

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2026

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m., on May 18, 2026, in Conference Room “A” of the Office of the Attorney General, East office, by Board Chair, Serah Wiedenhoefer.

Present

Andrea Bruns, Kentucky CASA Network, Inc.
Natalie Pasquenza, Children’s Advocacy Centers of Kentucky
Captain Bradly Stotts, Kentucky State Police
Serah Wiedenhoefer, Office of the Attorney General

Present Virtually

Lynn Baker, Education and Labor Cabinet
Mary Carpenter, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (joined at 1:52 p.m.)
Dr. Christina Howard, Kentucky Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Dr. Shannon Moody, Kentucky Youth Advocates
Michelle Sanborn, Children’s Alliance
Jill Seyfred, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
Steve Shannon, Kentucky Association of Regional Programs
Eboni Thompson, Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts
Mona Womack, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet

Guests in Attendance

Debbie Abreu, Office of the Attorney General

Guests in Attendance Virtually

Denise Durbin, Office of the Attorney General
Michelle Lacy, Office of the Attorney General

II. Financial Matters

a. Update, March and April 2026

The Board received financial documentation reflecting revenues, expenditures, and balances for the Child Victims’ Trust Fund during March and April 2026. Ms. Lacy provided an overview of the financial statements.

b. Action Item: Allocation for Miscellaneous Expenses

In April 2026, a donation was made to the Child Victims’ Trust Fund through the Board’s webpage, and a nominal processing fee was assessed. Ms. Wiedenhoefer made a motion to approve an allocation of up to \$50.00 to cover small operating expenses. Ms. Pasquenza seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved among members present. Ms. Carpenter was not present for the vote.

c. Update, FY26 Conference Sponsorship Grants

The Board received the following updates on the Conference Sponsorship grant awards for Fiscal Year 2026:

- Bellewood & Brooklawn – Community Awareness Event Series: Awarded \$2,750.00. The event is scheduled for June 22, 2026.
- Lake Cumberland Community Action Agency’s Community Collaboration for Children Program – 16th Annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference: Awarded \$1,600. The event was held on March 3, 2026. A total of \$1,520.00 was reimbursed, reflecting lower than budgeted expenses for continuing education unit (CEU) credits.
- Northeast Kentucky Community Action Agency – "Be Heroes in the Stories of Our Children" (14th Annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference): Awarded \$2,500.00. The event was held on April 16-17, 2026. A reimbursement request for \$2,300.00 was submitted, reflecting venue costs that were lower than budgeted. Payment is pending.
- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky – 29th Annual Kids Are Worth It! Conference: Awarded \$5,000.00. The event was held on September 15-16, 2025. The full award amount has been reimbursed.

III. Action Item: Fiscal Year 2027 Conference Sponsorship and Prevention Programming Proposals

A record number of applications were submitted in response to the funding opportunity for Fiscal Year 2027. In total, the Board received 40 grant funding proposals, 11 for conference sponsorships and 29 for prevention programming. Over the course of several weeks in April and May, the Grants Management Committee conducted a comprehensive review of the grant applications and applied robust scoring criteria to arrive at funding recommendations. These recommendations and the recommended proposals were sent to the Board prior to the meeting.

During the meeting, Ms. Bruns provided an overview of the Committee’s review process and the proposals recommended for funding. Ms. Bruns made a motion to approve the Committee’s recommendation to award funding for the following three conference sponsorship proposals:

1. Lake Cumberland Community Action Agency’s Community Collaboration for Children Program, Event Name: 17th Annual Child Abuse Prevention Conference for \$2,920.00
2. Northeast KY Community Action Agency, Event Name: "Be Heroes in the Stories of our Children" Child Abuse Prevention Conference for \$2,500.00
3. Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, Event Name: 30th Annual Kids Are Worth It! Conference for \$4,500.00

Ms. Womack seconded the motion. The motion was approved with two abstentions (Ms. Seyfred and Ms. Sanborn); all other members voted in favor. Ms. Carpenter was not present for the vote.

Ms. Bruns also made a motion to approve the Committee’s recommendation to award funding for the following two prevention programming proposal:

1. Gateway Children's Services, Strong Foundations: Summer Enrichment and Family Respite for At-Risk Youth and Caregivers for \$30,000
2. Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, Foundations for Families: Concrete Supports for Housing Stability for \$20,000.

Captain Stotts seconded the motion. The motion was approved with two abstentions (Ms. Seyfred and Ms. Sanborn); all other members voted in favor. Ms. Carpenter was not present for the vote.

IV. Reports from the Standing Committees

a. Annual Report Committee

Ms. Pasquenza was announced as the new chair. The Committee is exploring opportunities to enhance the Annual Report as a more valuable resource for interested parties. The next meeting of the Annual Report Committee is scheduled for June 24, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

b. Governance Committee

The Committee will continue its review of Board policies to ensure they remain current and effective. The Committee will also begin the process of identifying a new committee chair. The next Governance Committee meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

c. Grants Management Committee

Ms. Bruns continues to serve as Chair. The Committee has focused on ongoing grant cycle activities and will meet once more before the close of the fiscal year to finalize administrative tasks and complete required communications. The next meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

V. Action Item: Approval of March 16, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Shannon made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Sanborn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved among members present.

VI. Unfinished Business

Nothing was reported.

VII. Partner Updates and Announcements

Ms. Seyfred announced her retirement from Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky (PCAK) noting that this was her final meeting as a member of the Board. Members expressed their appreciation for her years of service, leadership, and contributions.

Updates were provided regarding CASA program development, including its recent expansion to serve 104 of Kentucky's 120 counties and the launch of a new agricultural tourism initiative for foster youth.

VIII. Meeting Reminder - July 20, 2026, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

IX. Adjournment

Ms. Wiedenhoefer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pasquenza seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

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