



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor
710 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0800
(615) 741-2633 (FAX) 741-5956
1-800-264-0904

COMMISSION

General Services Conference Room
Andrew Johnson Tower, First Floor
Thursday, February 28, 2008
4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commission Members Present

Cindy Durham, Chair
Marti Herndon, Secretary
Sidney Bynum, Youth Rep
Natasha Blackshear
Joshua Conner
Beverly J. Cosley
Adam Dickson
Emmanuel Frederick
Tim Goldsmith
Trudy Hughes
Dana Lesley
Carlton Lewis
Diane Neighbors
Sue Pilson
Colonel J. A. Robbins
Dwight Stokes
Joetta Yarbro
Jo Ann Yates

Commission Members Absent

Susan Lawless-Glassman, Vice Chair
James Ford
Joe Fowlkes
Denise Hobbs-Coker
Barbara Holden
Chey Korvandi-Geledar
Christy Little
Nancy Williams

Guests

Cindy Perry, SCCY
Nancy Pelashe

Staff Present

Linda O'Neal, Exec Dir
Marietta Backus
Sumita Banerjee
Pam Brown

Peggy Carter
Dana Cobb
Rodger Jowers
Richard Kennedy
Joyce Lee
Eric Lulow
Faye Mangrum
Steve Petty
Patty Ray
Robert Smith
Debrah Stafford
Pat Wade
Elaine Williams
Diane Wise
Gwendolyn Wright

I. Welcome, Introductions

Chair Durham called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. welcoming Commission members, guests and staff.

II. Roll Call

Introductions served as roll call. A quorum was established.

Durham thanked members of the Legislative Committee (Chair Neighbors, Blackshear, Cosley, Lawless-Glassman and Lesley) for the work they did reviewing/discussing

pending legislation in order to prepare recommended positions and reasons for the positions. She also thanked O'Neal, Petty and Banerjee for the hard work they did in tracking the bills.

III. Review of Legislation and Approval of TCCY Positions - Diane Neighbors, Chair, Legislative Committee

Neighbors expressed appreciation to the Legislative Committee for reading all of the bills and participating in the review/discussion in order to prepare recommended positions.

The Legislative Committee met February 21, 2008 to review/discuss and prepare recommended positions and reasons for the positions. The minutes from the meeting including individual bills with descriptions, recommended positions, reasons for the positions and action of the Committee were distributed via e-mail for review by Commission Members prior to the Commission Meeting.

Neighbors called for any questions on bills and/or recommended positions/reasons for the positions made by the Legislative Committee opening the floor for discussion stating any bills with concerns/questions would be marked for separate consideration. Commission Members/staff answered all concerns/questions satisfactorily.

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED POSITIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES DATED FEBRUARY 21, 2008. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

IV. Other Business

None.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by:

Minutes Approved by:

Faye Mangrum, Executive Secretary 2

Cindy Durham, Chair



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COMMISSION

General Services Conference Room
Andrew Johnson Tower, First Floor
Friday, February 29, 2008
8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Commission Members Present

Cindy Durham, Chair
Marti Herndon, Secretary
Natasha Blackshear (8:45)
Joshua Conner
Beverly J. Cosley
Adam Dickson
Emmanuel Frederick
Tim Goldsmith
Denise Hobbs-Coker
Barbara Holden
Trudy Hughes
Dana Lesley
Carlton Lewis
Diane Neighbors
Sue Pilson
Colonel J. A. Robbins (8:44)
Dwight Stokes
Nancy Williams
Joetta Yarbro
Jo Ann Yates

Commission Members Absent

Sidney Bynum
James Ford
Joe Fowlkes
Chey Korvandi-Geledar
Susan Lawless-Glassman
Christy Little

Ex Officio Members Present

Tom Catron, GOCCC
Amanda Lewis, DCS
Susan Mee, DCS
Jan Bushing, DOE
Theodora Pinnock, DOH
Barbara West Wall, DHS
Sterling VanDerSpuy, DLWFD

Guests

Mary Jane Peck, DCS
Pat Dishman, OCJP
Cheryl Hultman, TN CASA Assn.
Kyndyll Lackey, TN CASA Assn.
Cindy Perry, SCCY

Staff Present

Linda O'Neal, Exec Dir
Narenda Amin
Marietta Backus
Sumita Banerjee
Cyndy Banks
Beverly Bell
Pam Brown
Peggy Carter
Steve Chester
Dana Cobb
Susan Cope
Kathy Daniels
Sandra Decker

Emel Eff
Dominick Grimaldi
Rodger Jowers
Richard Kennedy
Ron King
Pamela Kirkpatrick
Joyce Lee
Ann Lowe
Eric Lulow
Sukti Maldas
Faye Mangrum
Philip McKenzie
Rosamond McLeod
John Nixson
Gerald Papica
Steve Petty
Patty Ray
Cheryl Sahlin
Robert Smith
Debrah Stafford
Sheryl Sweat
April Swoner
Vicki Taylor
Pat Wade
Zanira Whitfield
Elaine Williams
Diane Wise
Gwendolyn Wright

I. Welcome, Introductions

Chair Durham called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. welcoming Commission members, guests and staff.

II. Roll Call

Introductions served as roll call. A quorum was established.

III. Approval of October Minutes

IT WAS MOVED (NEIGHBORS) AND SECONDED (PILSON) TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

IV. Departmental Updates

A. Office of Criminal Justice Programs Update – Pat Dishman, Director

Handouts on the Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program and the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants were distributed.

Tennessee's Byrne/JAG allocation was cut approximately 70 percent. Tennessee mirrors how this money is spent federally with the exception that more money is placed into services for children in Tennessee. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) distributed an information sheet to sub-recipients so they would be able to talk to their Congressional delegation about how important this grant is to Tennessee as well as other states and the importance of its restoration. A major restoration effort is being made including a vehicle to restore the Byrne/JAG grant for Fiscal Year 2008 (War Supplemental Bill), which hopefully will make its way through Congress.

The VOCA bill setting the federal fiscal year 2008 cap on the Crime Victims Fund was reduced by 11 to 22 percent. If Tennessee gets a 22 percent cut, every VOCA grant we have will get an across the board cut. If we get an 11 percent cut, we may be able to selectively target the reduction.

Dishman stated unfortunately the 2009 budget unveiled in January was no better.

B. Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination – Tom Catron, Deputy Commissioner

The Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination (GOCC) has been speaking with juvenile court judges regarding substance abuse resources available in their communities working with children with addiction problems and is working with OCJP, TCCY, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to determine type of resources they can encourage around community based alternatives for children with addiction problems so they do not

have to be taken into custody. More drug courts and building resources around them to achieve better goals are being promoted.

The Governor requested and the Legislature appropriated \$8M recurring dollars to improve birth outcomes. Evidence-based treatment is being focused on in three major metropolitan areas (Memphis, Davidson County and Chattanooga). The Centering Pregnancy initiative with UT Memphis and the Luke Clinic focuses on the African-American disparity of poor birth outcomes. Data from the first two graduating classes indicate improved birth outcomes. The program is being expanded to other community providers in the Memphis area as well as in Chattanooga and Davidson County. These outcomes are exciting.

Other GOCC activities/updates:

- ✓ Steering panel held a meeting focused on laying out the road map on how Telehealth can be used to provide better care and access to citizens of Tennessee. The Governor, state and federal government are investing a tremendous amount of dollars into developing this technology. The meeting went well and provided an opportunity for attendees to know resources available.
- ✓ Working with the Department of Education, Board of Education and the Department of Health to determine policy changes to encourage/if not force children to get annual physical screenings in order to promote better health/health outcomes.
- ✓ The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant has been approved for reallocation of resources to conduct a quality analysis of the state-funded substance abuse services in Tennessee.
- ✓ Engaged in promoting evidence-based treatment for both health and behavioral health activities. The Centers of Excellence have been commissioned with a two year grant to promote evidence-based treatment initially focused on children in state custody who have experienced some form of trauma. Catron talked about the evidence-based treatment model stating that through the infrastructure developed by the Centers of Excellence, Tennessee will have the clinical expertise to provide supervision, training and oversight in some very specific treatment programs. The program launched in West Tennessee is going very well and the anticipation for good results is high.

C. Department of Children's Services/Child Welfare – Susan Mee, Director, Division of Evaluation and Monitoring, Office of Performance and Quality Improvement

Mee gave a brief overview of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process distributing handouts on what CFSR is, how performance is measured, stages in the CFSR process, where we are in the process and outcomes and indicators on safety, permanence and child and family well-being.

Tennessee is now in the assessment stage of their second CFSR. CFSR is an evaluation with a number of components. Measurement of state system's performance is based on six national standards. In the first round, Tennessee did not

meet the national standard on five of the six standards. Most states did not meet the national standard set at the 75 percentile. Tennessee was among the most improved states in the country on four of the six national standards: adoptions, reunifications, placement stability and re-entries.

DCS does not look at the CFSR process as a mere compliance measure but as an opportunity to look deeply at themselves and the system to improve services. CFSR evaluates practice and the system and is similar to the QSR process in which TCCY works with DCS as a partner. TCCY will be assisting DCS in developing the focus groups to address systematic factors addressed in the CFSR.

D. Department of Education – Jan Bushing, Director, School Based Support Services

The Tennessee Diploma Project has been completed. The State Board of Education has adopted new standards that will take effect for the graduating class of 2013 so Tennessee will be competitive nationally.

Great happenings in Tennessee:

- Has been recognized as the first state in the nation to receive full federal approval of its assessment system under No Child Left Behind (NCLB).
- Was spotlighted by Achieve, Inc. in its annual report for quality of state's high school reform efforts.
- Education Week Quality Counts 2008: Tennessee ranked 16th in Nation for education and ranked second (right behind New York) in transitions and alignment. We ranked 43rd on our chance for success index, 29th in our K-12 achievement index and 41st in school finance. Children are doing pretty well considering the money we spend for education. We ranked 21st in teacher's pay (average).
- The U. S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics has recognized Tennessee with the Common Core Data Nonfiscal Team Award.
- Continues to receive a high national ranking for the Pre-K program.

The Governor recommended a \$90M increase for the BEP and a \$25M increase for expansion of Pre-K.

Handouts on Pre-K Statistics, Voluntary Pre-K in Tennessee: Understanding the Collaboration Model and the Center for Social-Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) grant were distributed. In anticipation of expansion in Pre-K, a series of meetings will be conducted throughout the state in March to inform and encourage collaboration among school systems and community-based agencies to provide increased access to Pre-K. The Tennessee collaboration of agencies is striving to improve the Pre-K programs based on research findings received the CSEFEL grant for training.

E. Department of Children's Services/Juvenile Justice – Amanda Lewis, Program Manager, for Steve Hornsby, Deputy Commissioner

DCS Division of Juvenile Justice, is required to use evidence-based programs in reducing/preventing juvenile delinquency. A contract is being secured with Vanderbilt Institute of Public Policy Studies (VIPPS) for Dr. Mark Lipsey, a nationally recognized expert on juvenile justice research and programming, to assist in evaluating programs in the treatment, training and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders. An overview of where we are in Tennessee with our programming for juvenile delinquents will be given to the Governor and the Legislature the first of January 2009.

Goal number one is "Tennessee Division of Juvenile Justice will be the highest performing juvenile justice system in the country." In order to reach that goal, we must understand and assess risk. By identifying risk factors, case planning will focus on reducing risk, building in protective factors that tend to prevent delinquency, and measuring progress. The Youth Level Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) risk assessment tool will be used for case planning. Lewis gave an overview of the YLS/CMI, including pluses, validity, what it helps to do, guiding principles, other considerations, three phases of implementation, and future developments, talking about where DCS is in this process.

Thirty years plus of research is coming together. Juvenile justice practitioners will benefit and attain higher levels of professionalism than ever before.

Break – 9:55 a.m.

Chair Durham called the meeting back to order at 10:10 a.m.

F. Department of Health – Theodora Pinnock, Director, Maternal and Child Health

Bushing reported on the CSEFEL grant Tennessee received. Tennessee received another grant from the National Center for Children in Poverty to focus more intensely on our early childhood policies. DOH/TCCY will collaborate on this initiative and O'Neal will talk about it. Tennessee was one of five states to receive these grants. Some of our programs are moving in the right direction.

Other DOH updates:

- ✓ Implementation of home visiting program automation will start in April. HUGS is the largest home visiting program. The program has expanded from 20,000 visits in 2003 to over 52,000 visits in 2007. The home visiting program is helping address infant mortality.
- ✓ The Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems program is geared to coordinate services for children birth-five in five core areas. Tennessee's state plan was approved in December. DOH in partnership with other state departments and agencies will move forward to implement this plan.

- ✓ Implementation of Project Diabetes and Get Fit Tennessee initiatives is moving forward.

Major efforts of the Home Visiting Coalition:

1. Finalizing a state grid of home visiting services by county. TCCY KIDS COUNT staff is assisting in utilizing indicators by county on the grid so you can see what a particular county has/needs.
2. Determining a core set of outcomes that every home visiting group would be willing to look at so data can be compared.

G. Department of Human Services – Barbara West Wall, Director, Child, Adult and Community Programs

Primary initiatives:

- Effective January 1, there was a new rate for certificate reimbursement for infant-toddler to address the cost of high quality infant care. A second increase is anticipated but timeframe is not known.
- Partnering in the CSEFEL grant.
- Working with other departments around community efforts on the Strengthening Families initiative, a national curriculum-based effort to support/strengthen families.
- New initiatives, which are combined efforts between the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding and the Child Care Development (CCD) funding, addressing quality child care will be put in place providing additional services. Tennessee has a mandatory assessment process and uses the Environment Rating Scale. The results of this assessment are tied to additional funding to child care agencies.
- The Commissioner has made a huge effort to support an overall increase in the quality, training and education in the department's workforce. There is funding and increased efforts around the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.
- Rules/requirements are being changed and the Star Quality Rating system will become the threshold for coming into the quality system and will no longer be given credit for meeting the basic licensing requirements. The focus will be on the Tennessee Early Learning Development Standards component.

H. Department of Labor and Workforce Development – Sterling VanDerSpuy, Director, Employer and Youth Services

Department Update handout was distributed.

The Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) program based on ACT assessment scores is being piloted. Testing focuses on three areas: locating information, applied math and reading for information. ACT has shared that basically these three disciplines make up about 90 percent of the current available jobs. If these three skills are mastered, chances are good a student or adult participant can function in the workplace at

certain levels. VanDerSpuy showed a copy of the certificate signed by both the Governor and Commissioner Neeley explaining the process for earning a certificate. It is exciting approximately 6,296 people completed the CRC program and received a certificate.

Over 1.2M individuals in Tennessee do not have a diploma or GED. Last year the Legislature appropriated \$2.5M to try and stimulate our number of GED graduates. The Department of Labor has been averaging 11,000-13,000 GEDs annually. This funding will help increase the GEDs to approximately 16,000 this year.

Tennessee is one of the top five states using the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. This particular piece of federal legislation has been extended to August 2012. In Tennessee, over \$150M each year is going to businesses in the form of tax abatements or tax credits because they are hiring at-risk population.

Handout on the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) was distributed. WIA is up for reauthorization in the House Subcommittee but there has been a hang up regarding the inclusion of the faith-based initiative. Tennessee is one of the top ten states in the last three years in achieving negotiated performance around 17 performance measures. WIA was cut \$10.5M made retroactive to last year.

I. Select Committee on Children and Youth – Cindy Perry, Executive Director

The Select Committee on Children and Youth (SCCY) is continuing its work around Child Protection and Mental Health reform issues. During the past one and one-half years, TCCY staff has been involved in carrying out this work, especially on the Mental Health reform issue.

In yesterday's Commission meeting, O'Neal distributed draft language for amending a captioned bill that would actualize some of the work and recommendations of the Mental Health Resolution. SCCY and TCCY will continue strong partnership in working on this bill and the bill on resource mapping.

SCCY will meet Monday, 1:30 p.m., Legislative Plaza, to focus on Children's Protection issues. The bills on releasing information and the Office of Child Advocate will be discussed. SCCY is looking forward to hearing from TCCY and DCS.

Mental Health work is long haul with big work to be done. SCCY is looking forward to figuring out in detail how to actualize what they have heard through the study process and how to put in place Phase II of the Children's Mental Health reform in Tennessee. The goal for a system of care being in place to address Children's Mental Health issues is 7-14 years.

SCCY plans to meet on March 10 to look at the Juvenile Justice Records Task Force information and March 17, possibly March 10, to discuss the Mental Health bill with the amendment language.

The Evidence-Based Practice in Home Visitation bill is being worked on.

While there are lots of great things going on in Tennessee, there is still a lot of general concern about safety, our child welfare system and its' functioning, and a separate juvenile justice department. Perry has been put on notice by the SCCY Chair that SCCY and the Child and Family Affairs Committee with the Senate General Welfare Committee being invited plan to hold several hearings to try to better understand how DCS is working contract and program issues.

J. Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Update – Cheryl Hultman, Executive Director, Tennessee CASA Association

CASA is excited about the possibility of having the legislature consider a request for funding for five additional CASA programs in the next fiscal year. There has been a lot of activity with new programs developing in Overton, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Rhea and Henderson Counties.

The CASA Fiscal Year 2008 anticipated revenue is \$3.2M for twenty programs and \$495,000 of this is TCCY monies. All CASA programs have to raise additional money and some are operating on a shoestring budget. During Fiscal Year 2007, 434 additional children were served. Hopefully this trend will continue.

Twelve additional counties have expressed an interest in CASA programs. A CASA can only start where a judge wants the program and where there is strong community support. All CASA programs will be going to self-assessment with National CASA within the next two years.

V. Executive Committee Report – Cindy Durham, TCCY Chair

Committee had a short meeting, heard Committee reports and has no action item.

VI. Budget and Data Committee Report – Carlton Lewis, Acting Chair, for Jim Ford, Chair

Committee met and has one action items.

Committee discussed the Executive Director of the Commission writing the Tennessee delegation asking them to sign as a co-sponsor and support H.R.2477 in the House and S.1484 in the Senate, known as the State Child Well-Being Research Act.

1. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION WRITING THE TENNESSEE DELEGATION ASKING THEM TO SIGN ON AS A CO-SPONSOR AND SUPPORT H.R.2477 IN THE HOUSE AND S.1484 IN THE SENATE, KNOWN AS THE STATE CHILD WELL-BEING RESEARCH ACT. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Committee encouraged all Commission Members to contact their respective representatives and senators asking them to co-sponsor this bill.

Committee reviewed/discussed Making KIDS COUNT Media Award nominations.

The Committee approved the following Making KIDS COUNT Awards:

- Large print media to the Commercial Appeal in Memphis and Clear Channel Television in Memphis.
- Small print media to Kara Covington and Larry Aldridge of the (Maryville) Daily Times.
- Large broadcast media to Clear Channel Memphis TV, WPTY (Channel 24).
- Large broadcast media to Aaron Solomon and Jeremy Finley of WSMV in Nashville.

Awards will be presented at Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) on March 11.

VII. Children's Services Committee Report – Tim Goldsmith, Chair

Committee met and has no action item.

The TCCY Ombudsman office has extended their duties to include Child Protective Services (CPS) cases.

Committee reviewed case summaries and profiles on a couple of Quality Service Reviews (QSR) generating a lot of discussion and lots of questions from new Commission members. Goldsmith commented that it was good to see that the QSR process has changed and that TCCY staff is heavily involved in training other people.

VIII. Councils Committee Report – Joetta Yarbrow, Chair

Committee had a great meeting and has three action items.

Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) will be March 11-12. Brochures containing registration forms were distributed. Yarbrow talked about CAD activities encouraging Commission members to attend. Those planning to attend should register and let Mangrum know if they need a room.

Regional coordinators met two days prior to the Committee/Commission meetings for training/interaction. They decided that all nine regional coordinators would present their council updates to the Committee and no longer present to the full Commission.

Committee discussed the draft Regional Council Funds Administration Guidelines. Appreciation was expressed for the help Commission Member Ford provided in compiling the draft. The Audit Committee and regional coordinators are still working on these guidelines and hope to have them finalized so they can be put in place at our Fall Retreat.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE DRAFT REGIONAL COUNCIL FUNDS ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

The Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) will be calling on the new President to convene a White House Conference on Children and Youth in 2010 to focus the welfare of our children and to establish national goals for reform and improvements. No conference has been held since 1970. Committee discussed supporting this conference and asking the Tennessee delegation for their support.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE SUPPORTING THE CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN (CWLA) IN CALLING ON THE NEW PRESIDENT TO CONVENE A WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN 2010 AND TO SENDING A LETTER TO THE TENNESSEE DELEGATION ASKING THEM TO SUPPORT THIS CONFERENCE. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

In 2006, the Tennesseans with Developmental Disabilities Task Force was charged with studying the needs of Tennesseans who have a developmental disability other than mental retardation and to develop a plan for cost-effective home and community-based services. The Task Force completed its work in June 2007 and issued its report, "Fulfill the Promise." TCCY is an ex-officio member of the Tennesseans with Developmental Disabilities Task Force and it is felt that we should support the "Fulfill the Promise" recommendations.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE SUPPORTING THE "FULFILL THE PROMISE" RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE TENNESSEANS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES TASK FORCE. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

IX. Juvenile Justice/Minority Issues Committee Report – Beverly Cosley, Chair

Committee met and has four action items.

Cosley asked Commission members to review new information from the DMC Task Force so they would be up-to-date on their activities.

Stafford gave an update on equipment for the juvenile courts. Computers have been delivered to 85 counties.

Program monitoring is continuing and going well. Appreciation was expressed to the regional coordinators for their assistance and to Jowers for the training he provided.

Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) violations are higher (66) compared to this time last year (46) due to violations in Tipton County.

The DMC Task Force nominated John Hall as their new Chair and Dwight Stokes as their new Vice Chair. Durham opened the floor for other nominations. No additional nominations were received.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE JOHN HALL AS CHAIR AND DWIGHT STOKES AS VICE CHAIR OF THE DMC TASK FORCE. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Committee reviewed/discussed the DMC Task Force budget. The DMC Task Force is proposing a \$25,000 increase in funding designated from the residual Federal Formula Grants funds.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE INCREASING THE DMC TASK FORCE PROPOSED BUDGET 2008 TO \$125,000. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Special Project Proposals for Federal Formula Grants Funds were reviewed/discussed.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE SPECIAL PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR FEDERAL FORMULA GRANTS FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000 TO FUND A MENTAL HEALTH COORDINATOR FOR EFFORTS OF THE SJR 799 STUDY. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

COMMITTEE MOVED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE SPECIAL PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR REMAINING FEDERAL FORMULA GRANTS FUNDS TO GO TO DMC EFFORTS THAT WILL BEGIN AT A LATER DATE. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Durham reported on the OJJDP program site visit. The two OJJDP representatives were very complimentary of TCCY staff on several accounts including two specific things:

- Stafford/juvenile justice staff always drive them around introducing them to the different programs. Often in other states they are told where to go.
- Because of McKenzie's hard work, our report has been submitted allowing Tennessee to get funding for 2010. We were the first state to submit the report.

The OJJDP representatives said they enjoy coming to Tennessee to work. Durham said she was very proud and they will have compliments for other staff after their audit is finalized.

X. Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) Annual Report Information – Cindy Durham, Chair

Durham distributed 2008 Annual Request for Information for the FACJJ. She will be going to that meeting in April. She appreciates the couple of responses received from Commission members and feedback received from TCCY staff but would like to have input from others especially those dealing with juvenile justice kids. Information may be e-mailed or faxed to her.

XI. Regional Coordinator Reports

A. Northwest Tennessee – Dana Cobb, Regional Coordinator

Council's major highlights:

- ✓ Fall Conference and Provider Fair on “*Sex Crimes; Internet Pornography; Caseworker Safety and Identity Theft*” was held at U T Martin. One hundred ninety-six attended and 30 providers set up displays.
- ✓ Participated with the 2nd Annual Martin Luther King Violence Prevention Symposium, which was very well done and attended. Commission Member Herndon was a big part of this symposium.
- ✓ In January, *Legislative Forum* was held at UT Martin. One hundred twenty-two people attended including Senator Herron.
- ✓ Involved in providing “*Life in the State of Poverty*” training. Approximately 1,000 people including all the Dyersburg City/County school system teachers have received training this year. Two additional trainings are scheduled.

B. South Central – Elaine Williams, Regional Coordinator

Council meetings/activities:

- ✓ Educating a new workforce on what the Commission is/does and how they can collaborate with others in their communities.
- ✓ Sponsored a Federal, State and Regional Agencies Expo at the Columbia Mall “*Addressing Government Services for Children and Families.*” Commission Member Hobbs-Coker participated from a regional perspective.
- ✓ Will be collaborating with different agencies on an upcoming “*Family Expo.*”
- ✓ McKenzie will be providing training for region's law enforcement agencies updating them on the laws and the detention of children.
- ✓ Williams has been working with the Mule Town Family Network, a system of care program to coordinate mental health services, which is a \$6M grant to serve people. People are being brought together, collaboration is great and wrap around services are being provided. Sixty-70 people have been trained in how to provide wrap around services.
- ✓ Community Advisory Boards are vital in the region. They look at working with families to get immediate help for them within their communities.
- ✓ Council is reviewing KIDS COUNT data to determine weaknesses in each county and deciding what to do to improve.

C. Southeast – Kathy Daniels, Regional Coordinator

Daniels passed around newspaper articles of events in the region.

Council has elected new officers and established new leadership. Hugh Reece was presented an Appreciation Award for the assistance he has given Daniels.

Council updates:

- ✓ The Hiwassee Council met November 7 on “*Bradley County Anti-Drug Coalition.*” Attendees were very passionate and have planned another meeting for April 9th.
- ✓ Held Legislative Luncheon focusing on “*Headstart Reauthorization.*”
- ✓ Partnered with The Unity Group and 2nd Missionary Baptist Church in Chattanooga in sponsoring MLK Children’s Rights Conference held on January 16.

Daniels said her focus this year is to work on the infrastructure of the Southeast region recruiting new people who would be good potential leaders for the Council.

XII. Director’s Report – Linda O’Neal

O’Neal thanked TCCY staff (Amin, Backus, Bell, Cope, Latimer, Lowe, Mangrum, Sahlin and Sweat) for helping with set-up and clean-up for the meetings. All staff are an important part of the TCCY team.

Kennedy has done a fabulous job putting things together for CAD. One of the major features of CAD will be a presentation by Mary Louise Hemmeter, Director of the Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning Grant.

Theodora Pinnock asked O’Neal to talk about the National Center on Children in Poverty (NCCP), a technical assistance project, which is discussed on page 15 of the report. Tennessee is one of five states selected to receive technical assistance from NCCP. The primary initial focus is to update the NCCP “Tennessee Early Childhood Profile.” Three areas where there are issues (home visitation, infant mortality and infant mental health) have been identified. It is anticipated NCCP will come to Tennessee in May and TCCY will schedule a Children’s Caucus-type event at that time.

The Juvenile Records Task Force was also mentioned and is referenced on page 13 of the report. Either O’Neal or Petty participated in all meetings of the Task Force. The final report has been released. Copies have not been provided to the Commission but will be provided upon request. Recommendations were pretty constructive focusing on fingerprinting juveniles/other identifying information and the use of the information, including submission to the Tennessee Bureau of Identification (TBI), retention by law enforcement and expungement provisions.

The legislation to continue the Commission for three years passed the General Welfare Committee and is on the Senate Consent Calendar next Monday, 5:00 p.m. Hopefully it will be approved by the Senate. After that, it is scheduled in the House Government Operations Committee next Wednesday, 10:00 a.m.

TCCY’s Budget Hearing is being continued in the Senate General Welfare Committee to consider additional funding for CASA programs west of Nashville. Hearing is scheduled next Wednesday, 3:00 p.m.

Commission Member Lawless-Glassman was honored as “Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser” by the Memphis Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in November 2007 at the celebration of National Philanthropy Day Cristal Awards.

O’Neal extended appreciation to Commission Member Ford for providing two Music City Bowl tickets to TCCY staff as an incentive for their participation in the State Employees’ Charity Fund, which he has done for a number of years. A drawing is held for the tickets. TCCY has the highest percentage rate of participation in State government and these tickets are a part of that.

O’Neal introduced Eric Lulow, a field placement student, pointing out that he has been selected for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute Foster Youth Internship Program this summer in Washington. Mary Lee, a previous Youth Member of the Commission, also participated in this program.

XIII. Chair’s Report – Cindy Durham

The next Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) Conference will be April 26-28 in Washington, DC. Hill Day will be April 29. Commission Members interested in attending should let Durham know by March 15 so reservations can be made.

In the upcoming months, Commission Members should expect to receive numerous bulletins from CJJ about the reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA), updates on its progress through Congress, and requests to contact your Congressman. If numerous e-mails are received and you would like your name removed from a particular list, please let Durham know.

The Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) is meeting April 6-8 in Washington, DC. The 2008 Reports to the President and Congress and the OJJDP Administrator will be reviewed and approved and work will begin on the 2009 reports.

Durham encouraged Commission Members to attend TCCY’s Sunset and Budget Hearings and CAD.

Jim Pryor and Youth Excellence Award recipients will be selected and awards presented at CAD.

Congratulations to Eric Lulow, who has been selected for the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute Foster Youth Internship program in Washington, DC.

XIV. Other Business

Next Commission meeting is Thursday and Friday, May 29-30, 2008, in Nashville.

Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by:

Minutes Approved by:

Faye Mangrum, Executive Secretary 2

Cindy Durham, Chair

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