

**Kent County
Family & Children's
Coordinating Council**



KCFCCC Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2013, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
MSU Extension Offices – Room A & B
775 Ball Avenue, NE

Members/Alternates Present: Nadia Brigham, Wayman Britt, Candace Cowling, Lynne Ferrell, Sandra Ghosten-Jones, Jack Greenfield, Lynn Heemstra, Joanne Hoganson, Paul Ippel, Gary Lemke, Adam London, Sharon Loughridge, Jacob Maas, Nancy Marshall, Maureen Noe, Savator Selden-Johnson, Diana Sieger, Matthew VanZetten, Patti Warmington

Members Absent: William Forsyth, Judge Patti Gardner, Cynthia Gladyness, Kevin Konarska, Julie Ridenour, Christopher Smith, Justin Swan.

Guests: Deanne Carbone, Rebekah Fennell, Brian Hartl, Mary Hockwalt, Rich Liberatore, Carol Paine-McGovern, David Schroeder, Jim Talen, Nancy Teat check spelling, Holly Tirt, Deb VanderMolen.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Lynne Ferrell opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions were done. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.

Diana Sieger made a motion to accept the minutes from the February meeting as submitted, supported by Jack Greenfield – UNANIMOUS

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Collective Impact Presentation

Lynne Ferrell, Maureen Noe, Diana Sieger and Deanne Carbone presented the results of the Collective Impact initiative to date.

The group reported that the Steering Committee has completed its work. They have prepared a common agenda for our community to foster better results in education and employment for Kent County's children and families. It includes a strategic direction, shared metrics and the beginning of an administrative direction for the work.

Nine strategic workgroups have been identified along with one adjunct committee to help lead this change effort. The workgroups will convene representatives from non-profits, existing

collaborations, businesses, neighborhoods and funders, both private and public to discuss ways to align and build communication. They will also discuss gaps in necessary services.

The initiative also proposes a different way of thinking about a governance structure. Instead of having a hierarchal structure, the proposal is to work in layers. This would include an Accountability Partners Council, which would include a co-chair from each strategy work group and members of the community, including neighborhoods, non-profits, government, business and philanthropy. The Accountability Partners Council will be less involved in the doing and more in evaluating the effectiveness of the strategy work groups and initiative itself. The strategy work groups will be the thinkers and the doers, identifying effective strategies to support the achievement of our goals. They will refine success indicators and review data, engaging the community, seeking input from a variety of groups. Finally, there will be community trustees that will provide administrative and fiduciary oversight, including hiring, supervision and the evaluation of the director and the ability to raise funds for the organization's direct expenses.

The backbone organization will serve in support of these entities. Its job will be to review data, facilitate strategic work group discussions and provide necessary support. After much thoughtful discussion, there was consensus to create a new non-profit organization to act as the backbone entity as neutrality is the key for this function. This new organization will include a director and facilitator with contractual support for data needs, equity consultation and general technical assistance..

The KCFCCC will continue to be responsible for public sector integration of services and funds, including projects like 100% Purchase of Service Pilot, System of Care and the Prevention Initiative. We will also be responsible for Prevention services originated from public sector funding.

In contrast, the Backbone entity will be responsible for facilitating discussions specific to the common agenda, including policy advocacy around potential barriers to implementing the agenda. This could include advocacy with County and/or State officials.

The bylaws of the Backbone will include one or two KCFCCC Council members within the Community Trustees and the Accountability Partners Council, ensuring upfront communication.

Matthew will be sending the KCFCCC members a document requesting nominations for the strategy work groups, the accountability partners council and the community trustees. The Steering Committee and the Executive Committee of the KCFCCC have been asked to provide nominations as well.

The new brand, KConnect *Impact. For our Youth and Families* was introduced. Deanne explained all of the elements that make up the name. The promise statement, *Impact for our Youth and Families* helps us align ourselves around the name. Deanne expanded on the meaning of the statement. Bookmarks illustrating the new identity were distributed.

In summary, KConnect is a commitment of individuals and organizations from all sectors to a common agenda for solving social issues. KConnect is our opportunity to move beyond traditional partnerships and engage all segments of the community in a new model of collaboration, leading to new levels of impact.

Next steps in the Collective Impact journey include a presentation to the County Board of Commissioner's and ask for their support. Later in the spring the initiative will be introduced to the community.

Lynne opened the floor for questions. The group discussion included questions around

