

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CABINET
TUESDAY, March 17, 2009
MEETING MINUTES
Florida State University - Foundation Board Room □ Innovation Park
Tallahassee, Florida

Note: The following is a summary of the highlights of the proceedings and is not intended to be construed as a transcript. Please contact sharon.read@eog.myflorida.com for instructions on obtaining a DVD of the proceedings.

Children and Youth Cabinet Members in attendance:

- Jeff Kottkamp, Lieutenant Governor, State of Florida
- Jim Kallinger, Chief Child Advocate, Governor's Office, Acting Chairman
- Loranne Ausley, Representative (Speaker of the House Designee)
- Dick Batchelor, President, Dick Batchelor Management Group
- Cynthia Lorenzo, Director, Agency for Workforce Innovation
- Toni Crawford, Chairperson, Early Learning Coalition of Duval
- James DeBeaugrine, Executive Director, Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Cynthia Guerra, South Florida Deputy Attorney General (AG Designee)
- Gay Lancaster, Executive Director, Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board
- David Lawrence, President, Early Childhood Initiative Foundation
- Frank Peterman, Jr., Secretary, Department of Juvenile Justice
- Judy Schaechter, M.D., Director, Injury Free Coalition for Kids, Miami
- George Sheldon, Secretary, Department of Children & Families
- Ana Viamonte Ros, State Surgeon General, Department of Health
- Justice Fred Lewis, Florida Supreme Court
- Holly Benson, Secretary, Agency for Health Care Administration

Children and Youth Cabinet Members attending by telephone

Unknown

Children and Youth Cabinet Members unable to attend:

- Maureen Dinnen, Vice Chair, Broward County School Board (CFO) Designee
- Theresa Flury, Executive Director, Guardian Ad Litem
- Nan Rich, Senator (Senate President Designee)
- Eric J. Smith, Commissioner, Department of Education

Proceedings

The Cabinet Meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm by Vice Chairman Jim Kallinger. The Vice Chairman thanked President Wetherell for accommodating the Cabinet for two meetings in a row and then acknowledged the efforts of Rick Everitt of the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium and Scott Fore of Tree Top Software Company and Sweat Monkey for pulling together the resources to videotape the Cabinet meeting. This meeting will be videotaped and then offered for broadcasting to all Florida's public channels, educational channels and cable companies. Our next meeting in Miami on May 5th will be broadcast live thanks to these gentlemen.

After roll call was taken by Sharon Read, the Vice Chairman requested that T. K. Wetherell, President of Florida State University, approach the podium; once again, President Wetherell gave a heartfelt welcome to the Cabinet.

Public presentations were called for by the Vice Chairman and the following were heard:

First was James Bush, State Representative, District 109 addressing deficits in Florida's system of early childhood education. At the end of his presentation, Representative Ausley acknowledged having worked with Representative Bush in the past and suggested that they meet and talk again at the end of the day.

Second on the agenda was Gaetana (Tana) Ebbola, Chair, Florida CSC, Inc., CEO, CSC of Palm Beach County, introducing, Samuel Bell, Counsel, Florida Children's Services Council, addressing A Children's Agenda.

Next on the agenda was Scott Fore, Tree Top Software Company, addressing Sweat Monkey accomplishments and future plans. A copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes. Vice Chairman Kallinger thanked Scott for this outstanding community contribution.

Following Scott Fore was Ann L. Strozier, Ph.D., MSW, Associate Professor, USF addressing Florida Kinship Center. A copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes.

The final public presentation was Christie Ferris, Director, PCA Florida, The Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, addressing details of activities for Florida's Statewide Child Abuse Prevention month in April. A copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes.

Dr. Schaechter respectfully requested that we work through the break due to the full agenda and the need to discuss several items; the Chairman agreed.

Under **Old Business**, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the January 13, 2009 meeting minutes were approved with the following amendment:

On page 8, the following paragraph is stricken: Dr. Schaechter interjected that every state that has passed the tax has seen a drop in smokers and an increase in healthier people.

The following paragraph will replace the stricken one:

Dr. Schaechter stated that all states which implemented a higher tax on cigarettes saw both a drop in smokers and an increase in revenue.

Dr. Schaechter stated that she feels that we have been guided away from having discussions and that there is the need to have a full discussion on what kind of policy we want to help with and what direction the Cabinet would go with priorities.

The Chair called upon Toni Crawford for her committee report. Mrs. Crawford stated that she would like to see time set aside on the agenda to discuss all the information that they have taken in and not had the time to talk about what the Cabinet sees as the needs, so maybe the agenda needs to be changed henceforth and give the Cabinet the opportunity to talk especially since the Cabinet cannot talk outside the room.

As for the Interagency Data Sharing Report, Mrs. Crawford stated how grateful she was for the agencies and people who have spent countless hours on this project. She stated that they are attempting to put together a web based, real time, data inquiry and exchange system that will allow agencies to better communicate and make more efficient and sound decisions about children. With agency representatives from the committee, a workgroup made up of key policy and technical experts from each agency was formed to carry out the Joint Application Design Sessions. Since March 2, the workgroup has been meeting to determine the data elements that will be shared, gathering requirements and technical specifications. Each day of discussion is focused on one data source and the agency representatives relay what data elements their programs need and why and who will be using this data. In late April, the workgroup will produce a HIPPA and FERPA compliance document. In May, the workgroup will develop a full business and technical requirements document and cost analysis. In June, the workgroup will develop a Business Process Re-engineering and Project Implementation Plan. This project will begin implementation in July 2009. For more information on this project, please visit: www.flgov.com/youth_cabinet_datasharing.

The Chair then called upon Gay Lancaster for her report on the Budget Committee. Gay stated that the budget process will take resources to put the budget together and if the need be, she will go to her local board for resources. Reference was made to the New Mexico report card and the upcoming report to be given on the State of The Child; she suggested that we move forward with a simply prepared list of indicators that she will bring to the next meeting and asked for serious help in obtaining the data to populate the indicators. The Chair inquired on the best approach on finding out where we are spending the most money on children's services and Gay responding with building a web site wherein the agencies could up load their data based on the indicators.

The Chair called upon Dick Batchelor for his report on the Commissions, Council and Task Forces, who gave a description on the purposes of his committee. Mr. Batchelor stated that it is premature at this point to make recommendations on continuum of care because we do not know what the Legislation will do.

The Chair called upon Ted Granger who gave a brief introduction and thank you to all those involved with the Work Group and introduced Kate Stowell, Ed.D., Executive Director; The Policy Group for Florida's Families and Children, who addressed the State of Florida's Child Report, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

Representative Ausley recommended that we move forward with coming up with the indicators that we need and the Chair requested a formal motion on the seven

recommendations that were made by Dr. Stowell; after discussion the motion passed. Please refer to page 65 of the report filed with these minutes.

Alisa Ghazvini, Ph.D., followed Dr. Stowell and continued with the Work Group's presentation on The Child Screening Report, a copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes.

Moving on to the **Cabinet & Agency Presentations**, Dr. Barbara F. Foster, and Deputy Chief Child Advocate was called to the podium to address the Florida Child Abuse Prevention and Permanency Plan.

Following Dr. Foster, Celeste Putnam, Faculty, Florida State University, Center for Prevention and Early Intervention Policy and Lili J. Copp, Director, Head Start State Collaboration, addressed the Early Childhood Comprehensive System Grant and the Head Start Program. A copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes. Miss Copp advised that they wanted to bring the issue to the Cabinet today and hopefully receive a decision in May. The Chair agreed that this would be a good focus for the long term benefit of the children, however there was no quorum present to take a vote and that Celeste and Lili would be invited back to discuss the matter further.

Next on the agenda was Emery Gainey, Lead Law Enforcement Officer for the Office of the Attorney General addressing GANGS, a copy of the presentation is filed with these minutes.

The Vice Chair recognized Surgeon General Ros who presented a Pregnancy and Young Child Profile, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. She requested time on the agenda at the next meeting to talk about what it is that they will be tracking and the effect the state. Surgeon General Ros appreciates the presentations but requested more time be left on the agenda to discuss policy in the future.

The Vice Chair called for public comment and there were none.

Due to the time element, New **Business** was tabled until the next meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

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