

Queen Anne's County
Community Partnerships for Children and Families (LMB)
Board of Directors
Minutes
March 20, 2024
In-Person with Virtual Option

Members Present:

Major Christopher Amoia, QAC Sheriff's Office	Jason Mullen, Chesapeake College
Susan Coppage, QAC Department of Social Services	Deyanica Murga, Community Member
Katie Dilley, Mid Shore Behavioral Health	Stephen Palmer, Transit Department
Matt Evans, Board of Education	Lauren Searce, Department of Juvenile Services
Bobbi Graef, Department of Health	Colleen Thomas, Community Member
Patrick Kirk, Community Member	Alana Van Ornum, Student Member
Gail Lundberg, Community Member	
James Miller, QAC Recreation	

Administrative Staff:

Lacey Amos, Resource and Development Specialist
Michael Clark, Director
Lisa Michaels, Office Coordinator
Jennifer Stansbury, Operations Specialist

Member Regrets:

Scott Evans, Community Member	Michelle Johnson, Community Member
Pastor Mark Farnell, Community Member	Lynnette Lamp, Community Member
Margie Houck, County Commissioners	Cameron Ronayne, Community Member
Justin Hoyt, Community Member	Jone Taylor, Children's Council
Joselle Gatrell, Community Member	

Guest:

Melinda Ray, Character Counts! Coordinator
Dr. Patricia Saelens, QAC School Superintendent
Nicole Chase-Powell, Healthy Families

I. Welcome:

Katie Dilley called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

II. LMB Updates & Reports:

A. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on March 11th and March 12th at separate meetings due to scheduling conflicts. The Executive Committee approved the agenda.

The Strategic Planning Committee has been working hard with Lacey Amos, Jennifer Stansbury and LMB staff to create our block grant, the Community Partnership Agreement, based on the feedback provided by the Board at the Retreat and other meetings. The Strategic Planning Committee recommended the Executive Committee authorize staff to submit that grant.

****Action:**

Matt Evans made a motion to ratify the Executive Committee's decision to submit the FY2025 Community Partnership Agreement application. Patrick Kirk provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

B. Secretary

Susan Coppage, Vice President, and Secretary presented the February 21, 2024 meeting minutes for approval.

****Action:**

Colleen Thomas made a motion to approve the February 21, 2024 minutes as written. Lauren Searce provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

C. Treasurer

Colleen Thomas, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2024, for approval.

****Action:**

Susan Coppage made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report for February 2024 as written. Gail Lundberg provided a second. All present voted in favor to accept the Treasurer's Report for February 2024 with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

D. Director's Report. See full report in the board packet.

- Thank you to LMB staff and the Strategic Planning Committee for their role in submitting the Community Partnership Agreement application.
- Next year the application process may be different.
- At today's meeting, we are looking forward to presentations from Dr. Patricia Saelens and Matt Evans from QAC Public Schools and also Nicole Chase-Powell from QAC Healthy Families.
- The Association of Local Management Boards meet with the Governor's Chief of Staff, and we were excited to learn that the Enough Act will include \$750,000.00 carve out funding to LMBs statewide. Raising the total amount to LMBs to \$1.5 million. The last hurdle for the Enough Act is Governor's Moore's signature.

E. Committee Updates:

- Backpack Committee – Colleen Thomas
 - The committee has not met since the last LMB Board Meeting.
 - There have been a few donations.
 - The committee received a \$2,500 grant from Acme/Safeway.
- Character Counts! – Melinda Ray
 - The Advisory Committee is in the process of collecting applications for Teen of Character scholarships.
 - School staff recognitions are going really well. Over 169 nominations have been received.
 - Currently collaborating with QAC Parks & Recreation to promote sportsmanship.
 - Gearing up for summer outreach events.
 - Looking for speaking engagements.
- Children’s Council – Melinda Ray
 - The Council met last month.
 - Performance Measures were reviewed and submitted to Lacey Amos.
 - New members have joined the Council from the Pride Center.
 - Christmas in April event on April 18th.
- Out of School Time Committee (OOST) – Lauren Scearce
 - The committee is scheduled to meet on April 8th for RFP discussion.
 - Looking forward to the after school presentation.
- Safety Net Committee – Matt Evans
 - The committee met just prior to this meeting.
 - QAC Wellness Facebook page now includes parent resources which is maintained by our mental health coordinators.
 - Centreville Middle School will be hosting a pilot assembly, i.Possible, on April 30th. i.Possible promotes resilience and coping skills.
 - Mental Health Coordinators (Stirling Ward and Megan Pinder) received funding through the mental health committee for suicide prevention curriculum appropriate for middle high school students.
 - Currently training staff on a yearly basis regarding suicide prevention.
 - MCSS platform notified that there were 10 reports in February and 2 so far this month.
 - The committee is currently updating performance measures.
- Strategic Planning Committee – Stephen Palmer
 - Approved the submission of the CPA application.
 - Reviewed the Data Dashboard.
- Membership Committee – Mike Clark
 - There are a few board members who are eligible for second term nominations.
 - Board members will be receiving a poll to indicate their interest in returning for FY25 and whether they are interested in joining a committee.
 - The Membership Committee consists of Susan Coppage and Patrick Kirk. The committee needs at least one more member.

III. Queen Anne County Housing Authority – Mike Clark

- QAC Department of Community Services recently announced that the County will take over all Housing Authority operations, collaborating with Ms. Katya Lindsey, who is resigning on May 1, 2024. This decision was officially made by the Housing Authority

board on March 11th, I was appointed by the County Commissioners as the new executive director. This new role will be in addition to my current duties.

- The Housing Authority oversees Section 8, some lower rent developments, and Housing Choice Vouchers Program.
- There have been concerns over quality of property up-keep and issues and concerns regarding the customer service component.
- The existing Housing Authority staff may transition to county employees.
- Due to this transition, the County Commissioners agreed to create a LMB Administrator position. This person will be supervised by me.

IV. Out of School Time Programs Update – Dr. Patricia Saelens and Matt Evans (See Attached).

- Questions: Can you establish a program at a specific school, for example, if students were interested in having a “women in engineering” program, at Kent Island High School? Is there a way to do that?
 - Yes, if there was a need, yes. But this presentation is about PFY programs, but if there was a need, and if students were interested, then yes.
- Is this program open to all students and is there a fee:
 - Yes, open to all students and there is a registration fee.
- Does the fee range depend on the program?
 - If the program requires field trips, etc, there could be fees associated with that.
- What is the timeframe?
 - After school for 2 hours.
 - There are also opportunities for tutoring.
- Is there a way to get scholarships to PFY
 - Yes, scholarships are available to students with free or reduced lunch. If a student is interested, we find a way. Sometimes transportation can be an issue since we do not have a late bus.
- How do parents get information about these programs
 - Information is sent out on the district level and at individual schools.
- Funding has been a concern and that is why we have problems getting a program up and running.
- Thankful for LMB for their support.
- The transportation piece is a huge expense. Leads funding has helped.
- Some schools utilize transportation and others do not.
- Staffing the after school programs has been a challenge.
- In past years, staff salaries were supplemented with COVID money.
- Excited to move forward with Boys & Girls Club.
- The Edge will be a good partner as well.
- QACPS has a great partnership with QAC Parks & Recreation.
- QACPS were Identified this year as a Community School.
- Next year Sudlersville Elementary School will be getting additional funding. Some of that funding will go toward staffing and to extend out our school-based health center in the evening.
- QACPS will partner with The Boys & Girls Club by supplying facilities and other resources, but they will be pursuing the 21 Century grant and will be identified as the agent receiving the funding.

- Moving forward for next year, the QACPS hopes to expand their activities through the Edge.
- QACPS scheduled several meetings with YMCA regarding programming.
- Four Points is a partner in our community who assist with getting programs up and running. This partnership was required by Leads.
- Four Points assisted in expanding QACPS' relationship with the Edge. The Edge supported sport-type activities for middle school students.
- Students have been observed after school utilizing the library for reading and tutoring sessions.
- Looking for capital projects to assist in paving a sidewalk from the Centreville Middle School to Queen Anne's County High School.
- Grateful to have partners helping to keep after school programs running.

V. Healthy Families Update - Nicole Chase-Powell

- Healthy Families is an evidenced-based home visiting program in Queen Anne's, Kent, Caroline, and Talbot Counties.
- We work with new, expecting, and first-time parents.
- The program meets with families weekly, biweekly, monthly or quarterly.
- Provide services to children up to 5 years old.
- Staff includes family support specialists and family resource specialists.
- Healthy Families recently started medical billing.
- Spanish speaking populations is the highest population currently served. Healthy Families is able to bill for those services.
- There is some question whether Healthy Families will continue to get funding through Talbot County LMB.
- Healthy Families is hoping to get clarification if funding will continue or will funding be pulled and given to other community resources who provide similar services.

VI. Announcement/Adjournment

- Queen Anne's Free Laptop program has expanded into Caroline County. There are several distribution events scheduled.
- Laptops must be distributed by June 30, 2024.
- Thank you to QAC Parks & Recreation, Children's Counsel and Character Counts! for supporting the Free Laptop Program.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2024 in the County Commissioner's meeting room.

Colleen Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Evans provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.