



# Florida Children and Youth Cabinet

Strategic Planning Meeting  
November 18, 2014  
10:00am – 3:00pm EST  
The Capitol  
Governor's Large Conference Room  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399



Note: The following is a summary of the highlights of the proceedings and is not intended to be construed as a transcript. Please contact Frenchie Yon at [Frenchie.Yon@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:Frenchie.Yon@eog.myflorida.com) to obtain meeting materials or visit [www.flgov.com/childrens-cabinet](http://www.flgov.com/childrens-cabinet).

## Attendance Summary

Florida Children and Youth Cabinet members in attendance:

- Chair Wansley Walters
- Executive Director Alan Abramowitz
- Ms. Ellen Anderson (via Phone)
- Surgeon General John Armstrong
- Ms. Berthy de la Rosa-Aponte
- Interim Secretary Mike Carroll
- Interim Secretary Christina Daly
- Secretary Elizabeth Dudek
- Director Zackary Gibson
- Director Shan Goff (Designee)
- Mr. David Lawrence
- Director Barbara Palmer
- Justice Barbara Pariente (Designee)
- Dr. Judy Schaechter
- Senator Eleanor Sobel
- Commissioner Pam Stewart (Designee)
- Mr. Steven Uhlfelder
- Ms. Victoria Zepp

Florida Children and Youth Cabinet members unable to attend:

- Representative Gayle Harrell

## Proceedings

### I. Welcome and Call to Order

Chair Wansley Walters, Florida Children and Youth Cabinet, called the meeting to order and welcomed the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet (Cabinet) members. Chair Walters reviewed the meeting agenda and charge to the Cabinet members. Chair Walters introduced the newest member to the Cabinet, Interim Secretary Mike Carroll with the Department of Children and Families as well as Sandra Neidert sitting in for Justice Barbara Pariente, Angelia Rivers sitting in for Commissioner Pam Stewart, and Dr. Tara Huls sitting in for Director Shan Goff. The roll was called by Ms. Christina Pacelle, Special Projects Manager, Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, and a quorum was confirmed.

### Special Guests

Chair Walters introduced Ms. Laura Kolkman, President of Mosaica Partners and Mr. Bob Brown, Vice President of Professional Services of Mosaica Partners. A brief overview of the consultancy, its clientele, and its accomplishments were given. Ms. Kolkman and Mr. Browns credentials were also given, which included their award winning book, *The Health Information and Exchange Formation Guide*.

### II. Accomplishments of the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet

Chair Walters reviewed the accomplishments of the Cabinet over the course of the past few years which include:

- Establishment of an interagency Human Trafficking Workgroup as well as the organization of the first annual statewide Human Trafficking Conference in Tallahassee, Florida.

- Created a Memorandum of Understanding on a Multi-System Children and Youth Workgroup that all Cabinet agencies signed. The Cabinet also created review teams at the local, regional, and state levels.
- Significant collaboration between the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Juvenile Justice at every level to ensure children and teenagers are receiving the support they need.
- The Bullying Workgroup campaigned statewide to spread awareness through social media, local events, and more in support of Bullying Awareness Month.

### **III. Review of the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet 2007 Strategic Plan**

Chair Walters turned the meeting over to Ms. Kolkman and Mr. Brown who offered to assist the Cabinet in the creation of a plan of action for the upcoming twelve to fourteen months. Ms. Kolkman, Mr. Brown, and the Cabinet members then proceeded to review the vision and mission of the Cabinet. The Cabinet then reviewed, prioritized, and assessed the progress made in each of the goals from the 2007 Strategic Plan. The Cabinet felt ensuring that all children live in permanent, safe and nurturing environments to be its most important goal. However, the Cabinet also felt that moderate to minimal progress has been made each of their goals.

The Cabinet then discussed possible barriers to productivity and solutions to these barriers. The Cabinet felt that it needed to define its direction, the benchmarks it uses, as well as the problems it wishes to solve. Another resolution of the Cabinet is to look to acquire more resources, notably political and human resources. The Cabinet also wishes to have a training system for its members and more process mapping. Finally, the Cabinet wishes to speak with Governor to attain his support for the actions of the Cabinet.

Based on the earlier conversation, after lunch the Mosaica Partners redirected the meeting toward creating a strategic plan around the statute, due to it being more relevant than the 2007 Strategic Plan. The Cabinet began by viewing the Legislative Findings and Intent section of Florida Statute 402.56. The Cabinet felt that it should look at all of the agencies that touch the lives of children and the extent of involvement. The Cabinet felt that having the Department of Corrections as well as an acting superintendent would add another vital perspective on children to the Cabinet. In addition to agency involvement, the Cabinet resolved to become more involved in legislative affairs by first coordination and aligning their priorities and then backing legislation that supports these priorities.

The Cabinet then focused on the organization section of the statute. In this discussion, multi-system child concerns became an example of the need to better collaborate. The Cabinet felt that the current Circuit Task Forces comprised of all of the Cabinet agencies should have more emphasis. Along with the Circuit Task Forces, the Cabinet wanted to move in the direction of integrated data systems and cohesive action plans. Louisiana's children's code and child care system could be a possible model for this integration.

The Cabinet members then discussed their duties and responsibilities as outlined in statute. Director Barbara Palmer, Agency of Persons with Disabilities motioned to begin process mapping all of the agencies, budgets, services, entry and exit of systems, as well as private entities, seconded by Interim Secretary Mike Carroll, Department of Children and Families. In addition, Mr. Steve Uhlfelder motioned to have Chair Walters speak to Governor Scott on supporting the Cabinet. These motions were then consolidated. Director Palmer withdrew her motion due to a previous approved motion with the same purpose and Chair Walters agreed to speak to Governor Scott. In addition the Cabinet members agreed to begin to look at preparing a budget and restructuring the Strategic Plan to be more concise, focused toward data-sharing and infrastructure, as well as be more closely aligned with the statute. The Cabinet agreed to have Dr. Patricia Babcock speak on the Institute for Child Welfare and their action. A motion by Director Zackary Gibson (seconded by Director Barbara Palmer) to create a Communications

Workgroup that would have the Communications Directors of each of the members convene in a coordinated and effective way to spread awareness about the campaigns conducted by the Cabinet, passed. The Cabinet also agreed to begin to create a glossary to better define the terms being used on a regular basis to lessen discrepancies related to a lack of one clear understanding of a term. Finally, the Cabinet planned to better coordinate for impact statements to the legislature on bills that affect its members. These impact statements will have a financial aspect to it and will seek to convey to legislators the impact on all children, rather than a target group.

Ms. Kolkman thanked the Cabinet for the opportunity to work with them and applauded their energy and enthusiasm. Ms. Kolkman then told the Cabinet that Mosaica Partners intends on creating a new action plan for the Cabinet going forward.

#### **IV. Closing**

The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2015, 8:30am – 12:30pm in Tallahassee, Florida. The meeting was adjourned.

Documents filed with these minutes:

- Agenda
- Florida Statute 402.56
- Florida Children and Youth Cabinet Strategic Plan
- Florida Children and Youth Cabinet Workgroup Crosswalk
- Florida Children and Youth Cabinet Headline Indicator Crosswalk