

Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention Board

May 18, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Bluejean

Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Roll Call

Members present: Heather Wagers, Christa Bell, Damien Sweeney, Eric Clark, Delana Sanders, LeAnna Homandberg, Chelsea McConaha, Dr. Traci Downs-Bouchard, Heather Storm, Yvette Smith, Dr. Vinod Rao, and Claudette Patton.

III. Review and approval of the Minutes of Regular Meeting held March 2, 2020

- a. Board members reviewed the March 2, 2020 minutes. Dr. Traci Downs-Bouchard moved to approve the board minutes and Eric Clark seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Board minutes will be available on the website so that everyone can stay apprised of the discussion at the meetings.

IV. Committee Reports & Assignments

i. Finance and Grants Management

- Heather Wagers reported that approximately 40% of the budget allocated for the fiscal year had been utilized as of May 1st. Office staff has not been able to locate any internal records of an internal or formal audit of the specialty license plate performed since FY 2016. It is the office's understanding that the State Auditor's Office has the first right of refusal to conduct such an audit. An audit by APA would be estimated to cost \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a formal audit. Potentially, an RFP may have to be sought to have a formal audit if the APA denied the request. The board members discussed and authorized the AG's office to utilize such funding as was necessary to comply with the law.
- Heather Storm was added to the Committee.
- Claudette Patton will serve as Chair of this Committee.

ii. Operations and Legislative

- Heather Wagers stated that General Cameron worked with House leadership for the passage of House Bill 2 which passed unanimously and will go into effect on July 15th. House Bill 2 was the human trafficking bill that increases the presence of the National Hotline number across the state and will provide additional tools for prosecutors and law enforcement officers. The bill was sponsored by Rep. Suzanne Miles.
- Delana Sanders stated that Rep. Fisher's bill regarding the termination of parental rights of when a child is born out of sexual abuse passed.

- Eric Clark stated that Senate Bill 40, sponsored by Rep. Ralph Alvarado, passed and it will require employees of child care and foster workers to get fingerprinted.
 - Eric Clark was added to the Committee.
 - LeAnna Homandberg will serve as the Chair of this Committee.
- iii. Research/Development and Training
- Chelsea McConaha and Dr. Traci Downs-Bouchard were added to the Committee.
 - The Committee needs to elect a chair by next meeting.

V. **New Business**

a. **Discussion of Strategic Plan Proposed by Operations and Legislative Committee**

- i. Heather Wagers stated that because of COVID-19 this committee has not had an opportunity to develop a strategic plan together, but the chair stated that they will have it ready by next month. It will be for the next biennium.

b. **Financial Report of the Child Victim Trust Fund**

- i. Heather Wagers stated that the office was trying to locate additional documents so that they could provide a breakdown on how much was spent in each category from the current budget. However, she could attest that \$140,000 has been spent of the \$350,000 overall budget, and that she would update the board if additional information could be located.
- ii. **Medical Grant Child Sexual Reimbursement**
- Barron River CAC has asked for \$7500 for 100 exams. Last year they billed for 85 exams. As of April, they have submitted 68 exams. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$7500, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
 - Cumberland Valley CAC has asked for \$4125 for 55 exams. In the last 2 years, they have had 44 and 49 exams. LeAnna Homandberg made a motion to approve \$4125, motion was seconded by Traci Bouchard. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
 - Family and Children's Place has asked for \$13,125 for 175 exams. This is a larger number than they have ever asked for submitted before. They think their numbers will increase because of COVID-19. Delana Sanders expressed concern for the increase of funding requested for salaries and the number of exams anticipated since they only had 79 completed last year. A motion was made to approve 90 exams for \$6675 with the option of them to be able to resubmit an application if they are going to go over that number, by Delana Sanders, the motion was seconded by Christa Bell. Dr.

Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Green River has asked for \$3375 for 45 exams. This year they have submitted 15 and last year they submitted 37. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$3375, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Hope's Place has asked for \$2250 for 30 exams. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$2250, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Judy's Place has asked for \$6750 for 90 exams. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$6750, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- KY River CAC has asked for \$1875. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$1875, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Lotus has asked for \$1875 for 25 exams. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$1875, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Silverleaf has asked for \$1500 for 20 exams. A motion was made by LeAnna Homandberg to approve \$1500, motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

iii. **Prevention Grants**

- ECHO requested \$48,642 with a proposal that would reach Jefferson County residents. The overall consensus of the board was that the proposal would not reach enough people as described to justify such a large sum of money. Additionally, board members thought the budget was too broad. Motion was made to deny by LeAnna Homandberg and Traci Bouchard seconded the motion. The motion to not fund the proposed project was approved unanimously.
- Family Nurturing Center requested \$56,574 to utilize in Boone, Kenton, and Campbell Counties. Board members noted that there was an issue with their mileage rate but that can be reconciled easily. A motion was made by Delana Sanders to approve \$56,574 and seconded by Claudette Patton. The motion to approve funding for the project was approved unanimously.
- Child Watch Counseling and Advocacy Center requested \$24,653 to be utilized for 13 counties. There was discussion by the board if the cash match was allowable under the statutory guidelines. LeAnna made a motion to approve \$24,653 if the cash match is acceptable and Chelsea McConaha seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- PACS Community Collaboration for Children requested \$30,000 to utilize on efforts in Christian County only. The board members noted several issues with their application. The board requested that someone from the AG's office consult with them to assist them in preparing next year's application. Heather Wagers made a motion to deny the application and the motion was seconded by Delana Sanders. The motion to deny the application was approved unanimously.
- CAFCA Cares requested \$157,771.65. The board members noted several issues with their application and the proposed program. Heather Wagers made a motion to deny the funding for the proposed project, and Christa Bell seconded the motion. The motion to deny the application was passed unanimously.
- Prevent Child Abuse KY requested \$26,603. The board discussed the application and felt that the grantee could use more objectives and goals, but felt that this could be explored as the grantee communicates status of projects frequently. LeAnna Homandberg made a motion to approve \$26,603 and Traci Bouchard seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- South Central KY Kids on the Block has asked for \$30,676. The Board noted some issues with the application, as things were unclear as stated in the proposal. Motion made by Traci Bouchard to approve \$23,442 with provisions of anyone that has access to kids has a background check, deliverables to increase to 50%, and explore the option to make videos that can reach more people. Claudette Patton seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

c. FY21 Budget Plan Discussions

- The Board, as a whole, discussed their concerns about the status of the CVTF decreasing in donations.
- \$80,000 was approved for the next fy budget for the Board to utilize in statewide education, and public education and awareness. The Board would discuss further ideas at the next meeting. There would still need to be a vote to use the money by the Board before any money was expended. A motion was made to approve by Eric Clark and was seconded by Traci Bouchard. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Delana Sanders made a motion to approve the FY21 budget of \$452,748 and Eric Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

d. Conference Sponsorship Applications

- i. None were submitted for consideration.

e. Grant Application Discussion

i. Extension of Application Period due to COVID-19

- Six of the Child Advocacy Centers were unable to apply for funding in April. Discussion followed about allowing the CACs to be offered an extension to apply for FY 21 grant funding. Delana Sanders made a motion for CAC to still be able to apply for funding for this fiscal year was passed. The motion was seconded

by Traci Bouchard. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Heather Wagers requested a discussion from the board whether a special meeting was to be held to vote on the applications the CACs submitted. The discussion led to a motion by Delana Sanders to approve funding the CAC's project and to authorize the Finance and Budget Committee to decide on the amount of funding so long as the overall budget of money appropriated for all medical reimbursement funding for the year did not exceed \$85,000. If the committee determined that they needed to exceed the cap amount, a special meeting would be requested to convene the entire Board. Heather Storm seconded the motion. Dr. Rao abstained from voting on this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ii. **COVID-19 Impact on Proposed Deliverables**

- Heather Wagers shared with the Board that several of the grantees had emailed or called to explain difficulties in providing proposed deliverables. Venues that had previously been selected were no longer able to accommodate grantees due to safety concerns as COVID-19 restrictions on group assembly had been restricted. When possible, the grantee was attempting to provide the training remotely. Additionally, a drop in the number of exams being conducted by the CACs was listed as a consequence of COVID-19.

iii. **Discussion and Vote on FY 19-20 Grantee Amended Budget Requests**

- Prevent Child Abuse requested to reallocate \$2,300 for materials to print internet safety tool kits instead of postage, envelopes, and flyers. A motion was made by Eric Clark to approve \$2,300 for printing the internet tool kits and was seconded by LeAnna Homandberg. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Family Nurturing Center was not able to hold some of its previously scheduled training and requested to reallocate \$8,500 for books and the Prevent Specialist's salary and benefits. A motion was made by Traci Bouchard and seconded by Delana Sanders to approve the \$8,500 for books and Prevent Specialist's salary and benefits. The motion was approved unanimously.

f. **Request for Consideration**

i. **Special Prosecution Unit with the Office of Attorney General**

- Rewa Zakharia from Special Prosecution of the Attorney General Office requested funding to pay for an expert witness from Ohio for a child sex case that took 6 years for the victim to come forward and now 6 years later to prosecute. There was a discussion on which category the money would come from and whether or not the Board was able to do this. The funding requested was \$5,000. The board discussed this and the members voted as follows:

Delana Sanders-approved.

Traci Bouchard-approved.

Christa Bell-approved if the Board is allowed to do this.

Yvette Smith-abstained.

Heather Wagers-abstained.

Eric Clark- voted against the proposal because he does not think the Board has the authority.

LeAnna Homandberg-voted against the proposal.

Vinod Rao-abstained.

Claudette Patton-approved.

Heather Storm-approved.

The proposal received 4 yay votes, 2 nay votes, 3 abstention votes, and one vote that was unclear which category it fell in. It was determined that the proposal was approved by the majority of the board voting at the meeting.

VI. Partner Updates & Announcements

- a. A member has moved out of state but would like to stay on the Board. There is no requirement in the statute that members of the Board reside in the state. The board discussed whether the member should remain on the board.
 - i. The consensus was that they wanted a member who was interested in being on the board as that demonstrated their passion for preventing child sexual abuse. No one expressed any objection for the member remaining on the Board.

VII. Adjourn

- a. Leanna Homandberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Delana Sanders seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.