**Florida Children and Youth Cabinet Meeting**

Monday, January 30, 2017

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Florida Cabinet Meeting Room

The Capitol, Lower Level

400 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399

**Meeting Summary**

Note: The following is a summary of the highlights of the proceedings and is not intended to be construed as a transcript. To obtain meeting materials, please 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
* Director Zackary Gibson
* Director Rodney MacKinnon
* Director Alan Abramowitz
* Representative Gayle Harrell
* Judge Sandy Karlan (Ret.)
* Justice Barbara Pariente.
* Steven Uhlfelder, Esq.
* Victoria Zepp

Member Representatives in Attendance:

* Assistant Secretary David Fairbanks (for Secretary Mike Carroll)
* Grendy Henry (for Director Barbara Palmer)
* Angelia Rivers (for Commissioner Pam Stewart)

Staff in Attendance:

* Lindsey Perkins Zander

**Proceedings**

**Call to Order and Welcome**

Chair Wansley Walters called the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet (Cabinet) meeting to order and welcomed Cabinet members.

The roll was called by Lindsey Zander and quorum was confirmed.

**Presentation on Annie E. Casey KIDS COUNT Data Report**

The Cabinet heard a presentation on the Annie E. Casey KIDS COUNT Data Report by Dr. Norin Dollard. Dr. Dollard is a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Child and Family Studies in the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences at the University of South Florida. She also co-directs Florida KIDS COUNT, an effort of the Annie E. Casey Foundation that tracks the status of children in the U.S.

Annie E. Casey has ranked Florida as 40th in the nation for child well-being.

* Ranking is based on the following:
  + Economic Well-being
  + Education
  + Health
  + Family and Community
* Much of the information in the Florida KIDS COUNT report is more current than the U.S. Census data.

Director Zackary Gibson requests that agencies and departments identify key measurable outcomes that are not included in the Florida KIDS COUNT data to ensure the Cabinet includes supplemental information.

Chair Walters discussed and the members approved of having a full-day retreat to review and analyze the Florida Kids Count data for 2017 upon its release focusing on the “state of the state”. She requested that Dr. Dollard assist in planning the retreat. A date is to be determined for the retreat.

**Discussion: Policy Impact Committee's Recommendations regarding Headline Indicators - Judge Sandy Karlan, Chair**

The members discussed the original recommendations of the Policy Impact Committee that were presented at the Cabinet meeting on December 12, 2016 and the proposed changes submitted by the four Cabinet members. As a result, the Cabinet members voted unanimously to adopt the following guidelines and priority headline indicators:

**Policy Impact Committee Recommendations**

**Background:**

The Policy Impact Committee met in Tallahassee on December 5, 2016 to develop a cohesive, workable set of guidelines to evaluate positions that the Cabinet is asked to take or issues that we want to support. The Committee had asked the State Multiagency Team, made up of staff of all agencies on the Cabinet, to provide an analysis of the Cabinet’s current headline indicators in light of the data trends they had compiled. The State Multiagency Team was asked to make recommendations to the Policy Impact Committee. .

**Recommendations:**

**Recommendation #1.** **We recommend that the Cabinet use the annual Florida KIDS COUNT data to illustrate “the state of the state” of Florida’s children and youth, and that the Cabinet convene a special day-long meeting each year to review and analyze the KIDS COUNT data upon its release.**

Discussion:

* The Annie E. Casey Foundation’s KIDS COUNT is produced annually and collects information on various indicators pertaining to the health and wellbeing of children. This report is captured for each state and offers the ability for Florida’s performance to be measured compared to the nation.
* The indicators presented in KIDS COUNT align with the four current focus areas of the Children and Youth Cabinet as well as the 13 indicators that have been previously adopted by the original Cabinet. The Florida KIDS COUNT data is compiled for the Annie E. Casey Foundation by the University of South Florida.
* We are recommending the adoption of this report because it is a comprehensive set of indicators that is inclusive of the scope from prenatal to transition to adulthood, which is our charge under the Florida statute.
* During the proposed annual KIDS COUNT data meeting, Cabinet would review where we are now, where we need to go and how do we get there, adjust our priorities as needed, and define the top initiatives that we want to accomplish each fiscal year.

**Recommendation #2. The following nine priority indicators for the 2017 legislative year have been approved; four of the priorities stem from the Cabinet’s support of the previously adopted priority focus on the first 1000 days of a child’s life:**

1. **Percentage of low birthweight babies born in Florida;**
2. **Percentage of eligible children, under four years of age, not in school readiness or Early Head Start.**
3. **Percentage of children, under four years of age, living at or below 20% of the federal poverty level.**
4. **Percentage of infants and toddlers without health insurance**
5. **Children who are under 12 at first arrest.**
6. **Percentage of victims of verified maltreatment who were not subjects of subsequent reports with verified maltreatment within 6 months (related to children removed from homes and returned or who remain in foster care).**
7. **Percentage of children that are reading on grade level by fourth grade.**
8. **Percentage of children with developmental disabilities placed in out of home placements.**
9. **Reduction in the number of preventable child deaths that occur with a focus on ages zero to three.**

**Recommendation #3. We recommend that the following activities be implemented in an effort to monitor the nine priority indicators:**

1. **Add a data dashboard to the Cabinet website (Exec. Dir. task).**
2. **Regularly update the website with information about the priority indicators (Exec. Dir).**
3. **Consider additional communication tools like Facebook, Twitter, etc. (Exec. Dir.).**
4. **Start each Cabinet meeting with a review of the current data and/or updates on each adopted priority indicators.**
5. **Limit Cabinet agenda items to adopted priority indicators. The Chair has the discretion to add on her own initiative or at the request of a Cabinet member, an agenda item on a newly discovered or urgent current issue not previously covered by the current priority indicators.**
6. **Use the adopted priority indicators as a lens through which to review legislative bills.**
7. **Support bills that promote the adopted priority indicators.**
8. **Have each agency director report on how his or her agency is contributing to turning of the curve on the adopted priority indicators.**
9. **Put the focus areas and adopted indicators on the website so that interested groups will know our priorities each year.**

**Recommendation #4. Following an assessment of current cabinet workgroups/committees identified on the Cabinet’s website, we recommend that the workgroups sunset as they have completed their tasks or become an operational component where work continues OR be incorporated into a committee as voted on and approved by the Cabinet in October 2015.**

Discussion:

* Bullying Prevention- is an operational activity to be integrated into the Communication Committee
* Budget and Resource- integrated into a standing committee
* Children and Youth Collaboration- integrated into both Communications and Best Practices Committees
* Communications- integrated into a standing committee
* Crossover- integrated into both Communications and Best Practices Committees
* Early Learning- task has been completed through the implementation of the Help Me Grow resource
* Legislative Affairs- integrated into the Policy Impact Committee
* Multisystems Children and Youth- is an operational activity to be integrated into the Communications Committee
* Prevention Investment- is an operational activity to be integrated into the Communications Committee
* Suicide Prevention Taskforce- integrated into the Best Practices Committee

The Chair of the Cabinet should work with the Executive Director to implement the following standing committees, approved in October of 2015, that support the efforts of the Cabinet moving forward. Membership on these standing committees shall be open to both Cabinet members and persons who are not serving on the Cabinet.

* **Policy Impact Committee**: This committee will assess legislative proposals for the priorities identified by the Cabinet. **Current Chair is Sandy Karlan**
* **The Budget and Resource Committee**: This committee will identify funding streams and resources to support children’s services throughout the state. This includes the charge under the statute to develop a Children’s Budget. **Current Chair is Secretary Mike Carroll**
* **Communication:** This committee will articulate the actions that the committees, agencies and Cabinet are working together on, as well as sharing updates on new programs, public awareness initiatives, areas of concern and barriers experienced. This committee has a broad directive and should have subcommittees as determined by the Chair of the Cabinet and the committee chair. **Current Chair is Zackary Gibson**
* **Best Practices and Delivery of Service**: This committee will seek out and identify the best practices provided by all state agencies and community care organizations, both for profit and non-profit. **Current Chair is TBD**
* **Technology Committee**: This committee serves as a venue for finding better ways to share information across agencies. **Current Chair is Victoria Zepp**

Committee chairs should be appointed by the Chair of the Cabinet, and the committee chairs should participate in the Cabinet meetings. Otherwise, chairs should designate a member of that committee to provide updates at each Cabinet meeting.

**Recommendation #5. We recommend the creation of an advisory/liaison board**:

Discussion:

* This was previously approved by the full Cabinet in the adoption of the framework and next steps document.
* This would include key community groups or organizations in our state whose work is directly related to the work of the Children and Youth Cabinet (for example, Children’s Services Councils, University educators, professional associations, etc.)

**Recommendation #6. We recommend hiring a fulltime executive director** **to advance all aspects of the Cabinet, to include operational administration, community outreach, and coordination amongst cabinet entities. We recommend the following funding option:**

1. The Cabinet proposes a budget request to the Governor to fund a full time executive director position. The proposed position would be for a one year period under the Executive Office of the Governor at a proposed salary of $100,000. Representative Harrell agreed to file the budget request.
2. The tasks of the executive director include, but are not limited to: maintaining the Cabinet website, social media and other organizational tasks including but not limited to coordinating standing committee meetings, assisting in reaching out to potential members of the proposed advisory/liaison board, and preparing the meeting agenda

**Announcements:**

* **Children's Week, March 26-31, 2017**

Chair Walters would like to Chair the Children's Week's press conference and have all Cabinet members participate in the activities around the Capitol. Victoria Zepp offered to help with the Teen Town Hall event.

* **Interagency Agreement: Deadline for comments**

Chair Walters reminded Cabinet members that the submissions of any changes or comments regarding the Memorandum of Understanding are due by February 1, 2017.

**Public Comment**

There is no public comment.

**Closing**

The next Children and Youth Cabinet Meeting will take place on March 20, 2017 in Tallahassee, FL.

**Adjournment**

Chair Walters adjourns the meeting at 3:46 p.m.