

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH CABINET  
JANUARY 22, 2008  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES  
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA  
ORLANDO, FL**

**Children and Youth Cabinet Members**

In attendance:

- Lt. Governor Jeff Kottkamp
- Director Monesia Brown, Agency for Workforce Innovation
- State Surgeon General Ana Viamonte Ros, Department of Health
- Commissioner Eric Smith, Department of Education
- Jim Kallinger, Florida's Chief Child Advocate
- David Lawrence Jr., President of the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation in Miami and "University Scholar for Early Childhood Development and Readiness" at the University of Florida
- Donna Gay Lancaster, Executive Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board of Children's Services of Pinellas County
- Antonia Crawford, Chairman of the Early Learning Coalition
- Dick Batchelor, President of Dick Batchelor Management Group
- Judy Schaechter, physician and associate professor at the University of Miami, Mailman Center for Child Development; Director of Injury Free Kids of Miami
- Chief Justice Fred Lewis, Florida Supreme Court
- Maureen S. Dinnen, Vice Chair, Broward County School Board, Designee of Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink

On conference call:

- Representative Loranne Ausley, Designee of Speaker Marco Rubio, Florida House of Representatives
- Angela Orkin, Statewide Director of the Guardian Ad Litem Office
- Director Jane Johnson, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Secretary Walt McNeil, Department of Juvenile Justice
- South Florida Deputy Attorney General Cynthia Guerra

Not in attendance:

- Senator Nan Rich, Designee of Senate President Ken Pruitt, Florida Senate
- Secretary Andrew Agwunobi, Agency for Health Care Administration
- Secretary Bob Butterworth, Department of Children and Families

**Proceedings**

Meeting was called to order at 10:15 am Lt. Governor and Chairman of the Children and Youth Cabinet Jeff Kottkamp. Lt. Governor Kottkamp declared that there was quorum. Lt. Governor Kottkamp welcomed members and audience and laid out the agenda for the meeting.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp brought up the minutes of the December 5, 2007 meeting and asked if there was any discussion or changes. As there was no discussion, a motion to approve and a second were made. A verbal vote was taken and motion carried.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp asked if there were any amendments to the Strategic Plan. Dr. Schaechter had an amendment to Goal 2 e. "Support environmental and policy improvements to reduce the risk of child injury, acquired disease and disease exacerbation."

Lt. Governor Kottkamp introduced Tim Holcomb, President of T-Creative. Staff asked Mr. Holcomb to design a logo for the Cabinet that would easily identify Florida's Children and Youth Cabinet and its products and reports. Mr. Holcomb had volunteered his time and resources for this project. Mr. Holcomb shared with the Cabinet the vision and the thoughts behind this design.

Cabinet members requested that the design be revised to show a more ethnically diverse group of kids. Mr. Holcomb and his team will take the members comments and return with a revised logo.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp began the legislative priorities the discussion. Session is coming up fast so the Lt. Governor asked Cabinet members what the Cabinet as a whole can support and endorse. What is the aim of the Cabinet as a collective group? What is a vehicle that will solve a particular problem that the Cabinet can endorse? Members were asked not think in individual silos, but in terms of the full weight of the Cabinet. Keep in mind the duties and responsibilities as laid out in statute. Based on this input, staff will compare and compile a list of currently filed and past filed bills to present at the next meeting.

Ms. Dinnen states exchange of information may promote unintended consequences; need to assist with the global issue and supporting legislature.

Mr. Lawrence states importance of knowing what programs are working or not; don't know what costs will be until the gathering of data, which will be important before the policy is set.

Director Brown says that her agency is working on an Early Learning Information System (ELIS) that will be a one stop shopping center for all info that moves when child moves to another program. Will launch in 2010.

Mr. Lawrence wants to gather info before 2010. Need to obtain this information so experts know what is working and what is not.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp asks to draft form and legislation to accompany it.

Mr. Lawrence has criteria on questions: teacher credentials, mother's education, curriculum used, race, national origin and poverty level. Wants to keep it simple so coalitions don't get bogged down. Exit interview with child and teacher at the end of the year important. Staff to get with Lawrence for proposed form and need before the legislation starts.

Surgeon General Viamonte Ros asks how health care data could be linked. Discussion on avoidance of duplication and screening process; discussion of sharing of data problem i.e. HIPPA, DOH; can't share with the school. Vaccination records or shots registry important.

Mr. Kallinger states that we need to first identify what tools are in place and pull them together; what road blocks/barriers will we need to overcome. Question – what statutory ability is there to communicate with the agencies?

Director Brown states that each agency has its own goals and the challenge is that although important not necessarily critical.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp wants to survey all agencies for information sharing agreement. How do they interact? What legal obstacles are there?

Ms. Lancaster states three steps to help gather this information:

- 1) Identify the interactions between all agencies

- 2) Evaluate the agreements in place
- 3) Identify system linkages and differences

Ms. Lancaster also states that it would be beneficial to have a report from the people on the ground that provide the services as they would be able to identify what is working and what issues need addressing. Address issues from the bottom up. Ms. Lancaster wants Children's Budget Estimating Conference; tabled until she can present proposal at next meeting.

Mr. Kallinger's office has begun preparing budget report and his staff will make a report and submit to members for next meeting.

Chief Justice Lewis has a potential model on inter-agency communication. The Florida courts have a new information system that allows the systems to talk to another and share critical information. The Chief Justice will arrange for a presentation at the next meeting.

Commissioner Smith suggests to have all agency communication staff get together to discuss how the systems can interact.

Surgeon General Viamonte Ros wants to see a standard enrollment form for all agencies. She wants to discuss six areas:

1. support Kid Care funding
2. expand dental services
3. school health services funding
4. culturally appropriate infant mortality data "safe sleep"
5. child care injury protection
6. all child death review

Lt. Governor Kottkamp asks when Cabinet direct legislature to spend money should.

Dr. Schaechter responds that the time is now. Investments now will pay off later.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp says that the Cabinet needs to understand where the money is being spent right now. Can't "go to the well too many times" with the legislature.

Mr. Lawrence asks how the Cabinet drill down the issues does.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp responds with focusing on the basics: Health, safety and education. The Cabinet may be more effective by making statements, policy statements, and by keeping list narrow.

Ms. Crawford wants early learning governing systems housed in one area and a Quality Rating System for Early Learning Centers. Incentives to get to the quality rating. Implication of liability due to rating. 10 counties proceeding on rating. This would be helpful to parents moving thru out the state for which services are available and or comparable.

Mr. Batchelor brought up the Budget and Tax Reform Commission to talk about unfunded issues and see what the advocacy groups suggest allocating.

Mr. Kallinger agrees that by identifying this info the Cabinet would be more effective.

Dr. Schaechter brought up booster seat legislation and nutrition in schools.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp called for the lunch break at 12 pm.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp called meeting back to order at 1:40 pm and continues the budget discussion.

Chief Justice Lewis brings up consolidated disability efforts, transition into workforce and education uniformity. Development requirements that do not currently exist. The public education system does not have support. Wants to reach for uniformity in DJJ centers.

Mr. Bachelor asks what the recommendations are across the board. We need bench marks in the continuum of services. What are the weaknesses?

Lt. Governor Kottkamp asks what are the programs in Florida that match our strategic plan. Lt. Governor Kottkamp wants list of every agency out there. Look at long term systematically and get funding. Lt. Governor Kottkamp wants every idea presented on 1/22 on the table for the next meeting to see what rises to a Cabinet-supported level?

Mr. Lawrence wants to see what legislation has been filed and what it does? Focus, focus, focus.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp wants to keep health, safety and education on the forefront of discussion. Suggests the Cabinet speaks as a whole entity.

Mr. Batchelor says initiatives needs to be long-term, systematic, and funded.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp wants all legislation filed on all children's issues, all recommendations from today at next meeting and budget recommendations.

Mr. Kallinger wants to keep in mind the mission of the Cabinet, to break down the silos. Need a systematic approach, legislative priorities are based on change, need to get to core of problem to get results.

Director Brown presents AWI's legislative list: school readiness, VPK funding. Suggestions: Identify Governor's recommendations to see if Cabinet's ideas are similar. Streamline VPK. Align background screens rules with DCF. What do the Cabinet's priorities mean for each agency? Provided chart of early childhood partnerships.

Ms. Lancaster moved that the legislature establish budget estimating conference and impact statement; after discussion, she will write a proposal and submit at the next meeting. An estimating conference would establish current services, projections and trend analysis.

Dr. Schaechter asks Lt. Governor Kottkamp what his road map is for the Cabinet.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp responds by stating that the Cabinet will focus on the main charge of the Cabinet which is information sharing and coordinating of services. This is an ongoing process that is critical for long-term impact and improvement. The Cabinet will decide on issues as a body, not individual silos. The Cabinet is looking at the 30,000 feet view of the system. These first few meeting are laying the foundation. Lt. Governor Kottkamp goes over the task list for the next meeting and then begins the public comment section of the meeting.

#### Task List for Staff

- List of Bills
- FL courts information sharing model
- Interagency agreements

- Budget/OPB
- Standardized forms- for agency info sharing
- Ground-level report on services
- Agency policies/priorities that relate to information sharing, communication, collaboration, and strategic plan priorities
- Governor's Recommendations and Priorities
- Mr. Dick Batchelor - Budget and Tax Reform Commission
- Mr. David Lawrence- Early learning form
- Ms. Gay Lancaster: - proposal for estimating conference and proposal for impact statement

Public Comment and Presentation began at 2:30 pm.

- The Seminole County Children's Cabinet: Glen Casel, President and CEO, Community-Based Care of Seminole
- The Children's Cabinet of Osceola County: Susan Crutchfield, Youth Project Director, Children's Cabinet of Osceola County
- Progress on The Children's Cabinet of Orange County: Karen Broussard, Chair, Orange County Alliance Children's Cabinet Subcommittee
- Early Care and Learning: Kate Sroka, President, Florida Association for Child Care Management
- Current Education System: Kathleen Drane and son, Timothy
- Streamlining Procedures for DCF and Medicaid: Shelia DeClements

Mr. Kallinger commented on Mr. Casel's presentation and graciously volunteered to start the ball rolling on implementing more local cabinets.

Lt. Governor Kottkamp thanks the Cabinet members for their time and dedication to the children of Florida. The next meeting is on February 15 in Miramar, Fl. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.