

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2023

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. on November 20, 2023, in Conference Room “A” of the Office of the Attorney General, East office, by Board Chair, Heather Wagers.

Present

Heather Wagers, Office of the Attorney General
Mary Carpenter, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Mona Womack, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Bradly Stotts, Kentucky State Police
Andrea Bruns, Kentucky CASA Network, Inc.
Michelle Sanborn, Children’s Alliance
Steve Shannon, Kentucky Association of Regional Programs
Caroline Ruschell, Children’s Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Dr. Christina Howard, Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Shannon Moody, Kentucky Youth Advocates
Jill Seyfred, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky

Present Virtually

Eboni Thompson, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts

Guests in Attendance

Priya S. Koul
Michelle Lacy, Office of the Attorney General (virtually)
Jetta Collett, Office of the Attorney General (virtually)
Amy Burke, Office of the Attorney General (virtually)
Serah Wiedenhofer, Office of the Attorney General

II. Review of September 18, 2023, minutes for action by the Board

Ms. Sanborn made a motion to accept the September 18, 2023, minutes as presented. Ms. Bruns seconded this motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

III. Financial update by Stacy Woodrum, Office of the Attorney General

Ms. Lacy provided a financial update for September and October 2023. The Board also received copies of the Child Victims’ Trust Fund Specialty License Plate Internal Audit for Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023).

a) KECC Update and action by the Board

Ms. Lacy gave an update on KECC expenditures and donations for 2022 and the first and second quarters of 2023. Ms. Wagers reminded the Board that money received from the KECC represents new revenue for the Child Victims’ Trust Fund.

Ms. Wagers advised the Board that as a partner charity of the KECC, the Child Victims' Trust Fund must provide a breakfast for KECC leaders who organize fundraising efforts throughout the state. Ms. Wagers proposed a budget of \$150 for the breakfast. Ms. Womack made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$150 for the KECC breakfast Ms. Moody seconded this motion. The motion to approve was unanimous.

IV. Review of Prevention Grant Applications for action by the Board

a) Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky

Ms. Carpenter and Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting and left the room. Ms. Womack made a motion to approve the funding request in full. Dr. Howard seconded the motion. The motion to approve the grant application was unanimous.

b) South Central Kentucky Kids on the Block

Ms. Carpenter and Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting and left the room. Ms. Moody made a motion to approve the funding request in full. Ms. Sanborn seconded the motion. The motion to approve the grant application was unanimous.

c) Child Watch Counseling and Advocacy Center, Inc.

Ms. Bruns, Ms. Carpenter, and Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting and left the room. Ms. Womack made a motion to approve the funding request in full. Ms. Ruschell seconded the motion. The motion to approve the grant application was unanimous.

d) Family Nurturing Center of Kentucky

Ms. Carpenter and Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting and left the room. Ms. Bruns rejoined the meeting. Ms. Womack made a motion to approve the funding request in full. Ms. Ruschell seconded the motion. The motion to approve the grant application was unanimous.

e) Judi's Place for Kids, Inc.

Ms. Ruschell, Ms. Carpenter, and Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting and left the room. Ms. Womack made a motion to approve the funding request in full. Captain Stotts seconded the motion. The motion to approve the grant application was unanimous.

Members who recused themselves from voting returned to the meeting.

V. Review of Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Board Annual Report for 2023 for action by the Board

Suggestions were made to modify the report. The Board decided to pass on any action until the report was modified to incorporate the suggested changes.

VI. Strategic planning session

a) Roles and Responsibilities of the Board

The statutory provisions governing the duties of the Board and the use of funding were reviewed. The Board discussed the goals, mission, structure, and priorities of the Board.

b) Overview of other state Prevention Board Plans

The trust fund plans in Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin were reviewed. Like Kentucky, these trust funds address child abuse and neglect prevention and invest in local community-based prevention programming. The trust funds in Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin focus on education and prevention awareness, such as safe sleep. These trust fund plans have been in existence approximately the same length of time as Kentucky’s trust fund with varying lengths of time for strategic plans as represented below:

	Trust Fund Created	Action Plan Timeline
Kentucky	1984	2 year plan
Michigan	1982	2 year plan
Ohio	1984	6 year plan
Wisconsin	1983	3 year plan

The Board discussed a variety of issues related to the development of a strategic plan, such as the length of time for the plan, the ability to modify future strategic plans, the organizational capacity of the Board, and the scope and prioritization of funding child maltreatment prevention programs.

c) Presentation on the key themes from Kentucky research

Priya S. Koul gave an overview of trends revealed through the data and documentation pertaining to child maltreatment and prevention practices. From her review of the information, Ms. Koul arrived at the following 12 overarching themes within child maltreatment:

- Substance Use/Misuse;
- Ongoing Public Education/Awareness;
- Proactive Collaboration;
- Policy/Legislation to address Protective Factors;
- Multisystem Partnerships;
- Role of the Courts/Judiciary;
- CPS Alternative Response;
- Localization of Services;
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion;
- Mental and Behavioral Health;
- Parent Education; and
- Professional Education.

Ms. Koul believed the statutory language regarding the duties of the Board focused on primary prevention efforts. She felt the primary prevention focus applied to the

Board specifically and did not preclude the funding of prevention programs addressing secondary or tertiary prevention programming.

The Board discussed the various statutory duties and purposes of the Board and disbursement of trust fund monies. KRS 15.935 lists funding preferences as set forth by the General Assembly:

1. New or existing prevention programs meeting certain criteria;
2. Specified direct treatment services (medical exams, mental health services);
3. Community Resource Organizations;
4. Statewide public education and awareness campaigns;
5. Evaluation of comparative success of prevention education approaches across Kentucky; and
6. Operating expenses of the Board.

d) Working Lunch – discussion of Research

The Board members considered the 12 overarching themes from Ms. Koul’s presentation and ranked them in order of importance based on their individual knowledge and expertise. After tabulating the individual rankings, the following themes were identified as the most important considerations for the Board in addressing child maltreatment:

1. Substance Abuse/Misuse (receiving 6 votes)
2. Ongoing Public Education/Awareness and Policy/Legislation to address Protective Factors and Mental and Behavioral Health (each receiving 5 votes)
3. Localization of Services and Parent Education and Professional Education (each receiving 4 votes)

“Ongoing Public Education/Awareness” received the most overall highest rankings from the Board members. Ms. Koul considered many of the other ranked themes as falling under the umbrella of the “Ongoing Public Education/Awareness.”

e) Legislative Priorities Discussion from Sen. Julie Raque Adams and Rep. David Meade

Due to scheduling conflicts, the Board’s legislative liaisons were unable to attend the meeting.

f) Group Discussion

The Board discussed the ranked themes and possible ways to provide prevention efforts within those themes. The Board considered areas in which the Board can have the greatest impact on child maltreatment prevention and advocate for change.

Based on these conversations the Board decided to remove “Policy/Legislation to address Protective Factors” from the themes to be considered when developing the strategic plan for the allocation of funding.

g) Wrap-Up

The next step in developing the strategic plan is to arrive at a grant funding program plan. Toward that end, the following will be addressed:

- determining funding allocations for prevention programming grants;
- developing grant solicitations and applications; and
- reviewing solicitations used by other states.

The Grant Management Committee will work on outlining the components of a solicitation. Mr. Shannon and Doctor Howard volunteered to join the Committee.

The Board also wants to consider the staffing and funding of other states’ trust programs. This information will be used as guidance in the Board’s determination of the capacity and sustainability of the trust fund.

A special meeting will be held on November 27, 2023, to vote on the Board’s annual report for 2023. The meeting will be held virtually beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on January 29, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

VII. Partner Updates and Announcements

None given.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Womack made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bruns seconded this motion. The motion was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

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