

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board Special Meeting – August 23, 2022

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm on August 23, 2022 in Conference Room A of the Office of the Attorney General, East Office by board chair Daniel Cameron.

Present

Daniel Cameron, Attorney General
Heather Wagers, Office of the Attorney General
Captain Bradly Stotts, Kentucky State Police
Michelle Sanborn, Children’s Alliance
Jill Seyfred, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
Shannon Moody, Kentucky Youth Advocates
Julie Raque Adams, Kentucky State Senator
Caroline Ruschell, Children’s Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Andrea Bruns, Kentucky CASA Network, Inc.
Steve Shannon, Kentucky Association of Regional Programs
Mona Womack, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Mary Carpenter, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Ivey Alexander, Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Virtual attendees:

David Meade, Kentucky State Representative
Laurie Dudgeon, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts
Rachel Bingham, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts
Jamie Link, Education and Workforce Development
Dr. Jaime Pittenger, Kentucky Representative for the American Academy of Pediatrics

Welcome and Introductions

General Cameron welcomed all members and expressed his appreciation for their willingness to serve. He turned the meeting over to Heather Wagers, his proxy, to serve as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

New Business

Ms. Wagers introduced herself as the Executive Director of the Office of the Trafficking and Abuse Prevention and Prosecution (TAPP) for the Office of the Attorney General. The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board is administratively assigned to the Office of the Attorney General. Ms. Wagers’ staff within TAPP will assist each committee and provide administrative support. Ms. Wagers recommended there be four committees. Three of the four committees were utilized by the Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention Board. Ms. Wagers suggested a fourth committee focused on marketing and developing statewide knowledge of the Child Victim’s Trust Fund would be helpful as revenues to the fund have been declining. The following staff within the OAG will assist the 4 committees proposed:

- Marketing and Development Committee – TAPP staff: Caroline Rinehart
- Grants Management Committee – TAPP staff: Jami McLemore
- Strategic Planning Committee – TAPP staff: Ali Parham
- Operations Committee – TAPP staff: Serah Wiedenhoefer

Ms. Wagers discussed the scope of the board has been expanded to include all forms of child maltreatment prevention by the passage of Senate Bill 8 during the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Ms. Wagers indicated that the most pressing committee tasks were to work on an annual report for the Kentucky Legislature due by December 1 and to develop board policies as this is a newly created board.

Meeting Schedule

The board discussed proposed meeting schedule to conduct business. Heather Wagers motioned for regularly scheduled meetings to occur six (6) times a year on the third Monday of odd months at 1 pm. Sen. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Next meeting will be September 19, 2022 at 1pm at KYOAG East in Conference Room A. Ms. Wagers stated that meetings can be held at the KYOAG East location, but board members can volunteer to host meetings at their respective locations if they desire.

Ms. Wagers explained that Board members will need to sign the Board Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interest and/or Duality form. The signed forms will be kept on file in the Office of TAPP. Forms were collected. Ms. Wagers advised that she would invite the Executive Branch Ethics Commission to provide a presentation to the board to discuss how they were to handle conflicts of interest. In the meantime, she encouraged members that if they were in doubt whether there was a conflict, to err on the side of caution and abstain from voting.

Committee Structure and Membership

After discussion of the committees by the Board, the following committees, committee chairs, and membership was decided at the meeting:

Grants Management Committee, Chaired by Andrea Bruns
Membership: Andrea Bruns, Laurie Dudgeon, and Dr. Jaime Pittenger

Marketing & Development Committee, Chaired by Steve Shannon
Membership: Steve Shannon, Sen. Julie Raque Adams, Shannon Moody, and Heather Wagers

Operations Committee, Chaired by Michelle Sanborn
Membership: Michelle Sanborn, Rep. David Meade, James Link, and Jill Seyfred

Strategic Planning Committee, Chaired by Mona Womack
Membership: Mona Womack, Caroline Ruschell, Mary Carpenter, and Captain Bradly Stotts

Board Discussion of Grant Applications

Ms. Wagers advised that the grant applications for fiscal year 2022-2023 were issued before the passage of Senate Bill 8. As a result, the applications submitted for review focus on child sexual abuse prevention. In the future, the Grants Committee will develop a solicitation that will request applications that encompass all forms of child maltreatment prevention.

Medical Grant Discussion

- Caroline Ruschell and Mary Carpenter abstained from the discussion and votes of these applications by leaving the room.
- The Board reviewed the documents prepared by TAPP and the applications, and discussed the applications received.
- Steve Shannon made a motion to approve the 15 child advocacy center grant applications submitted totally 85,500 for reimbursement. This was seconded by Shannon Moody. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

Prevention Grant Discussion

- Jill Seyfred and Mary Carpenter abstained from discussion and voting for the entirety of the prevention grant proposals by leaving the room. Michelle Sanborn, Andrea Bruns, Shannon Moody, and Caroline Ruschell abstained from voting and discussion on applications of possible conflict by leaving the room.
- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky's application for \$25,739 was approved by the Board. The motion was made by Steve Shannon and seconded by Shannon Moody. Unanimous vote of the board to approve the motion. Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting.
- Child Watch Counseling and Advocacy Center's application for \$26,493 was approved by the Board. The motion was made by Mona Womack and seconded by Steve Shannon. Unanimous vote of the board to approve the motion. Ms. Seyfred, Ms. Sanborn, Ms. Bruns and Ms. Ruschell abstained from voting on Child Watch Counseling and Advocacy Center's application.
- South Central Kentucky Kids on the Block's application for \$37,079.98 was approved by the Board. The motion to approve was made by Steve Shannon and seconded by Michelle Sanborn. Unanimous vote of the board to approve the motion. Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting.
- Exploited Children's Help Organization's application for \$34,500 was approved by the Board. The motion to approve was made by Captain Stotts and seconded by Mona Womack. Unanimous vote of the board to approve the motion. Ms. Seyfred and Ms. Moody abstained from voting.
- CAFCA Cares, Inc. application was discussed. The board was concerned about the lack of specificity of the child maltreatment prevention efforts that they would be implementing with the proposal. The proposal lacked specificity. Steve Shannon made a motion to not fund the application. This motion was seconded by Mona Womack. This motion to not fund CAFCA's application was unanimous. Ms. Seyfred abstained from voting.
- Family Nurturing Center's application was discussed. The board was concerned about the amount requested with a focus on four of the Commonwealth's 120 counties. Additional concerns were raised about how the organization manages the training of the individuals they train. The board decided to seek additional information and potentially a new proposal from Family Nurturing Center for consideration.

Partner Updates and Announcements

Sen. Julie Raque Adams asked the Cabinet for Health and Family Services if there was any update they could provide as to the Medicaid reimbursement portion of Senate Bill 8. Mary Carpenter representing the Cabinet stated she was unaware of the current status, but that she would update the Board at the next meeting on the Cabinet's efforts to implement.

Adjournment

Heather Wagers made a motion to adjourn. Steve Shannon seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.