



**MINUTES
December 18, 2023**

**Children's Services Advisory Committee
NEEDS ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

The CSAC Needs Assessment Subcommittee met at 9:00 AM on Monday, December 18, 2023, at Indian River County Administration Complex, Building B, Room B1-501, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Hope Woodhouse, Chair, called the December 18, 2023, meeting of the CSAC Needs Assessment Subcommittee to order at 9:00 AM.

2. ROLLCALL

Present:

Hope Woodhouse, Chair
Autumn Schneider
Brian McMahon
Chiaka Nwosu
Carrie Maynard-Lester

Absent:

Karissa Bolden
Michael Kint

Also Present:

Kyleigh Savoie
Doug DeMuth
Laura Moss, County Commissioner
Cindy Emerson, Community Services Director
Maya Miller, Community Services Administrative Assistant
Amie Rutherford, Human Services Manager
Leigh Ann Uribe, Human Services Program Coordinator
Natalie Novak, Recording Secretary

Quorum was established.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Carrie Maynard Lester made a motion, seconded by Autumn Schneider, to approve the Minutes of the November 28, 2023 Meeting of the CSAC Needs Assessment Subcommittee. The motion passed unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

End of Year Report

Cindy Emerson reported an update on the CSAC End of Year Report, in draft form. By request of the CSAC Grant Review Subcommittee, the report includes more descriptive funding priorities, collaboration, grant process, and funding allocations. Ms. Emerson reported 99.1% of the funds were utilized this funding year, totaling \$2.422M. Discussion continued.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Amie Rutherford reviewed the intention of the CSAC Needs Assessment. Ms. Rutherford reported asset mapping of children served in the 2023-24 funding year is in process. Ms. Rutherford expressed the focus of today's meeting is to prioritize focus areas within each priority. Ms. Rutherford reported the priorities identified in the last meeting as Health and Well-being, Nurturing Families and Communities, and Success in School and Life.

Needs Assessment Publication:

The Subcommittee discussed and made recommendations on the demographic data. Subcommittee members are requested to send suggestions and recommendations to Amie Rutherford to expedite the process.

Prioritize Focus Areas Within Each Priority

Ms. Rutherford reported staff drafted a list of prioritized Focus Areas with aligned data indicators within each Priority. Subcommittee members reviewed indicators and made recommendations. Discussion and recommendations continued. Below is the summary of the recommended priorities.

Health and Well-being

1. Enhanced access to prenatal healthcare
2. Advancements in positive behavioral health and youth drug use
3. Promotion of physical health
4. Identification and expansion of programs for students with special needs

Nurturing Families and Communities

1. Decrease in childhood adversity
2. Reduction in juvenile delinquency

Promoting Success in School and Life

1. Increase kindergarten readiness
2. Improve academic proficiency
3. Boost student attendance
4. Expansion of pathways for college and career success

Ms. Woodhouse recommended the subcommittee members review updated information and return suggestions to CSAC staff. CSAC staff will revise and circulate for comments.

It was determined that a meeting will be held to review and discuss the revisions for approval.

The meeting was opened to public comment. After discussion on several matters from Doug DeMuth, the meeting moved for adjournment by Autumn Schneider.

7. NEXT MEETING: Friday, January 5, 2024 at 8:00 AM

8. ADJOURNMENT

Autumn Schneider adjourned the meeting at 11:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Natalie Novak