



MINUTES

Kent County Local Management Board

January 31, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Rosemary Ramsey Granillo at 10:05

In attendance

Board Members: Chair William Clark, Vice Chair Myra Butler, Shelley Heller, Shelly Neal-Edwards, William Webb, Sherone Thompson, Annie Woodall, Deeann Jones

Absent: Herbert Dennis, Janice Steffy, John Schratwieser, Teverly Swinson

Guiding Coalition: Paul Tue III, Arlene Lee, Nick Garcia, Mark Hampton, Pat Nugent, Robert Greenwald, Sheila Lomax

Staff: Rosemary Ramsey Granillo and Doncella Wilson

Guests: Gail Yerkie, Bess Langbein and Emily Samose, Due East Partners

Introductions

- A draft Guiding Coalition Charter was shared – please follow-up with questions as needed
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KCLMB Background and Role

- The Kent County Local Management Board (KCLMB):
 1. Facilitates constituents conversations, develop broad picture of what is going on in county, connect the dots between school system, health dept, etc
 2. Funds initiatives
 3. Connects State and County gov to communities - what is happening on the ground
- LMB is a department of the county led by a 12-member board and 2 staff people
- 4 programs are currently funded - 3 thru the Governor's office
 1. Healthy Families- Queen Anne's and Kent County Health Dept
 2. Circlebuild – Eastern Shore Psychological Services
 3. Reconnect for Life - MD Rural Development Corporation
 4. Emergency Housing – is a 4th program funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development, delivered through St. Martin's Ministries

Approach to Community Planning

- Charge from the Governor's Office: build a 3-year community plan

- The Board and Guiding Coalition provide leadership and guidance in engaging the whole community to determine what results we should be aiming for, what are priorities, what are the actions to get there
 - Start with the end in mind – establish a shared picture of the future we want to create
 - Identify quantifiable results and determine if we are advancing toward that vision
 - Shared vision makes the "how we get there" easier
 - Implement strategies while the plan is in development (lean forward)
 - Due East Partners brings the process/methodology that is tailored to this group and this community
 - Test and strengthen the plan as we go
 - Early wins are built into the plan to allow celebrations along the way - wins of individual children and families
 - Develop the plan with people with lived experience - people being served and those affected by the issues need to be at the table
 - Co create - give feedback and push back

Collective Impact

- Half the meeting participants indicated that they have experience/know what it is
- An [article from David Brooks](#) on Collective Impact was shared
- The approach involves bringing all sectors together to solve problems - to create a shared vision and common agenda (strategic plan)
- Make sure everyone is at the table
- Shared measurement - feed data from our programs into the same systems
- Backbone is the coordinating body (LMB)
- Continuous communication is critical - constant and regular communication – via email/technology and meetings
- Mutually reinforced activities - applying collective strategies with each organization and group
- No *one* group can do it alone
- Focus groups to shape shared vision planned for LDAAC meeting, Undoing Racism workshop
 - Helpful to use existing meetings/tables to collect ideas
 - Collect info/data - compile, get feedback

Kent County Data Review

- Data audit was completed last fall
 - Aligned with all of the Governor's results areas
 - Have triaged the results areas - overlapping with FY20 NOFA priority areas
- Poverty - disparity on medium family income for white and black families
- Incarceration - large disparity btwn blacks and white (8 times)
- Youth Homelessness - as reported by the school system – higher than MD's rate but remains steady over time
- Disconnected youth - 2017 – only official data point available - slightly over 10% - higher than state average
- Food insecurity

- 70% of food insecure families are not eligible for assistance – they are right above the poverty line
- Question: what is the definition of food insecurity?
 - [Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap](#) provides the USDA definition:
 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (**USDA**) defines **food insecurity** as a lack of consistent access to enough **food** for an active, healthy life. ... Hunger refers to a personal, physical sensation of discomfort, while **food insecurity** refers to a lack of available financial resources for **food** at the level of the household.
 - [USDA Definitions of Food Insecurity](#)
 - Lack of consistent access to food for an active, healthy life
 - Household income, proximity to grocery store - some portion of most days when families are healthy
 - Higher than state average for students eligible for free and reduced-priced meals
- Juvenile Justice - racial disparity of referrals
- Suspensions - of all black students in the HS - 72% were suspended in 2016
 - 97 incidents of suspensions were AA students
- Truancy – has increased - school has truancy officer and attendance specialist – roles are limited to making calls, tracking, getting kids to truancy court
 - No one from school system could make it to today's meeting
- ACEs -- going down – stable
 - Caroline county is higher in reports – has sent an increase of cases and reports
 - Kent County – smallest county, smallest amount of cases and reports
- Out-of-home placements
 - Low numbers – placed in juvenile services or foster care – foster kids are not in KC – don't have enough providers in KC

Results Based Accountability (RBA)

- Focused on grounding ourselves in data
- Look at data and talk about what is going on, strategies for what to reverse negative trends or maintain positive trends
- Use RBA as a tool to determine what it is we want to be measuring
- Start with the results – work back to how we are going to get there
- One turn the curve exercise today – how will we change the downward trajectory or maintain/increase the upward trajectory

Turn the Curve Exercise: Child Poverty by Race

- Data shows a positive trend line
 - Families moving away from KC – impacts the trend line
 - Moving away due to lack of jobs and unhappiness with schools
- *What will happen if we do nothing?*
 - There will be long-term health impacts
 - High crime and high rates of incarceration

- Increased school absences
 - Agencies will spin their wheels and won't address the cycle of poverty
- *What is the story behind the curve – what is happening in KC to impact child poverty?*
 - More orgs have gotten involved – has positively impacted the trend line
 - The data impacts how we look at racial disparities – the numbers may be misleading
 - County has seen changing demographics – the number of children has gone down and the number of African American residents has gone down
 - Numbers of students in the school system has gone down
 - We need to get statistics on jobs in KC – more good jobs are needed here
 - The skills of the workforce do not align with the jobs available
 - Transportation and mobility are issues
 - Housing costs have gone up
- *What's working to decrease child poverty?*
 - More collaboration between agencies, organizations, groups
 - Successful prevention programs, for example:
 - The 4 KCLMB programs
 - Library Teen Center
 - Community center provides transportation for middle school students from school to the center and back to their home communities
 - Washington College Resources
 - Sunday School at Graves Chapel provides transportation
 - STAR – Students Talking About Race
 - [Handle with Care](#) - increase trauma-informed approaches and address Adverse Childhood Experiences to prevent future victimization or criminality. (still trying to bring this to Kent County)
 - Project Purple – focused on substance abuse
- *Strategies and Actions to Decrease Childhood Poverty in Kent County*
 - Engage with Families
 - Mentoring programs – Bayside HOYAS, Rising Sons, Big Brothers/Sisters, GLOW
 - Bridges Out of Poverty
 - Improve transportation
 - Support to get kids to school
 - Skills training for employability
 - Data on suspension vis a vis poverty (populations and geography)
 - [Hope House](#) – DC program that is working well – could be modeled in KC
 - 2Gen mentorship – especially with fathers
 - 2Gen approaches – especially for working families who are just over the poverty line – the working poor

What's Next:

- Will circulate a doodle pole to schedule next meeting
 - Start earlier and meet for 2 hours
- Will share notes and materials from today
- Set-up Basecamp for communication
- Board and Guiding Coalition recommend other voices/people to include
- Will send more information about collective action
- Will share a star chart – including benchmarks for community plan development

- Find a time to go through the RBA methodology in more depth