



Palm Beach County Coalition for Children
December 17, 2008
MINUTES

Introductions/Attendance:

- 24 total in attendance
- **MEMBERS:** Eva Nowakowski (Barry University); Andrea Raasch (Camelot); Jennifer Schneider and Solange Solis (Children's Home Society); John Garbarino, Nancy Medina and Seth Bernstein (Boys Town); Margaret Bagley (Communities in Schools); Cassandra Wilbanks (AEYC – PBCC); Jennifer Rey (AVDA); Sharon Tarlow (Columbia); Jennifer Melvin (Hearts & Hope, Inc.); Jeannie Hoban (Home Safe / Safety Net); Barbara Woodmore (SCMHC); Millie Barber (VHFC/Youth Caregivers); Fred Byxbee (Compass); Michael Pinkney (Salvation Army); Angela Harper (Carpe Diem Counseling); Ruth Walerstein (PBC Head Start); Jane Robinson (All 'Bout Children); Emily Katzen (Alpert JFCS); Jack Holcomb (Community Services); Barbara Hernandez (Center for Family Services); Christine Koehn (Quantum)
- **GUESTS:**

Review and Approval of Minutes:

- There were no submitted corrections to November minutes. Minutes automatically approved.
- 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:

President's Welcome

- The President reviewed the mission of PBCCC and encouraged members to enjoy the holiday treats
- The website is still under construction but should be ready soon. The new webmaster, Melissa, will come in February and present the website changes during the meeting. Task groups are encouraged to think about what they want on their pages as well as indicating a contact person for inquiries
- By-laws and Ad Hoc Joining Committees to meet in January to finalize tasks.

Membership

- We have 31 agency and 17 individual memberships paid for the fiscal year, representing 48 total members.
- Andrea will be out in January. Eva offered to take and type minutes for that meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- The bank is charging us a fee because we are under the expected limit. Angela suggested rolling in one of our CD's into the bank account to avoid future fees

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and also to have more funds to access for larger events being planned in the spring.

- A motion was submitted by Eva to move the 9-month CD into the checking account as long as there were no fees or penalties. Motion was seconded by Maggie and approved unanimously by members.
- Copies of bank statements and CD accounts kept with the PBCCC Binder.

Task Groups:

Networking Task Group

Jodi Rosenbaum – Lead; Jennifer Melvin - Board Support

- Group is looking into 3/27 at United Way from 2-4 for the Speed Networking event.
- Participation will be open to PBCCC members first and will be capped at 20 agencies.
- They are looking into giveaway items.

Education & Training Task Group

Jennifer Rey – Lead; Andrea Raasch – Board Support

- Group is putting together an agency presentation schedule through June. Jennifer submitted sign-up sheets to interested agencies. All 'Bout Children will present in January.
- Few folks completed the “training provided sheet” that was distributed last month and intended to be posted on the website as a resource to members. The task group feels in order to avoid duplication that we should post the link on our website to the Palm Beach County Training Collaborative website instead.
- There was minimal response to the “speaker’s bureau” idea. The group will now consider hosting half-day trainings free of charge to the community. Planning will begin next month. Membership suggested a topic to energize folks in our field. Another suggestion was to do it on the same day as the One Child at a Time luncheon as we will have already paid for space.

Foster Care Mentoring/Sponsorship

Unidentified lead; Eva Nowakowski – Board Support

- The holiday party at the boy’s group home at Home Safe took place on December 10th. They also met with the boys afterward to discuss their needs. The boys are asking for things like funds for activities that the state doesn’t cover and extracurricular activities.
- Seth will draft a letter to send into the community to express the boys’ needs and invite support and participation.
- The group is also looking into enhancing partnerships including coordination of activities at other group homes.
- Members had questions about whether PBCCC would continue working with this group home short or long term. It was expressed that there is more benefit to

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participating in the long-run as we can have more impact and develop stronger relationships.

Angel Tree Task Group

Nyasha Nedd Wright – Lead; Maggie Bagley and Casey Wilbanks – Board Support

- Group thanked everyone for their participation.
- Most of the gifts were accounted for and would be delivered to the boys and girls to have on Christmas.

One Child at a Time Luncheon / Scholarship

- The luncheon this year will be planned for April. It was suggested to have Jack mentor someone through the planning process so that we are prepared to take over next year after Jack retires. Casey agreed to help plan.
- There was discussion about continuing the scholarship and possibly naming one after Harriet Goldstein. The scholarship committee will continue to be run by Chris. Other members volunteered to participate in the process. (On that same note, PBCCC drafted a letter to Harriet's family to acknowledge her years of contribution. Jennifer will follow up to find a mailing address.)

Announcements/Agency Time:

- All 'Bout Children – honored for their outstanding community service for best practices.
- JFS - VITAS – Hosting Growing Through Grief day 1/11 from 9:30 – 3 at Mounts Botanical Garden. Free of charge with lunch. Call 238-0420 or www.jfcsonline.com
- Barry - Eva can come to your agency and speak with interested parties who want to pursue a social work degree.
- Salvation Army – Free immunization shots today and Angel Tree event 12/18.
- Boys Town – Care Coordination takes Magellan and Florida Kid Care. There are 2 vacant positions in the School and Family Support Services program. Looking for Bachelor's degree and Creole and Spanish speaking.
- Tourette's Association – Conference 5/1 from 8:30 – 5 at Kravis. Free with CEU's and meals.
- CHS – Street outreach project aims to target youth runaway/homeless populations and is looking for partners. Call Solange at 868-4300. Also accepting mentors for 2-year commitment for foster care youth. Call Jennifer @ 868-4355.
- Home Safe / Safety Net – Holiday family party tonight. Barry Krisher D.V. Scholarship award to go out in January. Email Jeannie for information at georgehoban@comcast.net

Raffle Prize: Won by John Garbarino

Next Meeting: Wednesday January 21 @ 9-11 at Boys Town