



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2018

Board of Directors:

Melida Akiti, Board Chair; Armando Fana, Vice Chairman; Michael Lepera, Treasurer; Joe Rogers, Secretary, Amy Black, Christopher Cade, Jeff Dwyer, Lisa McDermott, Nichole Anderson, Rosha McCoy, Sigrid McCawley, Victoria Thurston

Unable to Attend:

Lisa McDermott, Nichole Anderson

Other Attendees:

ChildNet Staff: Larry Rein, Donna Eprifania, Dawn Liberta, Deena Ponto, Sheryl Williams, Julie DeMar, Gillian Moxey, Christine Butler, Wendy Smith, Dionne Wong, Julie Janello, *DCF:* Raul Ocampo, Patty Tilford, *SOS Children's Villages:* Jillian Smath, *4Kids:* Mat John

CALL TO ORDER – Melida Akiti, Board Chair

- Melida Akiti, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Joe Rogers, Secretary

- Roll was taken and quorum was established.

The April 27, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed. *A motion was moved to approve the meeting minutes. A vote was taken. The motion was passed unopposed.*

ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW AND APPROVAL – Rosha McCoy, Program Quality Cmte. Chair

- Approval of Policies & Procedures (P&P) – The following P&Ps were presented to the Board for review and approval:
 - 1) CN 004.026 – Non-Discrimination
 - 2) CN 007.018 – Newborns or Other New Children in Households with Active Investigation or Ongoing Services (previously named “Families Under Investigation”)
 - 3) CN 009.049 – Notice of Progressive Counseling and Discipline Policy (previously named “Corrective Action Policy”)

Discussion was held on all three noted P&Ps. It was also noted that Dionne Wong, HR Consultant, had not previously reviewed P&P CN 009.049. Therefore, CN 009.049 will be tabled, to be reviewed by Ms. Wong, and will be presented at the next Board Meeting.

A motion was moved to approve the following policy and procedures: CN 004.026 and CN 007.018. A vote was taken. The motion was passed unopposed.



FINANCE REPORT – Michael Lepera, Treasurer and Donna Eprifania, CFO

Michael Lepera reported that the Finance Committee met yesterday and primarily discussed four topics: 1) Broward and Palm Beach financials, 2) Line of Credit renewal, 3) Insurance renewal, and 4) new procedures for reviewing our audits.

- Broward – April 2018 – in the Statement of Activity, we are tracking as projected. The two items that we are still challenged with are: 1) Purchase Services and 2) Residential Group Care. We have moved into a positive posture for this month in Residential Group Care. For Purchase Services, we have moved the division under Finance in both Broward and Palm Beach to initiate a replication of successful Palm Beach systemic approaches to better maximize the limited ChildNet financial resources. To start, we have a Resource Fair this afternoon where we are bringing in providers that are funded by other funding streams in our community so that the Child Advocates can see what is available. Next week, the Director of Service Coordination in Palm Beach will come to Broward to institute tracking and more of a utilization management approach. With those things in place, we should be within our budgeted projection at the end of the fiscal year in Broward.
- Palm Beach – April 2018 – Service Coordination is trending a little in the negative, however we should be within our budgeted projection at the end of the fiscal year. Foster home and case management is showing a deficit posture only because of the restoration of the funds, mid-year, to our case management subcontract with Children's Home Society. Shelter and group care is up about an average of 2 and although showing a negative posture, it should balance to a positive posture at the end of the fiscal year.

Additionally, in both Broward and Palm Beach, in relation to Operations, we are looking for greater efficiencies in equipment, etc.

- Pending Amendments with DCF – Before the end of the fiscal year, ChildNet in Broward and Palm Beach will receive the final distribution of our adoption subsidy allocation, and will receive the allocation of the Back of Bill to eliminate the respective prior year accrued deficits. DCF is also trying to put the Amendment for the new fiscal year funding all into one.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Advisory Board Committee**

Larry Rein reported that the Committee met and discussed the census trends. In the last 3 months, there has been a substantial increase in removals in Palm Beach (approximately 28% more children removed through the fiscal year).

Mr. Rein noted that Julie DeMar, who was the Executive Director of Children's Home Society, who is our case management provider in Palm Beach, is now ChildNet's Program Officer of Operations.

Mr. Rein reported that going forward, increasing foster home capacity is a top priority. In Palm Beach, we have maxed out the use of our current inventory. Inasmuch, Mr. Rein and Kenneth Brighton, Director of Community Relations, have met with Keith Gold, a professional marketer



from Jacksonville. Mr. Gold is preparing a scope of work for us to assist in getting foster home providers.

- **Fundraising Committee – Nichole Anderson, Committee Chair**

Gillian Moxey reported the following:

Grants:

- AT&T Aspire Grant – ChildNet received the \$750,000 grant for Grounded for Life. ChildNet was 1 of 10 grantees. Videos were taken of the 10 grantees and shown to the AT&T employees, who selected ChildNet to receive an additional \$100,000. Best Foot Forward will implement the program in Palm Beach and Children's Harbor will implement in Broward.
- Lost Tree Village – ChildNet will create a Foster Care Visitation Center in Palm Beach similar to the one in Broward. Lost Tree Village provided a \$40,000 matching grant to create the center. ChildNet must match the grant before it will receive the funds. Pediatric Associates has agreed to provide \$10,000 towards the match. Community donors, Helene & Lewis Stahl, provided \$7,500 towards the match, and \$774 was raised from the "Great Give". A total of \$18,274 has been raised towards the match.
- Pending grant opportunities – 1) Sun-Sentinel Grant, and 2) ChildNet's partnership with Housing Authorities in Broward and Palm Beach to apply for the HUD's Family Unification Program (FUP) to provide housing vouchers for parents reuniting with their children in foster care and for TIL youth.

Events:

- May 19, 2018 – Foster Parent Appreciation Brunch and Awards – The Beach Club on the Waterfront, Lake Worth.
 - June 7, 2018 - Palm Beach County Foster Youth Graduation Achievement Celebration – ChildNet Palm Beach - we will recognize nearly 50 foster youth who are achieving their GED or High School or College degrees in Palm Beach County. Many of the graduates will receive a laptop from several community supporters, including AT&T, Little Smiles, Children's Services Council of PB, and Jullian's Kids.
 - June 21, 2018 – Broward TIL Graduation – Broward College @ 6:00 p.m.
 - June 22, 2018 – Broward Care for Kids Luncheon – Pier 66 Hotel & Marina, Fort Lauderdale @ 11:30 a.m. The honoree is John Benz, CEO of Community Care Plan. We currently have \$45,000 sponsorship pledges.
 - August 19, 2018 – Boca Chamber Festival Month featuring its nonprofit members – Barrel of Monkeys. The theme of the event is Beer and Bingo. More information coming soon.
- **Governance Committee – Armando Fana, Committee Chair**

DCF COU Monitoring Review – Discussion was held that ChildNet had a positive exit interview and the report will be available in the next couple of months.

Tech Care for Kids (TCFK) – Donna Eprifania reported that the TCFK Board met and discussion was held related to the purpose for which TCFK was established and the expenses incurred to



establish this social purpose corporation. ChildNet is the majority shareholder of TCFK and, therefore, it is up to ChildNet, the shareholder, to decide whether or not they would find purpose in maintaining the organization; recognizing it continues to operate in a deficit posture.

The question raised as a result of the discussion include: Is this corporate entity, which has already had funds invested into it to be established and maintained, a vehicle of which could be used for strategic purposes? Is there a future for a corporate vehicle like TCFK? ChildNet needs to, in their strategic planning process, evaluate where ChildNet is going and what ChildNet's needs are and whether TCFK fits into that plan.

Board Survey – Christine Butler noted that Julie Janello will be sending the Annual Board Survey link to the Board. As in years' past, the survey will be on Survey Monkey. Ms. Butler reiterated that the responses to the survey are anonymous.

- **Legal/Human Resource Committee – Sigrid McCawley, Chair**

Sigrid McCawley reported that we have a few records requests that the Legal Department is working on. There is one issue that we have gotten indemnification from another insurer for.

- **Program Quality Committee – Rosha McCoy, Chair**

Rosha McCoy reported that the Committee reviewed the Scorecard. The Scorecard is staying relatively stable. The Committee is doing a deep dive on one particular metric which is keeping siblings together, in order to see the exact composition of our sibling groups and what actions we can take to improve this metric, in both Broward and Palm Beach.

COA Update – ChildNet is prepping for the Site Visit in November 2018.

- **Workforce Engagement Committee – Joe Rogers, Chair**

Joe Rogers reported that progress continues on the Group Victory Action Plan. HR Consultant, Dionne Wong, is taking the leadership role on the Action Plan. The Committee agreed to move the 6-month follow-up with the Group Victory consultant from June 2018 to September 2018. Ms. Wong will communicate this to Group Victory.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT – Melida Akiti

- **CEO's Contract** – Ms. Akiti asked the Board to allow her to negotiate the CEO's contract.

A motion was moved to allow Melida Akiti to negotiate the CEO's contract. A vote was taken. The motion was passed unopposed.

CEO AND PRESIDENT REPORT – Larry Rein

- Mr. Rein thanked the Board for the opportunity to be the CEO of ChildNet.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business to discuss.



OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business to discuss.

PUBLIC COMMENT

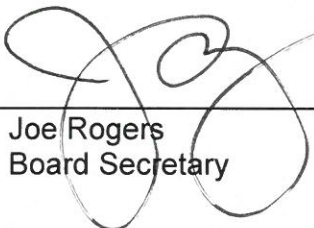
- There was no public comment.

NEXT MEETING DATE

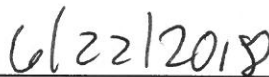
- The next scheduled Board meeting is the Annual Board Meeting that is scheduled for Friday, June 22, 2018 at Pier 66 Hotel & Marina, Fort Lauderdale.

CONCLUSION

- Having no further business, a motion was *moved* to adjourn the meeting. *A vote was taken. The motion was passed unopposed.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 a.m.



Joe Rogers
Board Secretary



Date

(Corporate Seal)