



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Andrew Jackson Building, 9th Floor
502 Deaderick Street Nashville,
Tennessee 37243-0800 (615) 741-
2633 (FAX) 741-5956
1-800-264-0904

BUDGET AND DATA COMMITTEE
Andrew Jackson 9th Floor Training Room
Thursday, February 11, 2016
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present

Christy Sigler, Chair
Ashley Dunkin
Lisa Hill
Jill Grayson Stott
Bill Haynes

Absent

Phil Acord
Petrina Jones-Jesz
Gary Houston
Amy Jones
Robert Terrell

Staff

Linda O'Neal
Sujit Das
Fay Delk
Bill Latimer
Rose Naccarato
Russette Sloan
Nancy Townsend

I. Welcome and Introductions – Christy Sigler

Chair Christy Sigler called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Introductions were made and the Committee welcomed new Commission member Lisa Hill.

II. Approval of Minutes

IT WAS MOVED (GRAYSON STOTT) AND SECONDED (DUNKIN) TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 2015 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

III. TCCY Budget Update – Linda O'Neal

O'Neal gave a brief overview of remaining Federal Formula Grant (FFG) Award dollars. There is \$52,584 remaining from the 2013 award and \$164,430 remaining from the 2015 award. The Grant Review Committee met yesterday to review grantee applications. The Committee will present their recommendations during the full

commission meeting Friday.

O'Neal reported briefly on the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG). There are grants currently with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) for training for juvenile court staff and the Tennessee Legal foundation for technical assistance for youth courts throughout the state. In addition, a portion of JABG funds are allocated to Department of Children's Services (DCS) to conduct training for supervisory staff. Other projected expenditures include the printing of the 2016 *Compilation of Selected Laws on Children, Youth and Families* before the end of the fiscal year in June. There is \$673 currently unallocated. The agency will consult with the Commission regarding spending these dollars before this contract ends. Options are to either amend the DCS contract for an additional amount or purchase more Compilations.

O'Neal reported on the agency budget for the period ending December 31, 2015. Budget Officer Nancy Townsend prepares these reports and does a great job tracking expenditures and keeping the agency on target. The financial report displays expenditures through December 31, 2015 with 50 percent of the fiscal year completed. The agency is 43 percent expended in above-the-line expenditures referring to Personal Services and Benefits. TCCY is 29 percent expended in below-the-line expenditures referring to operating costs, with overall expenditures at 36 percent. This report shows State Appropriation expenditures at 51 percent. This figure will be less once federal and interdepartmental revenues are received. Interdepartmental reimbursement will be requested from the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS) for funds related to Council on Children's Mental Health (CCMH) and to the Department of Health (DOH) for the contract for the Home Visiting Leadership Alliance.

O'Neal said the Governor's budget was released last Monday and is pleased to announce it does not include any reduction in the Commission's budget. Previously, in response to the reduction instructions, TCCY stated the only way to meet that requirement would be to eliminate funding for a position. As a result of the Governor's budget having no reductions, TCCY is moving forward to fill the vacant position. This position will focus on ACEs and early childhood, and will be filled in March. An offer has been made and accepted. The new staff person has an MSSW and this is exciting for TCCY as it will enable the agency to host field placement students from The University of Tennessee College of Social Work.

O'Neal reported TCCY had an initial budget hearing in the Senate Health and Welfare Committee this week. O'Neal thanked Townsend, Richard Kennedy, Steve Petty, Budget and Data Committee Chair Christy Sigler and Vice Chair for the Commission Rob Mortensen for attending the hearing. The hearing went very quickly as the Committee is satisfied with the work TCCY is doing. The next hearing will be in the Finance Ways and Means Committee. TCCY proposed a cost increase for additional Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) funding for FY 16-17. Dickson County now has a CASA program up and running. There is an expectation another five counties will be ready for active CASA programs by July 1st. Grundy County, Sequatchie

County, Marion County and Bledsoe County will form a four county operation. Carter County is also close to having their program ready. Although this cost increase was not included in the Governor's recommended budget, TCCY will continue to advocate for additional CASA funding.

IT WAS MOVED (DUNKIN) AND SECONDED (HAYNES) TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

IV. Comptroller's Audit – Linda O'Neal

O'Neal reported an audit by the Office of Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury is underway. TCCY's last audit was six years ago in 2009. There are three audit staff in the central office and the audit is expected to take approximately three months to complete. Townsend, Russette Sloan and Natasha Smith have worked with the auditors gathering necessary information. Sigler also met with staff from the Comptroller's office as she is chair of the Audit Committee. She answered general, preliminary questions about the provisions that are in the charter for the Audit Committee. Sigler noted the audit is being conducted on internal controls as well as fiscal records. The agency hopes there will be no significant findings as a result of the audit.

V. KIDS COUNT Update – Rose Naccarato

Naccarato reported on her last Leadership Institute for State-Based Advocates (LISA) meeting. LISA is an Annie E. Casey Foundation eighteen month program designed to equip state and local advocates to influence policy reform decisions and advocacy agendas to help children and families. Naccarato's LISA project included working with Craig Hargrow and the Davidson County Disproportionate Minority Contact task force. She did data work for the task force assisting in identifying the number of juvenile arrests occurred through the school system, the nature of the charges and the racial proportions. The task force used this information to support restorative discipline practices in the schools. Nine percent of Davidson County schools have these practices implemented at this time. Naccarato attended eight different seminars throughout the country during the LISA program. The Casey Foundation encourages the continued networking of these state-based leaders and Naccarato looks forward to ongoing opportunities to apply the leadership skills developed during the course of the program.

Naccarato informed the committee TCCY was provided the opportunity to participate last year in a capacity indicator initiative designed by the Casey Foundation. This is essentially a survey regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the agency and the Foundation prepares a report identifying areas of high performance and opportunities for improvement. The results help identify technical assistance opportunities provided by the Foundation the agency can benefit from. Last year's report indicated TCCY has many strengths compared to other Casey grantees across the country. The agency is

participating again this year and commission members will receive an email invitation to complete the survey. The agency alone has access to the results and will use the information for internal growth. O'Neal will provide more detail during the Commission Meeting.

Sigler asked if any steps were taken for improvement based on last year's report. Naccarato said Richard Kennedy has used some of the information during his efforts to take the agency through the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program self-assessment. Advocacy work is difficult to measure; however, TCCY is an evidenced-based policy group and strives to do so. The agency often does collaborative work that does not take place in the forefront. O'Neal said working with Casey has highlighted the need to measure and document the affect the agency has on policy.

VI. Resource Mapping Update – Rose Naccarato

Naccarato provided a brief update on the new on-line database. The transition has not been quite as smooth as anticipated; however, the agency fully expects the new database will provide a quicker process for reporting agencies to upload data next year. The report due to the legislature will not be delivered as early as hoped. The agency is working closely with Strategic Technology Systems (STS) to work out the issues identified during the launch of the database.

Naccarato briefly explained resource mapping as the effort to track all expenditures that are made for the benefit of children that flow through the state. All agencies that have child-serving programs report their expenditures to TCCY and the Commission reports this data to the legislature by the statutory due date of April 15. The agency is striving to deliver the report earlier for budget considerations.

VII. Web Stats – Sujit Das

Das presented statistics on TCCY's website for October, November and December 2015. Based on total pages viewed, the highest activity was in October with KIDS COUNT being the most visited page. The use of Google Analytics mandated by the state has limited web stat reporting. Das is exploring Google Analytics and ways to better track pages visited for future reporting including how to track downloads of pdf documents.

Bill Latimer and Fay Delk informed the committee a new state website will be effective this summer. The new website will be comprehensive and will enable agencies to track detailed information.

VIII. Media Report – Fay Delk

Delk reported on the media report for the period of July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Distribution of coverage by media type shows newspapers continue to account for the bulk of coverage. The agency maintains a strong number of media contacts. During this reporting period, TCCY released the KIDS COUNT report by county

resulting in a significant number of local stories. TCCY continues to see growth in social media coverage. The TCCY page has almost reached 2,000 likes. Women use Facebook more than men and statistics show not as many young people use Facebook. Statewide distribution of Facebook likes shows Mid-Cumberland and East Tennessee regions with the most active users. TCCY has over 600 people following on Twitter. A tweet about Commission member Rev. Audrey Taylor Gonzalez being named a local hero received the most impressions at 3331. LinkedIn connections are up 73 percent from 2014.

X. *The Advocate* – Fay Delk

The December edition of *The Advocate* focused on transitioning youth including the Youth Transitions Advisory Council (YTAC) policy recommendations. The January edition featured the Second Look Commission (SLC) and the completion of its report in December. The February issue of *The Advocate* was on Home Visiting. March will focus on ACEs to gear up for Children’s Advocacy Days.

XI. Making KIDS COUNT Media Award Recipients – Fay Delk

Delk presented a brief overview of the nominations for the John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT Media Award. TCCY staff and Commission members are eligible to make these nominations.

David Waters, a long time columnist with *The Commercial Appeal*, is nominated for the John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT print media award. His work includes a series on ACEs and a series on juvenile justice.

Anchors with Knoxville’s WATE television, Kristin Farley and Lori Tucker, are nominated for the John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT Media Awards for broadcast media. They both have assisted the East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth with training and information events. Farley’s every day reporting reflects a serious focus on families and children, and she also is a huge advocate for East Tennessee Children’s Hospital. Tucker has been with WATE in Knoxville for more than 20 years, reporting on issues affecting children, including weekly reports “Caring for Our Kids” and “Covering Your Health.” Her coverage of an often fatal genetic disorder, Krabbe disease prompted legislation to add it to newborn screening protocols.

The Committee discussed the nominations and felt all three were excellent candidates to receive the respective awards.

IT WAS MOVED (STOTT) AND SECONDED (DUNKIN) TO AWARD THE JOHN SEIGENTHALER MAKING KIDS COUNT MEDIA AWARDS AS FOLLOWS: LARGE-MEDIA PRINT TO DAVID WATERS; LARGE-MARKET BROADCAST TO KRISTIN FARLEY AND LORI TUCKER. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

X. Other Business

O’Neal reported she appeared before the Senate Finance, Ways and Means Oversight Ad Hoc Subcommittee regarding TCCY’s reporting requirements, specifically the agency’s budget recommendations letter to Governor Haslam and the General Assembly. This went very smoothly with no questions from the subcommittee members. The agency submits this letter in late August, prior to the actual deadline, so the recommendations can be considered in the budget development process. The outcome of the review by the subcommittee may lead to a change in the timing for TCCY’s budget recommendations authority from the appropriations bill to September 1 which is in line with the actual practice of the agency.

There was no further business. Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.
Adjourned 1:58

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes Approved by:

Russette Sloan
ASA2

Christy Sigler
Committee Chair