

**GREENE COUNTY FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST  
FULL COUNCIL**

**MINUTES  
June 8, 2020**

**PRESENT:**

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Jaril Arnold	GC Family & Children First
Kim Bautz	GC Public Library
Jennifer Calhoun	GC Board of Commissioners
Amanda Castro	GC Educational Service Center
Ken Collier	Greene Cats
Deb Cordell	GC Family & Children First
Terry Graves-Strieter	GC Educational Service Center
Laura Halladay	GC OSU Extension
Pamela Hamer	GC Public Health Department – Help Me Grow
Brittany Hensley	GC Juvenile Court
Beth Holten	Interfaith Hospitality Network
Melissa Howell	GC Public Health Department
Brandon Huddleson	GC Board of County Commissioners
John LaRock	GC Board of Developmentally Disabled
Brent Lewis	GC Family & Children First
Penny Madry-Johnson	GC Housing Program, Inc.
John Martin	GC Domestic Relations Court
Debbie Matheson	Family Violence Prevention Center
Greta Mayer	GC Mental Health Recovery Board
Paul Otten	Beavercreek Schools
Libby Powers	GC Family & Children First Visitation Center
Kim Redd	Help Me Grow
Beth Rubin	GC Department of Job & Family Services
Karl Schwenn	Parent Representative
Brenda Smallwood	Greene Metropolitan Housing Authority
Ashely Stevely	GC Public Health
Delana Zapata	GC Board of Developmentally Disabled

Ms. Matheson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The meeting opened with a moment of silence for unity and justice within our country.

**REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 2020 MINUTES**

Minutes from the February 2020 Full Council Meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Howell, seconded by Mr. LaRock. The motion passed without exception.

## **REVIEW/APPROVAL OF THE MAY 2020 PROGRAM REPORTS**

Mr. Lewis reported that COVID-19 changed the outlook of service coordination. The contact with families has been limited due to the necessity of meeting virtually with families. Not all families have the technology to meet this way. Currently, there are 17 families open for service coordination and 4 shared youth placements. Contact has been made with these children virtually. The staff have been working with the homeless shelters during this time, assisting with transitions into permanent housing and helping to meet the families' needs. The parenting classes and the Why Try? have been given permission and recently developed the capability to start the classes virtually. The parenting class is full and the participants have the capability to attend virtually. Both the parenting class and Why Try? will resume this week.

Program report for May 2020 was reviewed. A motion to approve the report was made by Ms. Mayer, seconded by Ms. Rubin. The motion passed without exception.

## **REVIEW/APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AUDIT FINANCE COMMITTEE, INCLUDING FISCAL REPORT FOR APRIL 2020**

Recommendations from the Audit Finance Committee were reviewed, including the Fiscal Report for April 2020. A motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mr. LaRock, seconded by Ms. Mayer. The motion passed without exception.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **STEERING COMMITTEE-MS. MATHESON/MR. LEWIS**

At the last Steering Committee meeting, discussions were had about COVID-19, how we are managing the process and having a Full Council meeting via Zoom next month. The Audit Finance Report was discussed.

### **ECCC/HMG EI – MS. HAMER**

Ms. Hamer stated they continue to see their families virtually. There is a small percentage of families that are waiting for in person services to start again. They have been given handouts and are contacted every two weeks to ensure they have what they need in terms of resources and support.

The Early Childhood Coordinating Committee is working closely with the ESC on the infant mental health collaboration.

Families are on hold for evaluations for Part D services. Evaluations will not be done virtually. Early Childhood Meetings will be scheduled in July. Support is being provided for those transitioning out of Preschool. While EI no longer serves them, we can provide resources and answer questions.

## REVIEW/APPROVAL OF SFY2021 OCBF APPLICATION – MR. LEWIS

Mr. Lewis explained the Operational Capacity Building Fund Application is completed each year. It is funding from the state in the amount of \$15,750. The application consists of general information as to who is the Administrative Agent, the Chair, the Parent Representatives and documents participation in the Full Council for the previous year. All money goes toward administrative costs in Greene County, where it is applied to the Director's salary. Approval is needed from the Council in order to submit the application. It will then go on the Commissioner's Agenda to approve submission. A motion was made to approve the application by Ms. Rubin, seconded by Ms. Hensley. The motion passed without exception.

## OTHER ITEMS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR AND DIRECTOR

Mr. Lewis advised VOCA funding is a big portion of funding for the Supervised Visitation Center. The grant for this funding year was submitted Friday for a level amount of funding that we were given last year. Last year, equal cuts were made across the board. This year, it is said they will evaluate programs and needs. It is unknown how significant the cuts will be and how that will impact our services, but a cut in funding is anticipated.

Ms. Powers announced the Supervised Visitation Center is ready to re-open on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Families will be scheduled only two at a time. Toys have been removed from the room and will be given to families at visitation, so once used, they will be disinfected. Lockers have been installed so families can place their belongings there. The kitchen area is closed however, families can bring carry-out food or a cold meal. Gifts are not permitted at this time. Additional visitors are not permitted at this time.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Mayer stated a warm line service will be launched in July to support those with mental illness and addiction however, anyone can receive support. The COVID Care Line is another resource available to help with the stresses of this pandemic. The number for this line is (800) 720-9616.
- Mr. LaRock informed they are providing services to the private providers – providing PPE, conducting the background and fingerprint checks and online training in order to get people eligible to work. There are daily activities through Zoom for clients.
- Ms. Halladay discussed that OSU Extension is still teleworking. There will be no programming until after July 6<sup>th</sup> so they are doing virtual programming where they can. They can still be reached by phone or email.
- Ms. Madry-Johnson stated the shelter at Miami Valley Community Action Partnership has remained open throughout the pandemic. In April and May, 35 individuals were housed at a motel on behalf of Bridges of Hope. All these individuals have been transitioned back to Bridges of Hope, into the community or into the single men/single women shelter at Harmon Place.
- Ms. Howell discussed the Community Health Assessment. The assessment pointed out that race, income, education, age and disability were things that contribute to represent inequality in health care in Greene County. Greene County cases of COVID-19 have remained low due to the work of the community. There are currently 19 active cases with 3 of those in the hospital and 2 on ventilators. The Health Department will continue to distribute PPE, continue testing, following cases and give guidance on re-opening. Ms. Howell stressed the importance of wearing masks, washing hands,

social distancing, making sure sick employees stay home and creating special hours for the vulnerable populations to conduct business.

- Ms. Stevely announced the Community Health Assessment is available at [www.gcph.info](http://www.gcph.info). The committee will now be moving on to improvement planning.
- Mr. Otten stated all school districts are focused on how to get back to some normalcy while protecting the students and staff. A survey sent to parents showed 74% of parents are interested in the traditional model of holding school all day, every day. Many parents are opposed to the students wearing masks. The schools will continue to work closely with the Health Department.
- Ms. Rubin reported an increase in SNAP and TANF applications, with the biggest spike in April. Workforce development activities are ready to assist job seekers. As with other counties, Greene County has seen a decrease in child abuse/neglect, however, it is beginning to increase. The lobby of DJFS will open June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Holten informed the Schneider House of Hope has been open through the pandemic. The population at the shelter has been deconcentrated by housing families at a motel in Fairborn. There are still vouchers for the hotel so please send referrals to the Case Manager. Currently, volunteers are not permitted in the shelter so meals have been dropped off at the side porch. There are no immediate plans to allow volunteers back in the shelter.
- Ms. Redd discussed the continued outreach efforts of Help Me Grow. They have used meal distribution through the schools as a way to distribute information. Ms. Redd is looking for upcoming community events as a way to distribute information.
- Ms. Bautz stated the library offers curbside pickup and several virtual programs. Plans are being made for reopening while providing for the safety of patrons and staff.
- Ms. Castro stated the ESC has been continuing mental health and prevention services through the pandemic by meeting with clients virtually. Two employees have been hired to serve as mental health consultants as part of the Early Childhood Expansion Grant.
- Mr. Collier informed the flex routes continue to run on the normal schedule. Drivers are wearing masks and, in an attempt, to maintain social distancing, seats have been blocked off. Staff is in the office with the exception of a few employees who are working from home due to their own health risks.
- Ms. Hensley stated Juvenile Court has been operating during the pandemic however, they were primarily hearing abuse, neglect and dependency cases and the higher risk delinquency cases to ensure those needs were being addressed. The Assessment Center had a soft opening on June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Ms. Smallwood informed that Greene Metropolitan has remained open however the lobby was closed until June 1<sup>st</sup>. In house appointments are not being conducted at this time, however there is a walk-up window.
- Mr. Huddleson stated the county employees have done a tremendous job of finding smarter ways to operate during the pandemic. The biggest challenge is now the loss of revenue for the county. County offices will open to the public on June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Graves-Streiter stated plans are being made for the start of the school year. The school will continue to work with the Health Department to ensure safety for the students and staff. Through therapists and educators, it has been noted that kids are having more mental health issues due to the pandemic. Kids need to be with their peers.
- Mr. Schwenn stated he is a Parent Representative and as such, he would like to work towards improvement of the compassion and effectiveness in the current services offered. Mr. Schwenn also wants to bring awareness to how mental illness impacts family members and their involvement in county services.


- Ms. Matheson informed of the texting line for individuals of domestic violence. The number is (937) 347-5917. The purpose of the line is so victims can reach out in privacy and without being heard by potential abusers. Region 15, which is a collaboration between Clark and Greene Counties has funds to be used to prevent people from becoming homeless. Referrals should be made to any homeless service providers in the county, however, Community Action Partnership can access the information and get families connected.


The next meeting is Monday, August 3, 2020 at TBD at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned @ 10:04 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

  
Jaril Arnold, Admin Support

  
Date