and has recently hired a local program manager.

Choptank Tolomato Legacy has not been able to fulfill the number of sessions they had planned for the program. They are going to submit a budget modification. When the extra funds are returned, we will see where additional funds for programming can be used.

Imagination Library received a donation of \$100,000- we are discussing creating an endowment to sustain the program indefinitely.

Maryland Consortium for Coordinated Supports (Behavioral Health Services) awarded \$120 million dollars statewide for student mental health. Four proposals were submitted for Kent County. Two were awarded funds: For All Seasons: \$735,000 and Choptank Community Health System \$240,000.

The Governor's Office for Children has been re-established with Special Secretary Carmel Martin. They are working to pass the ENOUGH Act.

"ENOUGH stands for Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households, and the legislation is a first-in-the-nation state level effort to end concentrated child poverty. Through place-based interventions in select communities across the State, ENOUGH will give communities the support and resources they need to identify the root causes of poverty in their neighborhoods and begin to address them. ENOUGH jurisdictions will work with community organizations, non-profits, anchor institutions, and other key community members to build a locally focused and community-driven plan of action for addressing poverty and will be selected through a competitive application process."

If Kent is to engage in this approach, we would target a specific neighborhood and work with them (it must be community-driven) to identify strategies in three areas.:

1. Child service support from cradle to career.
2. Economically stable households with a two-generation approach
3. Safe and vibrant communities with access to housing, healthcare, and childcare

FY2025 Priorities Approved

The Board voted to approve the estimated allocations for FY2025 programs and costs.
 Motion to approve: Shelley Heller, Second, Susan Berman

Revenue Comparison	FY23	FY24	FY25
Kent County Commissioners	\$130,553.00	\$59,281.00	\$80,000
Maryland State Department of Education	\$64,349.00	\$64,349.00	\$64,349
Community Partnership Agreement (Children's Cabinet)	\$453,229.00	\$422,015.00	\$422,015
Local Care Team (Children's Cabinet)	\$90,437.00	\$131,450	\$131,450
ENOUGH Act			-
Brighter Day Fund (Rotary and Health Dept.)	\$5,000.00	\$7,000	\$7,000
Connected Device/Free Laptop - DHCD	\$0.00	\$4,200	-
Safe Summer Award – Dept. Juvenile Services	\$ -	\$68,000.00	-
Grand Total	\$738,568.00	\$756,295.00	\$704,814

BUDGET	FY2024	FY2025
	Total	Total
Minary's Dream Academy	\$95,000	\$120,000
Youth Led Mentoring	\$60,000	\$100,000
Healthy Families	\$147,626	\$150,000
Youth Spaces (FY24 MDA, Choptank Legacy, HipHop Time Capsule)	\$108,297	
Community Support (Planning, Training, Food, Supplies, Brighter Day, Laptops)	\$34,942	\$20,000
Programs Total	\$445,865	\$390,000
Salaries (Director, Systems of Care, Admin; FY23 included H&T Coordinator and Admin vacancy)	\$293,777	\$294,000
Operating (equipment, office supplies, etc)	\$16,654	\$20,000
Office Total	\$310,431	\$314,000
Grand Total	\$756,296	\$704,000

Juvenile Justice Discussion

DJS referral process: If a family is self-referral and it's a minor issue DJS will have a Case Manager reach out with an intake appointment which doesn't include any charges and communicate with the family to get a better understanding of what is going on with the child. During the appointment the Case Manager will then refer the family to different agencies that could better assist the family. Children with misdemeanor charges cannot be committed to DJS unless they violate their probation and have multiple other charges. For example: Malicious Destruction of Property, assault on a parent is a charge that can get a child through the program.

DJS states that early identification to connect with Natural Community Supports would be a great resource to those families with troubled children. Talbot County has a Neighborhood Service Center that has Case Managers assigned to each family to help connect with resources in the community that could be of service to the family to keep youth out of trouble. DJS has seen a massive decrease in referrals due to new legislation, less in Kent County but increased more in the rural urban areas such as Baltimore City/Baltimore County.

Positive success stories for DJS are the youth that learn the lesson the first time and do not become repeat offenders or the parents handle it without an agency being involved.

Kent County Sheriff-when they receive a call for youth under 12yo for committing crimes, they investigate the incident, but they do not make a report. The Sheriff's Office are seeing a decrease in calls for youth. KCSO has approximately five officers certified in Crisis Intervention. The goal for the department is to have all Sheriff's trained in Crisis Intervention as soon as they come from the Academy.

Chestertown Police Department-when they receive a call for youth under 12yo committing crimes, they investigate the situation, document a report, and file it in the system but no charges are generated due to age. Even though it is documented it is not classified as a crime. Documentation is more for data collection. All of the Officers at the Chestertown Police Department are certified in Crisis Intervention.

Police officers are unable to question a youth without a parent/attorney present. Officers are finding it challenging due to the new legislation in place regarding youth under 12yo.

Resource Officers are placed throughout the schools in Kent County, they are seeing less incidents within the call reported to CPS due to the officers handling it at their level.

Meeting Adjourned- Shelley Heller; Second: Jamie Barrett

Next Board Meeting: April 18, 2024