



**Ohio Children's Trust Fund  
Board Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2021**

**Board Members Present:**

Representative Andrea White  
Senator Stephanie Kunze  
Jeff Van Deusen (Director Matt Damschroder)  
Doug Wolf  
Megan Wanczyk  
Dr. Angel Rhodes  
Representative Janine Boyd  
Melinda Haggerty  
Jennifer Voit (Director Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff)  
Grace Kolliesuah (Director Lori Criss)

**Board Members Absent:**

Senator Tina Maharath  
Dr. Kynetta McFarlane  
Holly Kastan  
Kimberly Jordan

**Staff Present:**

Lindsay Williams, Executive Director  
Nicole Sillaman, Chief of Fiscal and Program Planning  
Jasmine Hall, Administrative Professional

**Guests:**

Denise Pleska, Senior Staff Attorney for ODJFS  
Cameron Wene, Legislative Aide Intern for Rep. White  
Melinda (Mindy) Kowalski, ODJFS HHS Assistant Director

***Welcome & Roll Call***

Vice Chairman Dr. Angel Rhodes called the Ohio Children's Trust Fund (OCTF) Board Meeting to order at 10:08 am on November 10, 2021, with a quorum. Dr. Rhodes led introductions as the Board welcomed new Board member Melinda Haggerty and ODH Designee Jennifer Voit. Melinda Kowalski, also present, introduced herself as the new Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) HHS Assistant Director.

***Chairman Updates***

Chairman White notified the Board that OCTF staff are continuing to work virtually and will narrow down what is printed and provided at the Board Meetings. Members will continue to access the Board Portal for all documents. Board members agreed that having the printout of the Agenda and Presentation would still be helpful to have at the Board Meetings.

Chairman White shared that her office, Senator Kunze's office, and the OCTF are working on a standalone companion bill for the ORC revised statutory language and virtual meeting provisions for regional councils to be introduced in the House and Senate, also to be drafted as an

amendment in case the bill could be placed into another bill as necessary. Also, there is an ACEs Study Committee bill that Rep. White will push for an OCTF Staff member to serve as a member. 2022 OCTF Board Meeting dates will be revisited and determined by December 2021.

## **Old Business**

### ***Minutes***

Dr. Rhodes gave pause for review and asked for any questions or revisions to the September 15, 2021, Board meeting minutes. Doug Wolf motioned for the minutes to be approved. Megan Wanczyk seconded the motion. Hearing no questions, revisions, or objections to the minutes as submitted, Dr. Rhodes stated the minutes were approved.

### **Program Committee Updates**

#### ***CAC Primary Prevention Applications***

Director Lindsay Williams turned the meeting over to Megan Wanczyk to begin Program Committee updates for the Board. Program Committee received and reviewed two additional applications for the CAC Primary Prevention re-released opportunity:

- **Hope's Place**

Through their application for funding, they propose to offer the Stewards of Children program to up to 300 adults, inclusive of professionals and/or caregivers of children, through June 30, 2023. Stewards of Children is a 2-hour training that teaches adults how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. The applicant requested \$12,500 each SFY and indicated additional funding could be utilized if other eligible CACs do not apply.

- **The Center for Family Safety and Healing**

Through their application for funding, they propose to offer Stewards of Children train-the-trainer trainings for up to 15 new Authorized Facilitators and to provide the Stewards of Children program to up to 1,025 adults, inclusive of parents/caregivers and youth-serving professionals, through June 30, 2023. The applicant requested \$12,500 each SFY and indicated additional funding could be utilized if other eligible CACs do not apply.

Program Committee's recommendation is to approve the two CAC applications at the full amounts requested. Along with the initial two approved CAC applications, OCTF would provide up to \$150,000 in additional funding across the 4 applicants.

Program Committee had conversations regarding use of the remaining unspent funds, with sole sourcing as the leading option for the remaining roughly \$200,000 each SFY.

Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes asked for any questions or comments on the two CAC primary prevention applications. Hearing no further questions or comments, Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes called for a motion to approve the two CAC primary prevention applications. Senator Kunze motioned, and Grace Kolliesuah seconded the motion. The board approved the motion.

### ***New Board Initiative Recommendations***

Director Williams stated that Program and Finance Committee met together to discuss the best path forward with unallocated/reallocation of funding. The recommendations were to table the current Board initiatives for this year due to internal staffing constraints to release new funding

opportunities, decreases in vendor willingness to submit new funding applications, and program overlap with other state agency initiatives.

Some ideas generated from the joint committee meeting were to reallocate some of the funding into existing Board initiatives, including additional trainings for professionals and service providers and bolstering concrete supports. The final funding recommendations to the Board:

- Expansion of the Family Success Network through planning grants which would then support implementation grants in subsequent years.
- Provision of Concrete Supports in Existing Opportunities.
- Implementation of Getting Ahead and Parent Café.

Director Williams gave an overview of the status of existing Board Initiatives, including the Mandated Reporter Trainings with specialized modules, Getting Ahead model coupled with Parent Cafés, Human Trafficking RFGA rerelease, Triple P online services, coupled with the statewide coordinator, procurement process, and the release of the new scope of work for the Child Well-Being Data Dashboard.

Jeff Van Deusen stated that ODJFS is looking at the Triple P opportunity for statewide coordination and to determine if there is any duplication of work across OhioMHAS and OCTF to better collaborate and stand-up Triple P throughout the state. Ms. Kowalski also mentioned the importance of the continuum at every level and pulling resources to create a statewide system.

#### **Finance Committee Update**

##### ***SFY 2021 Operating Budget Update***

Director Williams turned the meeting over to Nicole Sillaman for the Finance Committee Update. Nicole informed the Board of the SFY 2021 Operating Budget and gave an overview of OCTF's current financial standing. OCTF has a slightly higher projection for revenues as of 9/30/2021 due to carryover of TANF funds and grants. Regarding expenses, there is the 90-day window for invoices to be submitted for processing at the end of the SFY, so the OCTF is still awaiting POs to close out prior to finalizing expenses for SFY 2021. OCTF is on track for 70-75% spend down of expenses for eligible services through 6/30/2021.

##### ***SFY 2022 Operating Budget***

Nicole Sillaman shared with the Board a snapshot of the proposed SFY 2022 Operating Budget, OCTF is on track for projections on revenues as of 9/30/2021, with grants creating an increase in funding. For OCTF expenses as of 9/30/2021, the biggest expenses to date are for personnel as providers have not yet invoiced for services. Line items for the SFY 2021 and 2022 budgets are provided in the folders and Board Portal

The Projection of Sustainability of Current Levels of Funding with CBCAP Stimulus Funds is currently trending positive, with the inclusion of additional funding and carryover of unspent funds.

##### ***OCTF SFY 2022/2023 Spending Plan Reallocation***

Nicole Sillaman reiterated the need for remaining 2021 invoices to be processed and paid out, and the expectation of the return of unspent funds to be carried over into future years. Current unspent funds includes both balances for the CBCAP grants, as well as state dedicated funds. Additionally, with changes to initiatives as discussed previously, there will be a need to reallocate CBCAP ARPA funds.

Reallocation of 2022/2023 funds is necessary due to time, as well as both internal and external capacity constraints impacting procurement. The OCTF proposed several modifications to the current spending plan in SFY 2022, including:

- Shifting CBCAP 21 grant funded activities to cover the unspent CBCAP 20 grant balance, which needs to be spent down by September 30, 2022.
- Removing some components of the Board Special Projects, i.e., child sexual abuse prevention (covered by CAC Primary Prevention Opportunity), as well as infant mortality prevention and safe sleep (covered by ODH).

With this shift, there would be unallocated funds that would impact the SFY 2023 spending plan. As mentioned earlier in the Board meeting, the final recommendations from the Program Committee on use of reallocated funds are:

- Family Success Network Expansion
- Provision of Concrete Supports in Existing Opportunities (Statewide grants, then regional model)
- Implementation of Getting Ahead and Parent Café beginning in SFY 2023

New funding/adjustments for the reallocation of funding includes:

- Inclusion of funding for the new Family Support through Primary Prevention grant (including funded Project Manager position).
- Inclusion of additional funding to support the Mandated Reporter Training (MRT) Project.

Director Williams called out the different funding buckets that are still in flux and will present the exact numbers at the next Board meeting. Representative Boyd inquired whether diversity, equity, and inclusion would be included within the line items/funding buckets. Nicole Sillaman stated that it is called out in the strategic plan and included within that funding line item. Chairman White would like to see each item covered to cross-reference with the spending plan in the future.

Jeff Van Deusen pointed out that in the Mandated Reporter Training opportunity, there is a call out for the diversity, equity, inclusion component and how applicants need to incorporate this into the training. For the \$1,000,000, he inquired as to ongoing maintenance in which Director Williams stated that over the two bienniums it could be 40%/60% or 30%/70% of the funding, but one of the deliverables would be ongoing technical assistance and support. Any maintenance beyond that would require a conversation to build in. Modules are to be rolled out incrementally.

Chairman White requested that for future-forward opportunities to have them in brief descriptions made readily accessible to Board members so that they are able to promote them in other avenues; to see them as a narrative of the Budget (what we're doing, why, description, and funding narrative). Jeff Van Deusen suggested adding the data behind it or the "why" piece, and Ms. Kowalski also suggested placing the descriptions of the opportunities in chart form that may fit one page. Nicole Sillaman notified the board that the Biennial Report will be submitted and shared with Board members in December and would include such narratives. Director Williams likes the idea of providing a programmatic brief inclusive of a 1-page chart and will revisit this in the near future.

Chairman White mentioned for OCTF to let Board members know if they can be of assistance to help facilitate getting the word out regarding spending funds down more strategically to secure needed projects and partnerships within the community.

Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes asked for any questions or comments on approving the updated recommendations to the SFY 2022/2023 spending plan. Hearing no further questions or comments, Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes called for a motion to approve the updated recommendations for the SFY 2022/2023 spending plan. Representative Boyd motioned, and Jennifer Voit seconded the motion. The board approved the motion.

### **Regional Prevention Council Updates**

#### ***Prevention Workforce Roundtable***

Director Williams reminded Board members of the discussion to hold a prevention workforce roundtable to address some of the OCTF funded programs' procurement and implementation barriers faced by service providers across the regions. OCTF drafted an Ohio Child Abuse Prevention Funding Workforce Survey to send to vendors and regional coordinators by the end of November to be completed within 45 days. Also, OCTF staff will organize and arrange virtual meetings and discussions with the respondents and will reach out to other known key service providers.

Representative Boyd noted the difficulties with recruitment and retention, and how these discussions are needed. Jeff Van Deusen suggested engaging PCSAO in the workforce conversations as well as they are releasing a study on the child welfare side of the house and collaboration efforts. Grace Kolliesuah offered to send the OhioMHAS PowerPoint on Behavioral Health Landscape across the workforce with Board Members. Representative White mentioned training programs for future funding opportunities.

#### ***SFY 2022 Regional Prevention Updates***

Director Williams gave a brief, high-level overview of each of the eight regions' program strategies, vendor status and numbers served for SFY 2022 as provided on the presentation slides. Eastern and Southeast Ohio Regions are now under Nationwide Children's Hospital, with Sara Condrac as the Coordinator for Southeast. OCTF has received several proposals from Southeast regional vendor from reach outs prior to the council's meeting that should provide additional direct services for the region.

#### **Southwest Ohio Regional Prevention Plan Amendment**

Director Williams presented to the Board the Southwest Ohio Region's amendment to their Prevention Plan to add the following programs:

- Nurturing Parenting
- 1-2-3 Magic: Effective Discipline
- Active Parenting: 4th Edition, Teens
- Parenting Wisely: Young Child, Teens
- Strengthening Families Program: 7-17
- Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP): School Age, Teens

The Amendment also includes a new second strategy that would "provide programs to address the safety and social emotional competency of children/youth", including the following programs:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Program: Community-Based and School-Based
- Cross-Age Mentoring Program
- Safe Child Program
- Safer Smarter Kids! (PreK, K, 2nd – 5th Grade)
- Second Step: Child Protection Unit
- Incredible Years: Classroom Dinosaur, Small Group Dinosaur

Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes asked for any questions or comments on the Amendment of the Southwest Ohio Regional Prevention Plan. Hearing no further questions or comments, Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes called for a motion to approve the Amendment of the Southwest Ohio Regional Prevention Plan. Jeff Van Deusen motioned, and Megan Wanczyk seconded the motion. The board approved the motion.

#### ***Unallocated Regional Prevention Funds***

Director Williams brought to the Board’s attention the total amount of unallocated funds across 4 regions (Eastern, Southeast, Southwest, and Western) totaling \$731,112.04. In response to workforce issues, OCTF would like to propose a blanket approval for the regions to use remaining prevention plan fund to provide planning and capacity building grants should there not be any service providers stood up in the 4 regions for SFY 2022, with portion of the funding for SFY 2023 services.

Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes asked for any questions or comments pertaining to the plan to reallocate unallocated funds to support planning and capacity building grants. Hearing no further questions or comments, Vice Chair Dr. Rhodes called for a motion to approve the 4 regions utilizing unallocated regional prevention funds in addition to standing up services to offer capacity building and planning grants. Jeff Van Deusen motioned, and Representative Janine Boyd seconded the motion. The board approved the motion.

#### **Family Support Through Primary Prevention Grant**

Director Williams briefly shared high-level information on the Family Support through Primary Prevention (FSPP) Grant that OCTF was awarded along with five other entities. In partnership with the OCTF, ODJFS, and the Governor’s Children Initiative, OCTF seeks to help facilitate a cross-system/department vision for child and family well-being measures, data alignment and best practices for community-based services. Also, integration of diversity, equity, and inclusion and decreased stigmatization of services will be part of the focus. Jeff Van Deusen mentioned working with the Community Hubs to ensure there is no overlap of work.

#### **Other Business**

Director Williams mentioned prior to the conclusion of the Board Meeting, that OCTF (Director Williams and Nicole Sillaman) attended the National Alliance Children’s Trust Fund Conference days prior to the Board meeting. Director Williams reminded Board members to complete the Ohio Ethics Commission Training by the end of the year. Details are provided in the ED report in the Board Portal. The SFY 2021 ECSI Report is provided in the Portal as well.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the Vice Chair adjourned the November 10, 2021 OCTF Board meeting at 12:01 pm.

#### ***Handouts:***

OCTF Board Meeting Agenda – November 10, 2021  
OCTF PowerPoint Presentation – November 10, 2021  
OCTF Board Draft Meeting Minutes – September 15, 2021  
Melinda Haggerty – Bio  
Jennifer Voit - Bio  
CAC Applications  
The Ohio Child Abuse Prevention Funding and Workforce Survey Finalized Strategic Plan  
Amended Southwest Prevention Plan  
SFY 2021 Operating Budget  
SFY 2022 Operating Budget  
SFY 2021 Regional Service Report  
ECSI Report  
Executive Director’s Report  
[Board Portal](#)