



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

**BUDGET AND DATA COMMITTEE**

Board of Education Conference Room

Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor

Thursday May 19, 2011

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present

Dwight Stokes, Chair  
Tim Goldsmith  
Marti Herndon  
Trudy Hughes  
Mary Anne Poe  
Tawny Spinelli  
Nancy Williams

Committee Members Absent

Natasha Blackshear  
Leon Caldwell  
Susan Lawless-Glassman  
Carlton Lewis

TCCY Staff

Samita Banerjee  
Pam Brown

Fay Delk  
Emel Eff  
Craig Hargrow  
Dustin Keller  
Bill Latimer  
Linda O'Neal  
Melissa Staley  
Zanira Whitfield

I. Welcome and Introductions – Dwight Stokes

Stokes called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. with introductions of those present.

II. Approval of February 2011 Minutes.

**MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (POE) TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY MINUTES;  
SECONDED (HERNDON). THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III. TCCY Budget and Shared Services and Budget Update – Linda O'Neal

O'Neal reported the agency was three-quarters of the way through the year and had expended 68 percent of its budget. She explained actual expenditures "below the line" – not personnel services and benefits – can differ from original budgeted amounts as long as the total of all categories below line balanced. Some issues arise when an expenditure might legitimately be assigned to more than one category, which may explain anomalies in totals for Grants and Subsidies and Payments to Others and Sponsorships. The schedule and methods of distributing grant funding affects the rate at which line items are expended. Current year state supplement funding is distributed in two payments. Funding has already been made, so this line item is almost completely (96.7 percent) expended. On the other hand, CASA claims are paid quarterly and were received in April, so the current report includes only about 50 percent of expenditures.

Goldsmith asked about federal cuts. O'Neal reported despite the 17 percent cut in the federal budget, OJJDP had just informed us the funding Tennessee will actually receive will be

reduced by a larger percent. This amount is higher than anticipated because the feds are not making an across the board cut as they are not cutting states that receive a historically identified minimum. Since the Planning and Administration funds the agency receives is a percentage of the total (10 percent for most programs; five percent for JABG), the agency will have to take this into consideration. Because of state and federal cuts, the agency plans to reduce one juvenile justice position by January 1, 2012. These new additional cuts may mean additional staff reductions in the budget to be submitted this fall.

**MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (WILLIAMS) TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET REPORT OF EXPENDITURES. SECONDED (HUGHES). MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

O'Neal reported on the state budget process. The General Assembly is in its final days. TCCY's budget is as expected with the elimination of one position effective in January as well as a two percent reduction in its operating budget, i.e., the below the line expenditures. She also reported on the total state budget, including reporting reinstatement of some 8.5 percent funds for TennCare reimbursement for mental health providers, money for substance abuse, and half of the proposed cuts in perinatal funding. Family Resource Centers and pediatric training cuts are likely to remain in the final budget. The Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination programs were originally planned to all be moved to the Department of Health with the closure of the office. As advocated by TCCY, some will be reassigned to other departments more appropriately based on individual programs, but not to TCCY. The committee applauded O'Neal for her efforts.

IV. TCCY Media Coverage – Pam Brown

Brown summarized the media report and said this report was the first to include the number of "tweets". The number of articles had dropped off slightly from last year, perhaps because of the timing of KIDS COUNT releases. Delk noted staff vacancies in Southeast and Upper Cumberland may have also contributed to a reduction in media contacts.

V. *The Advocate* – Pam Brown

We completed a newsletter on home visitation last month. We created a report on resource mapping to be used when Juvenile Justice staff visited Tennessee's congressional delegation. The next newsletter will be on resource mapping to summarize that information. The following newsletter is planned to be on juvenile justice including an overview covering Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC), Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) and information about the declining budget.

VI. KIDS COUNT – Brown

Brown reported Casey has reversed its original plan to do as last year and release the essay and the data book and rankings separately. Casey will be release only one book this year on August 17. The topic will be how the economic downturn is affecting children. We will participate in conference calls with Casey and its public relations firm Hagar Sharp. The

Tennessee KIDS COUNT staff will work on state-specific talking points and press release. Along with changing the release format, Casey delayed the release date. Brown will be out town when it occurs. We have not decided if we will have a release-related event. The *KIDS COUNT State of the Child in Tennessee* data book is at the printer, and we do not have a delivery date yet, but we anticipate it will be available in the not too distant future. A press release and talking points will be sent to regional coordinators. Information about the releases also will be sent to Commission members when they are ready. The plan is that the following book will focus on resource mapping and hopefully will be out by the end of the year.

## VII. Web Stats – Pam Brown

*State Website.* Brown reminded the committee of problems she has had getting statistics about the agency's web pages because the state's system was so archaic. The Office of Information Resources is in process of switching web servers and will be using a new system, which will be available in July. She anticipates having richer, cleaner data to report in the future. She noted the seasonal rise of interest in legislative issues because of the legislative session and juvenile justice because of the grant process. Delk reminded Commission members URLs beginning "www.state.tn.us" will no longer refer users to the new server in July and should no longer be bookmarked on their browsers and or shared with others.

*KIDS COUNT Data Center Statistics.* Brown also presented a report created by Emel Eff using from information from the Casey Foundation regarding statistics for the Tennessee data section of the KIDS COUNT Data Center. Brown reported she is working with people needing data to increase use of the Data Center. It was difficult to draw conclusions about data use from the statistics.

## VIII. Children's Resource Mapping Project – Melissa Staley

Staley reported the legislatively required 2011 Resource Mapping Report was submitted by the April 15 deadline. The experience of the earlier report made the data more familiar and the system more workable. We now have four years of data from 25 agencies. The total expenditures showed an increase of \$1 billion expenditures for children. Again this year we saw an increase in the heavy reliance on federal funding and the large share of state funds required to match federal funding. In FY 2010, two of every three non-BEP dollars were federal dollars. When BEP dollars were excluded and state match and maintenance of effort dollars are combined with the federal funding, they make up four of every five dollars. Even when BEP funding is considered, in 2010 nearly half of funding for services to children was federal. Four year comparisons show state funding peaked in 2008 and has gone down since then, while the federal share increased. Marti Herndon asked about the federal stimulus funds, which were highest in the last year reported, FY 2010. We will be seeing the effect of the end of the stimulus in FY year 2011 as it ends.

Eff created a number of maps for the Resource Mapping report to convey information available on a county-by-county basis. Brown mentioned the next meeting of the advisory group would be June 1. There was discussion of the lack of data on outcomes of the

expenditures and the relatively small proportion of funding for lower cost prevention programs. Brown addressed committee members' questions about the reliance on federal funds, acknowledging essentially an income transfer from states whose citizens pay more federal taxes and get less federal money.

Trudy Hughes and Pam Brown told the committee Cindy Perry of the Select Committee on Children and Youth and Linda O'Neal will be going to Washington on June 8 receiving an award for Tennessee's resource mapping project from the national Forum for Youth Investment.

The committee celebrated with Melissa Staley (whose husband, Allen, is Shared Services Solutions operations director) her upcoming adoption of Eli You-Boa (Friendly Treasure) Staley scheduled during their trip to China from June 7-22.

X Other Business

**MOTION:IT WAS MOVED (WILLIAMS) AND SECONDED (POE) TO ADJOURN. STOKES ADJOURNED THE MEETING. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Minutes Submitted by:

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Pam Brown, Director KIDS COUNT

Minutes Approved by:

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Dwight Stokes, Chair