



1st Quarterly Meeting  
March 23, 2021

12:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

Note: The following is a summary of the highlights of the proceedings and is not intended to be construed as a transcript. Please visit [www.flgov.com/fbcb](http://www.flgov.com/fbcb) for more information or contact Savannah Vickery at [Savannah.Vickery@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:Savannah.Vickery@eog.myflorida.com) or 850-717-9261.

#### ATTENDANCE SUMMARY

##### ***Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council Members in attendance:***

- Dr. Jerry Haag – Chair
- Mr. Calvin Martin – Vice-Chair
- Ms. Nancy Acevedo
- Pastor Kirt Anderson
- Ms. Trenia Cox
- Mr. Erik Dellenback
- Pastor Gerard Duncan
- Mr. Chad Garmon
- Pastor Scott George
- Mr. Rolando Gonzalez
- Pastor Pam Olsen
- Pastor Carl Reeves
- Pastor Marcus Smith
- Ms. Pat Smith
- Mr. Gary Tester
- Mr. Barry Webster
- Pastor Blaine Whitt

##### ***Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council Members unable to attend:***

- Mr. Richard Albertson
- Mr. Wallace Brown
- Reverend Perry Davis
- Dr. Gretchen Kerr
- Rabbi Pinchas Taylor
- Rabbi Joseph Weinstock
- Pastor Reno Zunz



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PROCEEDINGS

| Agenda Item  | Summary  |
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| <p><b>Call to Order and Welcome</b></p>                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Dr. Jerry Haag called the meeting to order and welcomed members and participants to the virtual meeting of the Council.</li> <li>• The roll was called by Ms. Jessica Collins-Jones, with the Governor’s Office of Adoption and Child Protection, and a quorum was confirmed.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Invocation</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Marcus Smith provided the invocation.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Approval of 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting Summary</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members were provided a digital copy of the November 2020 meeting summary for review prior to the virtual meeting.</li> <li>• When called for, no edits or changes to the meeting summaries were provided.</li> <li>• Member Gary Tester motioned to approve the meeting summaries and was seconded by Member Pat Smith.</li> <li>• With no additional discussion, members voted to approve the November 2020 meeting summary.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>State Updates and Upcoming Events</b></p>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Chair Calvin Martin recognized the reappointment of Member Reno Zunz and the appointment of Member Jeffrey Ford.</li> <li>• Vice-Chair Martin provided the following updates and information on current and future public awareness topics:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month – March                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Acknowledgment of the efforts by the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to support and assist a successful transition to adulthood.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Autism Awareness Month – April                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Florida Navigator provides information on state agency disability programs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Month of the Military Child – April                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Florida Department of Education leads Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Sexual Assault Prevention Month – April</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |



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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Links were provided to more information on prevention efforts against sexual assault.</li> <li>○ Volunteer Month – April             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Volunteer Florida is now accepting nominations for outstanding volunteers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Child Abuse Prevention Month – April             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Members are encouraged to participate in the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.</li> <li>➤ April 1<sup>st</sup> is Wear Blue Day.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ National Day of Prayer – May 6<sup>th</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Member Pam Olsen will be coordinating activities at the Capitol. Members are encouraged to engage in government efforts to support National Day of Prayer.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ National Foster Care Month – May</li> <li>○ National Mental Health Month – May</li> <li>○ Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week – May 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup></li> <li>○ National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month – May</li> <li>○ National Water Safety Month – May</li> <li>● Chair Haag provided information on Florida Prosperity Partnership and its program that offers professional tax preparation at no cost.</li> <li>● Chair Haag highlighted the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services’ Summer BreakSpot program that provides free meals to children during the summer.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Governor’s Faith and Community Based Initiative Updates</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chair Haag asked Member Erik Dellenback to provide updates on the Governor’s Faith and Community Based Initiative.</li> <li>● Member Dellenback shared that the Act of Good Faith events that took place had about 5,000 participants. Some feedback that was received included the discussion of foster care and adoption, but not a lot of action was taken.</li> <li>● Member Erik Dellenback shared that the Department of Children and Families’ new secretary (Secretary Harris) was equally passionate about faith community as the former secretary was.</li> <li>● Member Dellenback stated that the momentum received by the Executive Office of the Governor for the faith community is unprecedented. His efforts will shift from engaging mainly DCF to the EOG.</li> </ul>  |



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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Dellenback hopes to form deeper relationships with faith institutions and community organizations involved with the Governor’s Faith and Community Based Initiative.</li> <li>• Member Dellenback shared that there will be a call between 16 states to discuss issues facing each state and the faith community.</li> <li>• Chair Haag opened the floor to comments and questions.</li> <li>• Member Barry Webster asked how the Council could assist in the efforts to deepen relationships with pastors. Member Dellenback suggested that members meet with the pastors in their regions in between Council meetings to deepen that relationship and to bring updates to the Council.</li> <li>• Member Chad Garmon shared that he and other members in central Florida had been meeting to discuss ideas and share resources within their community. He encouraged members in their own regions to do the same. Member Tester shared that some of the topics included human trafficking, foster care, refugees, and immigrants.</li> <li>• Member Webster asked if the central Florida meetings were more involved with organizations/foundations or if they invited any pastors/churches to their meetings. Member Garmon shared that it was a mixture of both.</li> <li>• Director Gibson asked members to come up with ideas on how they can do the same in their regions.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>2021 Legislative Initiatives</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Haag invited Member Olsen to discuss the upcoming legislative initiatives.</li> <li>• Member Olsen opened first about a set of items on informational updates from the Department of Children and Families and the Office of Early Learning. DCF gave an update on the MyFloridaMyFamilies website, the Florida Family Foster Information Center, and Care Coordination. OEL gave an update on upscaling support of workforce mental health. The floor was opened to any questions or comments. No questions or comments were made.</li> <li>• Member Olsen shared that the Agency for Health Care Administration is seeking support to reach underserved and vulnerable populations to get the COVID vaccine and accessing medical care. The floor was opened for questions/comments. No questions or comments were made.</li> </ul>   |



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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Member Olsen asked Member Smith to share the next item concerning the Department of Juvenile Justice.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Member Smith shared that the appropriation request concerning DJJ is a continuation of the agency trying to evolve to new situations/times and provide more accountability. It also involves strengthening the cost of care for youth in their services. The last item for this request was for the juvenile justice system to address status offenses on youth rather than the court.</li><li>○ The floor was opened to questions/comments. Member Trenia Cox asked if the data was still supporting the overrepresentation of black youth in the juvenile justice system. Member Smith shared that there is still an overrepresentation of black youth in the system and that the agency was encouraging/trained all counties and circuits to identify what might be contributing to the overrepresentation of black youth or other minorities within the system.</li><li>○ Member Tester motioned for the Council to support the request. Member Cox second the motioned and the Council passed their support.</li></ul></li><li>• Member Olsen asked for Chair Haag to present the next items concerning One More Child.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Chair Haag shared that there were four appropriation requests being supported by One More Child. The first being an Anti-Trafficking request where One More Child helps provide support/services to child victims of human trafficking. Member Webster asked if One More Child would be doing anything surrounding Traffic Stop this year. Chair Haag shared that they would be holding virtual events. Member Webster motioned for the Council to support the request. Member Smith second the motion and the Council passed their support.</li><li>○ The second is the Hope Street Diversion Program appropriation request which provides a program for troubled youth. Member Cox motioned for the Council to support the request. Member Garmon second the motion and the Council passed their support.</li><li>○ The third is the Single Moms appropriation request to help provide more support for struggling single moms. Member Scott</li></ul></li></ul> |
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|   | <p>George motioned for the Council to support the request. Member Rolando Gonzalez second the motion and the Council passed their support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The fourth is an Adoption Resolution appropriation request which encourages Floridians to open their homes for foster care and adoption, as well as recognizes November 2021 as Florida’s Adoption Month. Member Smith motioned for the Council to support the request. Member Webster second the motion and the Council passed their support.</li> <li>● Member Olsen asked Member Garmon to present the appropriation request concerning the YMCA.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Member Garmon shared that this request would help provide support in free afterschool programming for vulnerable middle schoolers.</li> <li>○ Member Tester motioned for the Council to support the request. Member George second the motion and the Council passed their support.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The Council did not have the information on the appropriation request concerning Share Your Heart. Member Olsen asked Member Gonzalez to present his information with the Council.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Member Gonzalez thanked the Council for their continued support for Share Your Heart and shared that they have opened in west Florida, as well as Tallahassee. The Council decided to vote over support for this request over email after receiving the request and reading it over.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Vice-Chair Martin presented bill SB52 that ensures young people coming out of foster care receive a tuition waiver for secondary education. It helps break down any roadblocks the stand in the way of these individuals receiving free tuition in college. Member Smith motioned for the Council to support this bill. Member George second and the Council passed their support.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Reflections on 2020 Annual Report</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chair Haag thanked members for their contributions to the 2020 Annual Report.</li> <li>● Chair Haag asked the Council for any thoughts/ideas they might have for the Council’s focus during 2021. He shared that he thought that the subjects of vaccinations, community efforts, and racial equity</li> </ul>   |



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|                               | <p>were great ideas to be focused on in 2021. He also thanked the Council members for their leadership and efforts for the last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Vice-Chair Martin shared that he suggested that the level of collaboration continues and emphasized the importance on continuing efforts and discussions on racial equity.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Council Updates</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chair Haag asked members for any updates that occurred since the last meeting.</li> <li>● Vice-Chair Martin shared that his office consistently looks for community advocates. He had recently called upon some fellow Council members to discuss community engagement. Vice-Chair shared with the Council how enlightening and refreshing this discussion was in learning how faith institutions are serving and advocating for their communities.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Member George thanked Vice-Chair Martin for the invitation to this panel discussion and encouraged members to be different/unique to leave a mark on the community.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Member Nancy Acevedo shared that they had recently opened the Hope and Healing Center, a new facility with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office to assist inmates in rehabilitation.</li> <li>● Member Gerard Duncan shared information on the COVID19 vaccination access in Alachua County through UF Health and churches to encourage individuals at risk or those hesitant to get the vaccine. He also shared the collaboration between his office and the state attorney's office with a diversion program called "Project Payback" to allow youth in the community to work to payoff restitutions.</li> <li>● Member Webster shared that his community held discussions with foster families to hear about concerns and ideas to improve the system. He encouraged members to do the same within their areas.</li> <li>● Member Cox shared that Pinellas County were showing efforts towards the underrepresentation of people of color in terms of vaccinations. Faith-based communities were stepping up to make sure vaccinations were available to the minority population. She also shared that there are advocacy efforts to make sure that school misconduct among youth were being addressed first by school personnel. She also shared that she had been working with 2-1-1 to</li> </ul> |



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|                       | <p>make the population aware of the dollars and resources available to assist families/individuals that are struggling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member George shared that Project Opioid was working on an initiative to reach out to state leaders to help raise awareness across the state about the opioid issue and how individuals can receive help in their areas.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Public Comment</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zack spoke on behalf of Chris Lolley, the Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse Florida. He expressed gratitude for the Council in their support for Pinwheels for Prevention and encouraged them to stay tuned to events and public awareness campaigns during the month of April (Child Abuse Prevention Month). Members can find more information and tools on the Prevent Child Abuse Florida website.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Benediction</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Gonzalez provided the benediction.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Closing</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.</li> </ul>   |

- END -

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