



Palm Beach County Coalition for Children

August 20, 2008

MINUTES

Introductions/Attendance:

- 22 total in attendance
- **MEMBERS:** Eva Nowakowski (Barry University); Andrea Raasch (Camelot); Jennifer Schneider and Melissa Neeley (Children's Home Society); Jack Holcomb; Nancy Medina, John Garbarino, and Seth Bernstein (Boys Town); Margaret Bagley (Communities in Schools); Angela Harper (Carpe Diem Counseling & Wellness Service); Cassandra Wilbanks (AEYC – PBCC); Gregg Goldenberg and Mary Dobson (Maxim Healthcare); Ruth Walerstein (PBC Head Start); Jennifer Ray (AVDA); Sharon Tarlow (Columbia); Jennifer Melvin (Hearts & Hope); Maria Watson (PBC Human Services); Julie Collins (PBC Youth Affairs)
- **GUESTS:** Hazel Lucas (FL Rural Legal Services); Mike Pinkney (Salvation Army); Feirmon Johnson (DJJ)
- Thank you to Maxim Healthcare for providing coffee and donuts.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

- There was a correction to August minutes to add discussion regarding the general meetings remaining on the same days and times. Corrections will be made to the minutes and stored in the PBCCC binder.
- Members are asked to access the website to review minutes (www.childrenpbc.org) then send corrections or revisions to Araasch@camelotcommunitycare.org in advance of the following month's meeting.

General Business:

Membership

- We have 23 agency and 12 individual memberships paid for the fiscal year.

Treasurer's Report

- Our current checking account balance is greater than \$4,000.
- We have \$20,594.81 in two CD's. CD information is being mailed to Boys Town as they need a physical street address rather than a P.O. Box.
- All financial documents are kept with the minutes in the PBCCC binder .

Candidate's Forum

- Event being held 9/25 @ 3-4:45 at PBCC campus room CE119.
- There are currently 18 agency co-sponsors who are allotted 4 seats at the event.
- Confirmed Candidates representing FL Legislature: Joseph Abruzzo, Linda Bird, Carl Domino, Maria Sachs, and Mary Brandenburg
- AnEta Sewell will be the Moderator
- There are 7 children being selected for the panel representing the Glades, substance abuse, mental health, youth caregiver, teen parent, homeless, and independent living. Panelists will be encouraged to identify 3-5 questions and

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agencies identifying the panelists are encouraged to help them with language and appropriateness. Content of questions will be up to the panelist.

- As the room only hold 70 people, please RSVP attendance to Jack Holcomb @ jholcomb@pbcgov.org
- WXEL PBS has expressed interest in covering the event

Other Candidate's Forum Information

- Florida's People and Florida's Promise is a group of 4 organizations who are doing Town Hall "candidate's forums" across the state of Florida. They are open to the community and will be held 9/19 from 10-12 p.m. Location to be determined, but will be shared with members once available. This is not the same event as PBCCC's Candidate Forum.

Open Discussion – Coalition Action Plan FY 08-09

- Members participated in an activity to identify tasks members wanted to see the Coalition plan in the current fiscal year. After brainstorming ideas, members then wrote their names next to those tasks for which they would agree to help plan.
- Results will be compiled and discussed at the next board meeting in order to set the action plan for the fiscal year.
- Action plan will be shared during September's general meeting.

Systems Presentation – Department of Juvenile Justice – Feirmon Johnson

- For more information all handouts are maintained in the PBCCC binder or you can contact Feirmon @ 682-0000 x 149 or access information at www.myflorida.com
- DJJ received 9,000 kids at the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) last year. Currently there are 5300 diverted, 400 in jail, and 2,386 on probation. There are 53 probation officers.
- Juveniles are "charged" not arrested and a Probable Cause affidavit must be filed.
- It is up to Law Enforcement to determine if a crime has been committed.
- Assault and battery and burglary are the most common juvenile charges.
- Juveniles will either be diverted, placed on probation, or committed anywhere from 60 days to 3 years in a program.
- DJJ uses the PACT tool to evaluate juveniles and to determine propensity for re-offense and then provide referrals for services.
- You can also access the Palm Beach County website – judicial section – alternative sanction coordinator to access information on programs that deal with juvenile justice.

Announcements/Agency Time:

- Boys Town – Open positions – bilingual strongly encouraged. Apply on the Boys Town website.

Palm Beach County Coalition for Children

August 20, 2008

MINUTES

- PBC Human Services – Thanks to those agencies who provided referrals for Summer Camp Scholarship program. There were 2700 applications and 2200 kids went to camp.
- Maxim Healthcare – Call 733-3130 for information on in-home HHA/CNA services for kids.
- AVDA– Working on a 5 year primary prevention plan to address intimate partner violence. Next meeting 8/26 3 p.m. @ AVDA if you would like to participate. Will meet quarterly and interested in your ideas. Call Jennifer @ 265-3797 x 110.
- PBC Youth Affairs – High Ridge school accepting applications.
- Salvation Army – \$18 for free music lessons T/TH 6-8 and after-school care for \$1 per day. Call 833-6767.
- PBCCC – Information distributed on how to sponsor a child in group care. Will be available on website
- ECHO – For information on Parent Project call 315-5463. It is a court-mandated diversion program including parent training 1 night per week for 2-3 hours for 10-16 weeks.
- CHS/CIS – Project 18 Mentoring – child must be 16 ½. Looking for mentors who can commit for 1 hour per week for 2 years.
- A tiger is loose in Royal Palm Beach. If you live in the area, please be safe and watch your pets.
- The raffle prize for being on-time was won by Cassandra Wilbanks.

Next Meeting – LOCATION CHANGE!

- Annual Breakfast meeting Wednesday September 17 @ 9-11 at the Crowne Plaza on Belvedere across from the airport.
- Please RSVP to Jack Holcomb @ 355-4717.
- Please invite a non-PBCCC member guest to attend whom you feel may benefit from membership.