



Families First Community Advisory Board Meeting

February 22nd, 2024

Board Members Present:

- Commissioner Clarence Carter (DHS)
- Commissioner Ralph Alvarado (TDH)
- Ashleigh McFadden: Designee for Commissioner Lizzette Reynolds (Virtual)
- Jamie Stitt: Designee for Commissioner Stuart McWhorter (ECD)
- Senator Bo Watson (Virtual)
- Representative David Hawk
- Jack Bailey (Virtual)
- Elizabeth Fournet (Virtual)
- Dr. Jerry Askew (Virtual)
- Brittany Cleveland (Virtual)
- Rachael Corry
- Steven Gentile, Director of THEC

Staff Present:

- Trevor Lauri
- Eric Dunn
- Suzanne Carr
- Shannon Rosedale
- Paige Foster
- Callon Schmid
- Charles Bryson
- Nicole Hinson
- Keisha Thaxton
- Rebecca Walker
- Crystal Barnell

Board Members

Absent:

- Commissioner Denice Thomas (DLWD)
- Executive Jim Mangubat
- Annie Cacheiro
- Bishop Edward Stephens
- Frank Lawrence
- Senator Raumesh Akbari
- Representative Bryan Terry

1:05 p.m. Welcome and Commissioner's Update

Commissioner Carter called the meeting to order and welcomed the Advisory Board.

Commissioner Carter introduced Nicole Hinson, DHS' new Director of Strategic Initiatives.

1:11 p.m. PCG (Technical Assistance) Annual Update

Tracy Bell and his team gave an update on their work with the pilots, including weekly office hours, monthly grantee check-ins, training guides, and collaborative planning sessions with grantee organizations.

As of this week, PCG has 3471 baseline assessments completed.

PCG gave an update on enhancements for the Universal Assessment Tool (UAT), including a prioritized list of upcoming enhancements.

PCG named their biggest challenge to be the development of the UAT itself.

1:27 p.m. MEF Annual Update and Enrollment Status Report

Mike Fishman gave an update on 2023's evaluation progress including the baseline scan, outcomes review (building of the data dashboard by Urban), research design, participant characteristics, and site visits.

Ilhan Dehry from Urban gave an update on their work with the baseline scan as a snapshot of the social and economic conditions in Tennessee.

Kate Stapleton discussed their research on methods for measuring outcomes in TOPI evaluations and beyond using factors in multiple domains, structural levels, across levels of social influence, and opportunities in someone's environment. Kate reviewed five recommendations stemming from the Outcomes Review.

Ashweeta Patnaik discussed the pilot-specific evaluation designs, common outcomes they're tracking, their data sources for impact evaluation, and the characteristics of the participants. The numbers shared were from January of 2024, numbering a little over 3000 participants. DHS will share the breakdown with the Board.

Carly Morrison gave an update on the site visits to all seven pilots.

Mike Fishman gave an overview of MEF's upcoming publications. Steven Gentile noted that THEC has done work around food insecurity and would connect with DHS on what they have also gathered from their data.

2:16 p.m. Pilots' Year in Review and Discussion on Enrollment

Kaki Reynolds presented data from the seven grantees to deliver a "Year in Review," including overall data, barriers, etc. Kaki and Leslie Thompson gave an overview of the benefits of a no-cost extension. Chance Butch gave an update on the legislative language for the amendment.

Each pilot gave a brief update on their first year of recruitment, spending, milestones, etc.

3:22 p.m. Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m. The next Advisory Board meeting will take place on April 18th, 2024.