

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor
James B. Martin, Executive Director

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S. Laboratory Services Division
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530 8100 Lowry Blvd.
Phone (303) 692-2000 Denver, Colorado 80230-6928
TDD Line (303) 691-7700 (303) 692-3090
Located in Glendale, Colorado
<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES
Colorado Children's Trust Fund
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO
Carson Room
September 18, 2009
9:00a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Team Members:

Present: Lloyd Malone, Dr. Cecil "Bud" Lashlee, Frances Cosby, Tara Trujillo, Cindy Wakefield, Jesse Wolff, Lori Moriarty

Absent: Jackie Reynolds

Staff: Scott Bates, Francesca Isabelle, Shannon Breitzman, Tina Smith

I. Call to Order

Chair Tara Trujillo called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. and introductions were made. Tara Trujillo, CCTF Board Chair welcomed Jesse Wolff and Lori Moriarty, new CCTF Board members.

II. Approval of March 24, 2009 Minutes & September 18, 2009 Agenda

MOTION I

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2009 meeting and the September 18, 2009 agenda of the Colorado Children's Trust Fund (CCTF) Board of Directors.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

III. CCTF Updates

➤ **San Juan Basin Health Department**

Scott Bates summarized the status of San Juan Basin Health Department, a former grantee of the Colorado Children's Trust Fund (CCTF). This former grantee had difficulties complying with accounting requirements in the past. As of today, their final report for the 2009 fiscal year, which was due on July 31, has not been received and no funds have been reimbursed due to lack of information to substantiate their expenditures. Billing for the last three months is being held until their final report is

received and approved. Tina Smith, PSD Fiscal Officer, conducted a fiscal site visit after noticing inconsistent invoicing. She reported a lack of communication from San Juan Basin Health Department to resolve this issue. The internal auditors of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment are issuing a report to the agency. Lynn Westberg, Executive Director of San Juan Basin Health, e-mailed Scott Bates indicating displeasure with the lack of communication and support from CCTF in their child abuse prevention efforts. Bates responded to Westberg and indicated that SJBHD accounting inconsistencies necessitated his course of action and tone of communication. Tina Smith will schedule site visits in October for fiscal and accounting review for some agencies.

➤ **Community Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (CBCAP) Rural Rates Project**

Progress Update (County by County)

The Denver Post published an article on July 1, 2007 regarding the high rates of child abuse and neglect in rural Colorado counties. Year after year, certain rural Colorado counties have had high child abuse and neglect rates – up to 3.5 times the average state rate. Due to this trend, the CCTF hired the Center for Research Strategies (CRS) to work in partnership with these communities to investigate the cause of these high rates. This project encompasses eight Colorado counties: Alamosa, Bent, Lincoln, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Rio Blanco, and Washington. CRS conducted collaborative meetings in each of these counties/areas to gather their input/philosophies about the causes of child abuse and neglect and to identify CAN prevention priorities for these communities. CRS has also collected data from the counties and the state regarding the patterns of the reporting of child abuse and neglect. The counties are responding positively to this project. The analysis of data demonstrated that natural surveillance rates were higher in these areas and that these counties were more likely to substantiate the cases as child maltreatment when compared to other rural and urban counties. Also, there were high rates of correlation with rates of child abuse, substance abuse treatment and lower educational levels in these counties. Poverty may also be a factor affecting these areas.

NE Colorado (Lincoln, Logan, Phillips, Morgan, Washington)

Northeastern Colorado has been combined into one collaborative group whose work is overseen by Rural Solutions, Inc. These counties have identified alcohol, domestic violence, parenting education and economic resources as their priorities.

Alamosa

This county is the center of social and human services in south central Colorado. According to the collaborative meeting attendees, many people move to Alamosa for family related services. Alamosa has started to investigate differential response as a strategy for their child welfare services. This broadens the spectrum of options for families before there is a serious case of neglect or abuse.

CCTF has identified some savings from the Statewide Strategic Use Fund that may be used to pilot parent education in Rio Blanco and Bent Counties. CCTF plans to work with these counties directly to extend some funding for a 6-month pilot/planning project in these areas.

Bent

This county is in southeast Colorado and Las Animas is the population center there. The main concerns of this group were having a resource officer at their high school, educational neglect and truancy. They are also interested in increasing their parent education resources.

Rio Blanco

Rio Blanco County has interesting geographic factors in that there are two population centers, Meeker and Rangely, one hour apart. These cities are very different from one another, including their readiness to address the concern of child abuse in their county. They fear that the other will be the only one to receive parent education resources, something they would like to develop countywide. Funding for parent education resources may be available to this county through the Statewide Strategic Use Funds (SSUF) funds.

November Event

CCTF and the CRS will host a child abuse prevention summit on November 5 and 6, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel at 3333 Quebec St, Denver, CO (near the old Stapleton Airport) to identify need areas and to address shared risk factors for these counties working on the CBCAP Rural Rates project. CCTF Board members were invited. On November 5, there will be a reception at 6:00 p.m. and the actual meeting will start at 8:30a.m on November 6. Scott Bates will e-mail invitation to members.

Scott Bates will contact the CDPHE Media Relations office to respond to the July 1, 2007 Denver Post article so that they know something has been done regarding these high rural rates of child abuse and neglect.

Please e-mail issues and ideas for press communication to Scott Bates at scott.bates@state.co.us

➤ **ProDads Project**

The Colorado Children's Trust Fund has been leading the effort to connect young males in probation with parenting/caretaking skill education. Most fatalities from shaken baby and traumatic head injury are perpetrated by young men with little or no caretaking experience. The "ProDads" project utilizes the probation system in Denver and El Paso Counties (as pilot counties) to reach these young men as part of probation training. El Paso County is moving forward providing the Nurturing Fathering program and Denver County is planning to implement the SafeCare program. Both counties will be utilizing the Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI) for evaluation. The target start date for classes is January 2010 and federal funds will be used to support this project. CCTF plans to meet with magistrate in El Paso County in October and a Denver County juvenile court judge in November.

➤ **Prevent Child Abuse in Colorado**

The Colorado chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America is in the process of establishing policies and procedures to become a 501(c)3. The CCTF Program Director is the vice-chair of the board as it currently exists and has been charged with the composition of a board manual. The board at large consists of child abuse prevention professionals from various organizations. The mission of the Colorado chapter of Prevent Child Abuse is to prevent child abuse and neglect by strengthening families, empowering children and youth, providing training and resources to service providers, raising community awareness, and mobilizing community resources. This group could be a valuable partner in building capacity for CCTF local grantees to prevent child abuse and neglect.

➤ **CCTF FY 09 Evaluation Results**

OMNI reported that CCTF grantees showed statistically significant results in the implementation of their Nurturing Parenting and Incredible Years programs for fiscal year 2009. These results were significant at the $p=.001$ level. OMNI conducted data correlation of improvement in AAPI score and number of classes attended. There was no statistical evidence of an association between the number of sessions attended and improvement in overall score. Some challenges grantees encountered were enrollment during the school year and difficulties accessing the State database. Local programs encourage parents who have participated in the program to come back to volunteer in the program. Cindy Wakefield requested to have an analysis done for Nurturing Parenting attendees whose pre-test scores were low to compare their improvement with the parents who did not score low. Scott Bates will forward request to OMNI. CCTF members requested demographic information from participants. Scott Bates will ask current grantees to track demographic data.

➤ **PANDA**

The Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness (PANDA) group at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment requested monetary support for their upcoming conference in January 2010. PANDA requested \$1500.00 for an honorarium for a speaker to discuss the visual diagnosis of child abuse and how dentists may be involved in keeping children safe. CCTF will be acknowledged in the conference materials and the Program Director will be able to attend for free. If members are interested to attend please contact Scott Bates, who will negotiate CCTF Board members' attendance at the PANDA conference.

Lloyd Malone will contact Jane Thomas, a volunteer to invite her to participate in this project. Scott Bates will follow up with dental staff in the department.

MOTION II

It was moved and seconded to support the Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness (PANDA) January conference fund for \$1,500 for an honorarium speaker.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

➤ **CCTF Funding Through SSUF for FY 10**

The Statewide Strategic Use Fund (SSUF) was received and the CCTF is using these funds to expand existing Nurturing Parenting programs in eight counties, with the possibility of expansion into Rio Blanco and Bent counties. Scott Bates will send list of SSUF funding to CCTF members and will make sure CCTF agencies are connected to nutrition programs, as this was indicated as a priority of the CCTF Board.

IV. CCTF Fiscal Process and Update

Tina Smith summarized the Fund Analysis document of the Colorado Children's Trust Fund 2009 and 2010 and explained the funding flow for Colorado Child Abuse Prevention Efforts:

Fund Analysis

- The second part of report analysis revenue increase is perhaps from a trend of divorces going up. Projection is based on actual dollars. The projected end-of-year balance for the actual trust fund for fiscal year 2010 is \$864,357.68, which is an increase from \$722,150.96.
- CCTF is required by statute to only spend 75%.

- In 2003, most of the actual trust fund balance was taken away. State constitution mandates a balanced budget, so funds are sometimes taken from the CCTF for this purpose.

State Funding

- State funding comes from a portion of the divorce docket fee.
- Interest comes from actual trust fund.
- 75% of revenues in addition to interest (received the year before) can be used for program operation – the remaining 25% is used to build the corpus of the trust fund.
- Statewide Strategic Use Fund (SSUF) – these funds are from the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) source.

Federal Funding

- Federal funding comes from the Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (CBCAP), which is from the Administration of Children and Families, US Dept. of Health and Human Services.
- CBCAP amount has averaged \$700,000 per year for the past five years.

Grants to Local Programs (CCTF Grantees and FRCs)

- For the CCTF grantees, approximately 50% comes from the trust fund and 50% from CBCAP
- CBCAP funds 24 Family Resource Centers (FRC) across the state through the CDPHE partnership with the Family Resource Center Association. FRCs look different across the state and are mainly supported by private foundations and local fundraising.

Discussion

CCTF members suggested to invite Jose Esquibel to coordinate efforts at the state level and recommended to have an FRC or CCTF grantee in each county for true child abuse prevention.

V. CCTF Direction – Hot Topics

➤ **Review of CCTF Logic Model/Theory of Change**

Scott Bates presented the Child Abuse Prevention Theory of Change and Logic Model. This document illustrates methods by which change is made in the lives of the families to keep kids safe. It lists risk and protective factors regarding child maltreatment with long-term outcomes.

This logic model/theory of change was discussed because of the CCTF priorities in reaching large populations with large changes and to facilitate a discussion about how best to prioritize child prevention in Colorado.

Members provided positive feedback of the logic model, classified as a descriptive model. Scott Bates will add citations to logic model and will e-mail it to Lloyd Malone and CCTF grantees.

Scott introduced and explained the Strengthening Families program, an initiative of the Center for the Study of Social Policy. This federal research project is a framework for effective programs to build upon and to promote the five protective factors that are already part of many programs run by grantees. There is national interest to implement this project on a widespread basis. Some members were confused with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) abuse prevention program, which has the same name. Scott Bates also announced that he will attend the Strengthening Families Leadership meeting in Atlanta in October.

➤ **Geographic Prioritization of CCTF**

Scott Bates indicated that some CCTF board members in the past discussed looking at rates of child of abuse and neglect and focusing funding those areas where the rates are highest. A geographic priority such as this was formerly part of CCTF statute but was taken out in 1999. However, board members have considered it in the recent past.

Tara Trujillo proposed to broaden geographic information to determine where current programs overlap with others and identified needs, what is missing and what can be done to close the gap of providing services to these identified need areas. She also proposed to take a closer look at how CCTF makes its grants utilizing this information. Members suggested the utilization of a database, accessible through a “dashboard,” to identify needy areas. Bates will join efforts with Jose Esquibel to put together information requested and will invite Jose to the next CCTF Board meeting.

Scott Bates requested ideas from the CCTF Board to develop a Request for Application (RFA) in the next two months.

Funding Structure

Big or Small Grants?

Scott Bates requested feedback from CCTF members regarding whether the funds currently awarded to grantees are the appropriate amount and what other factors to look for when awarding grants. Current grantees are funded at approximately \$22,500 per fiscal year. Some grantees in the past were unable to supplement the rest of their operating cost to support program. Members provided positive feedback regarding the amount of funding currently granted as being large enough to make a difference. Members suggested to look “out of the box” when granting funds, monitor funding flow to have a sense how much money is coming from different areas, identify what is working effectively and assign federal funding for nurturing programs and set aside CCTF funding for innovative programs. Scott Bates informed that in general, current program funding was satisfactory, with good results from the funded parenting programs. Also, the programs the CCTF funds (i.e., Nurturing Parenting and Incredible Years) are affordable to local agencies. Because one model will not work for all families, however, the CCTF Board considered other innovative programs. It was suggested to fund efforts to change system and focus on one innovative pilot program.

Funding for Evidence-Based Practice

CCTF members brainstormed ways to get more funds for evidence-based practice. Federal funding information is reported to CBCAP which compiles information.

Funding Set Aside for Innovative Projects

CCTF members brainstormed ideas for innovative projects and suggested to include an innovative program in the RFA that will be developed in the next few months. The Board discussed the development and promotion of the Governor’s Child Welfare Action Committee. Lloyd Malone indicated that he suggested in the Child Welfare Action Committee subcommittee that Colorado investigate and implement differential response in more counties and build on local community networks. The Child Welfare Action Committee applied to be a research partner for a replication of differential response implementation in Colorado. If the Child Welfare Action Committee receives the grant, Lloyd Malone invited CCTF to think about the possibility of partnering with local communities in their efforts. Differential response is intended to provide caseworkers in local agencies with resources for families where there is potential abuse and neglect on referral. Lloyd Malone will update

application status next meeting. CCTF members proposed to reserve \$20,000 for funding for an innovative program, considering the caveats of evidence-based programs with an evaluation component. Lloyd Malone suggested assigning innovative funding to identified geographic areas. Scott will e-mail a draft of the RFA to request ideas.

- Marketing of CCTF – How do we get our message(s) out?

CCTF members discussed ways to distribute messages about the CCTF and child abuse prevention. CCTF website has been built, but lacks content. Group discussed content for website, audience, purpose, needs of grantees, links and prioritization.

Please send content material ideas to Scott Bates at scott.bates@state.co.us. Subcommittee formation was suggested; this will occur at discretion of chair.

- ISVP White Paper re: Economy and increased risk of violence

The white paper draft that Scott Bates has been working with the Epidemiology, Planning and Evaluation Branch is waiting for approval. The white paper addresses the relationship of the bad economy and increased risks factors for violence in the family. Scott requested ideas from CCTF members and he is hoping to network with child abuse, suicide and domestic violence partners to get the word out. Members suggested that, after approval, the white paper should be published to get media attention and to post it on the CCTF web site.

VI. Confirmation of Future CCTF Board Meetings

Scott Bates will send a meeting wizard announcement to select a date to meet in November. He announced that Holly Hedegaard has resigned her position as the CDPHE representative on the CCTF Board and that another candidate was waiting for approval to take her place.

VII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.