

Indian River County Florida

*Indian River County Administration Complex
1800 27th Street, Building B
Vero Beach, Florida, 32960-3388
www.indianriver.gov*



Children Services Advisory Committee



Needs Assessment Subcommittee Meeting Minutes - Final

November 8, 2024

Committee Members

Hope Woodhouse, Chair Brian McMahon
Carrie Maynard-Lester Michael Kint Autumn Schneider

CSAC STAFF:

Cindy Emerson, IRC Community Services
Ms. Maya Miller, IRC Community Services
Megan Kendrick, IRC Human Services
Robert Catapano, Human Services

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Hope Woodhouse at 2:03PM.

2. **ROLL CALL**

6 Voting Members / 4 for Quorum

Members Present

Autumn Schneider
Carrie Maynard-Lester
Hope Woodhouse
Michael Kint

Members Absent:

Brian McMahon

Also Present:

Cindy Emerson, Community Services Director
Megan Kendrick, Human Services Manager
Robert Catapano, Human Services
Ms. Maya Miller, Community Services, Recording Secretary

3. **QUORUM WAS MET**4. **ADDITIONS & DELETIONS TO AGENDA:**

Cindy Emerson requested adding the Community Services Director Report to provide some updates. A motion was made by Autumn Schneider for the addition of the Community Services Director Report and Hope Woodhouse seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Autumn Schneider to approve the Meeting Minutes of the October 23, 2024. Michael Kint seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6. **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT**

The Community Services Department reported over 19,000 interactions with Children's Services, with 2,000 children receiving early interventions for kindergarten readiness.

The department hosted two community forums focusing on juvenile justice and afterschool programs for children with disabilities, indicating a proactive approach to community needs.

The team participated in a veteran affairs advocacy fair, providing information on resources available for veterans and their families, including utility support and housing initiatives.

Megan hosted a professional development session on storytelling, which received excellent feedback and requests for a follow-up session at Healthy Start. There is a plan for a follow-up session on storytelling and technology tools to help agencies communicate their impact better.

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

The discussion highlighted that there was no new population or demographic data, indicating that all information remained the same as before. The importance of consistency in data sources was emphasized. The group reached a consensus to continue using the same data sources for demographic information to ensure consistency.

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS (con't)**

Further discussion continued regarding the updated data collected for unemployment, quartile, economic indicators and prenatal care. The Committee will confirm the accuracy of the data and make the necessary changes to the PowerPoint presentation before publishing it.

The Committee decided to move forward with updating the graphs based on the current data, while also considering the option to create a memo if the new data cannot be clarified. The next step involves reviewing the narrative and ensuring that all participants are prepared to discuss the data in detail at the next meeting.

There is a concern that the decisions made now may not reflect the current needs due to the timing of the needs assessment and the impact of recent events like Hurricane Milton. It was decided that the new programs will be aligned with the data points from the needs assessment, which will be reviewed every three years.

There is a concern that the data may not fully capture the current issues, such as homelessness, and that community input is essential to understand the real problems. It was decided that the group will focus on reviewing the previous year's needs assessment and create an executive summary highlighting significant changes.

Further discussion and conclusions concerning data collection continued. Overall, the meeting aimed to refine the needs assessment, ensure accurate data tracking, and address funding concerns to maintain program effectiveness.

The Committee will meet again on November 20, 2024, to review and finalize all data for the needs assessment updates for FY24-25.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:24PM.

Prepared By Recording Secretary: Ms. Maya Miller