

THE COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S RESOURCE BOARD  
OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 23, 2021

**Meeting Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

**Roll Call and Guests:**

Present: Paul Boschert, Molly Dempsey, Ken Dobbins, Cory Elliott, Larry Marty, and Nancy Schneider

Absent: Pastor Raymond Horry (vacation) and Catherine Williams (personal)

Staff: Bruce Sowatsky, Michelle McElfresh, Jeanne Spencer

Guests: Karen Englert (Boys & Girls Club), Julie Seymore and Amy Robins, (The Child Center, Inc.), Katrina McDonald Fuller (Compass Health Network), DiAnne Mueller (Crisis Nursery), Jessica Coulter, Paula Ellis, and Stephanie Klopfer (Epworth Children & Family Services), Heather Lytle and Rachel Svejkosky (Family Advocacy & Community Training), Jennifer Vorachack (FamilyForward), Anne Zink (Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition), Kathy Thompson (LINC St. Charles County), Gayla Gibson (Lutheran Family & Children's Services), Tina Meier and Will Wallis (Megan Meier Foundation), Christine Patterson (NAMI St. Louis), Melinda Monroe (Nurses for Newborns), Kaitlyn Ashen (Our Lady's Inn), Kelly Broeker (Preferred Family Healthcare), Saundra Barker (Saint Louis Counseling), Katie Roam and Rebecca Ingle (The Sparrow's Nest), Felicia Linear and Madronica Malone (ThriVe St. Louis), Steve Bourne (UMSL Center for Behavioral Health), Lori Kohrs (United Services for Children), Cara Merritt and Michelle Gorman (Youth In Need), and Cheri Thurman

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the July 26, 2021 Board minutes. (M.S.P.: Dempsey/Dobbins) – Motion passed.

**Partner Presentation:**

- **Megan Meier Foundation:** Tina Meier, Executive Director, and Will Wallis, Program Manager, presented an overview of the counseling services provided to St. Charles County youth. They reported they are witnessing an increase in the severity of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation in the youth calling their office. Staff have partnered with Behavioral Health Response to create a system for a warm transfer of callers to BHR's professional crisis staff, since the MMF is not a crisis helpline. Will shared he was greatly impacted by the CCRB's 2020 report on County youth, which indicated 48% of youth in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades were experiencing hopelessness or depression to a point that it impacts their daily life. As a result, the MMF have increased their marketing and outreach to County youth and families.
  
- **Saints Joachim & Ann Care Service:** Their presentation was rescheduled.

**Public Comment:** No Public Comment.

**Report of the Chair:** Nancy Schneider thanked the Boys & Girls Club for honoring the CCRB with their 2020 Children’s Advocate award at their gala on August 21. Board members and the CCRB staff were present to accept the award.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Cory Elliott gave the Report of the Treasurer and reported on the financial statement ending July 31, 2021. The following balances were reported:

<b>Balance</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget for Month</b>
Services Fund	\$3,119,188.38	
Current Assets	\$4,361,774.03	
Actual Tax Revenues	\$745,199.80	\$684,741.00
Investment Income	\$0.00	
Fundraising	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.00	
Total Revenue	\$745,199.80	\$684,706.67
Services Requests	\$612,609.00	\$719,611.18

Explanation of the 16 line items that were over the 5% variance and over \$1,000 included: Bethany Christian Services (respite), The Child Center (counseling), Community Council (Coordinated Entry), Community Living (respite), FamilyForward (psychological assessments), Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition (educational advocacy), LINC St. Charles County (wraparound), Saint Louis Counseling (counseling), UMSL Center for Behavioral Health (psychological assessments), and Youth In Need (crisis interventions and shelter room & board) were due to high demand. NAMI St. Louis (crisis intervention team) was over the variance due to usage. The Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Charles County (home & community-based) and Compass Health Network (School-Based Mental Health Specialists and Partnership With Families – Medicaid Match) were over the variance due to multiple months of billing.

A motion was made to approve a wire-transfer for \$612,600.00 for the month of July. (M.S.P.: Elliott/Boschert) – Motion passed.

Bruce reported revenues increased 9.5% over 2020 year-to-date.

All CCRB invoices and bills paid were completed with 100% accuracy.

**Report of Standing Committees:**

- Children’s Trust Fund: Bruce reported the CCRB will use a grant process to distribute the remaining \$2,500 received. Programs focusing on child abuse prevention are eligible to apply and the applications are due by 2:00 p.m. on September 10. All funds will be awarded to a single applicant and the award must be used by November 30, 2021.
- Finance: No Finance Committee report.
- Personnel: No Personnel Committee report.
- Executive – Policies and Procedures: Larry Marty reported he and the CCRB staff made suggested revisions to the Bylaws and Governance Policies and a copy was emailed to the Executive Committee for review. A First Reading will be conducted at the September 27 Board meeting.

**Report of Executive Director:** Bruce Sowatsky reported:

- Agencies submitted their 2021 Mid-Year reports and Michelle McElfresh has been processing the reports. She will present the results at the September 27 Board meeting.
- The CCRB staff attended the Boys & Girls Clubs' Back to School Bash and distributed CCRB brochures to families.
- Bruce will present to the St. Charles Kiwanis Club on August 24.
- The CCRB staff met with StratcommRx as part of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training for staff. They met to determine goals and program direction. Material and information will be shared with the Board as it becomes available.
- Agency partners will meet with the CCRB on August 25 to discuss hiring and staff retention and to develop possible solutions for agencies experiencing staffing challenges.
- Allison Onder resigned her position on the CCRB Board and County Executive Steve Ehlmann will appoint a new Board member to be confirmed at the County Council meeting on August 30.
- United Services for Children will honor the CCRB as their Children's Champion on August 28 during their annual gala. The CCRB staff and Board will attend.

**Old Business:** No Old Business.

**New Business:**

- **Ethics Policy Renewal:** Bruce reported the CCRB needs to renew the CCRB's Missouri Ethics Commission policy.

A motion was made to readopt the Missouri Ethics Commission conflict of interest ordinance per RSMo 105.485.4. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Dempsey) – Motion passed.

- **Supplemental Funding Decisions:** Bruce reported 13 programs submitted applications for 2021 Supplemental funding. The Board reviewed and scored all applications. The requests totaled \$385,000 with an available amount for funding of \$300,000. The Board determined two options for funding: fund all requests by increasing the amount of supplemental funding to \$385,000 or reduce the requests and only fund \$300,000 as allocated.

A motion was made to keep the amount of Supplemental funding at \$300,000 and move forward with funding decisions. (M.S.P.: Elliott/Marty) – Motion withdrawn.

A motion was made to amend the motion and increase Supplemental funding to \$385,000 in order to grant all requests for funding. (M.S.P. Elliott/Dobbins) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve Compass Health Network's Partnership With Families – Psychiatry - Outpatient request for \$20,250.00. (M.S.P.: Dempsey/Boschert) – Motion passed. Dobbins abstained.

A motion was made to approve Compass Health Network's Partnership With Families – Psychiatry Consultation request for \$2,700.00. (M.S.P.: Boschert/Marty) – Motion passed. Dobbins abstained.

A motion was made to approve FamilyForward's Counseling request for \$45,000.00. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Dempsey) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve UMSL Center for Behavioral Health's Counseling – Psychological Assessments request for \$52,484.25. (M.S.P.: Dempsey/Boschert) – Motion passed. Dobbins, Elliott, and Marty abstained.

A motion was made to approve Epworth Children and Family Services' Counseling – Psychological Assessments request for \$7,977.39. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Boschert) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve The Child Center's requests for Crisis Intervention – Forensic Interviews for \$20,323.94, Crisis Intervention – Advocacy for \$14,815.54, and School-Based Prevention for \$6,900.20. (M.S.P.: Marty/Boschert) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve NAMI St. Louis' School-Based Prevention request for \$4,000.00. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Boschert) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve Saint Louis Counseling's Counseling-Individual request for \$18,757.70. (M.S.P.: Dempsey/Dobbins) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve Compass Health Network's School-Based Mental Health Specialists – Non-Medicaid request for \$107,140.00. (M.S.P.: Elliott/Dempsey). A roll call vote was held with the Board voting as follows:

Boschert – yes	Elliott - yes
Dempsey – yes	Marty - yes
Dobbins – abstained	Schneider - yes

A motion was made to approve Lutheran Family and Children's Services' Counseling request for \$51,433.20. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Boschert) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve United Services for Children's Home & Community-Based – Specialized Instruction request for \$26,391.00. (M.S.P.: Boschert/Marty) – Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve Saint Louis Counseling's Crisis Interventions request for \$6,771.45. (M.S.P.: Dempsey/Dobbins) – Motion passed.

- **Line Item Transfer Request – Youth In Need:** Bruce reported Youth In Need has experienced high demand in their Counseling program for Student Counseling services and requested to decrease Group Counseling (325 units, \$11,375.00) and to increase Student Counseling (175 units, \$11,375.00).

A motion was made to approve the request to decrease Youth In Need's Counseling – Group Counseling services by 325 units (\$11,375.00) and to increase Student Counseling by 175 units (\$11,375.00) as presented. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Elliott) – Motion passed.

### **Announcements:**

Kathy Thompson from LINC St. Charles County announced they have emergency funding for rental, utilities, and COVID funding, counseling for all ages, and rental assistance for families in St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren counties. Their walk-in food pantry hours are Wednesday 4 pm to 6 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to noon. Call 636-332-5127.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 a.m. (M.S.P.: Dobbins/Dempsey) – Motion passed.