

# Marion County Children & Families Commission

June 20, 2019 Meeting

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Grant Room, Broadway Commons

**Commission Members Present:** Patrice Altenhofen, Phil Blea, Sue Bloom, ~~George Burke~~, Paige Clarkson, ~~Troy Clausen~~, Jayne Downing, Troy Gregg, ~~Lisa Harnisch~~, ~~Levi Herrera Lopez~~, Stacy Lake, Krina Lee, ~~Kim Lemman~~, Pete McCallum, Honorable Cheryl Pellegrini, Allan Pollock, Eric Richards, Jim Seymour, ~~Sam Skillern~~, and ~~Shaney Starr~~, ~~Commissioner Colm Willis~~

**Guests-** Joe Kast, Marion County Sheriff's Office; Percy Torres, Marion County Health; Josh Graves, Catholic Community Services; Wasi Kahn, Galaxux Inc.; Nick Ballenger, Boys & Girls Club

**Staff Present:** Tamra Goettsch, Melinda Hautala, Heather Johnson  
Meeting Summary Notes by Heather Johnson

## Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 11:38am. Welcome and introductions were made

## Approval of May 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting Summary Notes

Krina Lee motioned to approve. Eric Richards seconded the motion. All were in favor to accept the meeting summary notes. **Motion:** Notes approved

## Recap of Outward Mindset Training

When asked to share what stood out most about the Outward Mindset training, many voiced how much they enjoyed Chris Pineda as a trainer and that he was willing to be vulnerable and share his own life stories. This helped some to connect more with the material.

- The Meet-to-Learn and Collaborative Helping exercises were very helpful in connecting each organization to one another and getting feedback on areas of need. It was a good visual that showed that each organization CAN work together and that in one way or another each organization is connected to another. Troy Gregg mentioned that he and Sue Bloom had talked about meeting to collaborate many times, but the Collaborative Helping exercise at the training helped them to take the action of scheduling a meeting together.
- The training served as a reminder that Marion County networks really well and encourages working together.
- DHS is looking to shift the culture of their programs and believes that the training that their staff received that day will be very beneficial in helping facilitate the desired changes.
- Some members commented that even though they had been through the Outward Mindset training with their own organizations before, this CFC training was a reminder of how helpful the Outward Mindset way of thinking can help in all types of organizations, groups, and individuals.

- Many were inspired by the video shown during the training, featuring Alan Mulally, Former President & CEO of Ford Motor Company, describing a system they used with projects coded red, yellow, or green. It was very eye-opening at how the company really started to turn around and move forward once everyone felt comfortable sharing their struggles and obstacles, and not just their successes. Many agreed that this can be a very helpful tool as a commission to move forward with our goals and desired future.

### **Together Toward Tomorrow: HOPE ALIVE**

The results for a recent poll sent to all commission members were presented as a handout. The results showed that the top three focus areas were:

- Support parents so that they can raise resilient kids
- Support children and provide them with tools to build confidence and security
- Increase knowledge; connect and collaborate

As these three focus areas are considered, we need to know what that looks like as a community. What are the red, yellow, and green charts of the community and how do we change them? Krina shared that the state average for children entering Kindergarten who can recognize letters and their sounds is 8%, while the average for the Salem-Keizer school district is 4.6%. Both Krina and Eric commented on the startling rise in suicide risk assessments that Salem-Keizer school district has done for elementary-age kids in the past year.

Phil asserted that it is crucial to instill in children the knowledge and feeling of being loved and cared for, and stressed that it is important to be proactive instead of reactive. He mentioned the “Dam Worth It” campaign that is quickly spreading through the Pac-12 conference to bring awareness of mental health illness.

Sue believes that in order for the CFC to better support each other, it would help to be aware of which age group each organization is involved with.

Several members agreed that a Service Coordination System to connect the services of CFC member organizations would be a great help to both the organizations and those they serve. All also agreed, however, that such a system would need to be user friendly; if the systems cannot be navigated by the average person, the systems will fail.

**Members agreed that if possible, they would like to invite Chris Pineda to come and talk to the commission during the next meeting to help facilitate next steps and coordinating ideas.**

### **HOPE ALIVE Technical Assistance**

In Eileen’s absence, Tamra shared the HOPE Initiative Update that Eileen wrote, and suggested next steps. Page 13 and 14 of the meeting packet gives a detailed description of the organizations that have shown a strong interest in incorporating one or more elements of the HOPE research or are still exploring ways to include the HOPE Scale within their organizations. These organizations include:

- CASA of Marion County

- Center for Hope and Safety
- Mano a Mano
- Marion County Juvenile Court
- Salem Police Department
- St. Francis Shelter
- Boys and Girls Club of Salem, Marion, and Polk Counties
- Catholic Community Services
- Marion County District Attorney
- Salem-Keizer Transit

#### **Eileen's recommendations and next steps:**

- **Recommend that the CFC create a HOPE Implementation Subcommittee in order to:**
  - **Support one another's efforts and problem-solve challenges**
  - **Share training materials and resources**
  - **Explore ways to collect HOPE scale data consistently and demonstrate impact**
  - **Network with other non-CFC organization that want to implement the HOPE approach**
- **Support the current implementers through technical assistance and resources and consider inviting Dr. Chan Hellman to return to Salem to work directly with some organizations**
- **Invite other CFC organizations to explore ways to incorporate the HOPE Initiative**
- **Consider ways to better align the Outward Mindset and HOPE practices within organizations**

#### **Membership**

Phil Blea, Marion County Health Department, was appointed as the newest commission member on June 19, 2019.

#### **Organization Challenges:**

Sue Bloom, Boys & Girls Club: The new crew leader and assistant crew leader started last week. At the end of the first day, the crew leader quit. They are once again searching for a young adult to who can fill this position. The job posting can be found on their website.

Patrice Altenhofen, Family Building Blocks: They are looking for space in Woodburn to expand their services. Phil Blea of Marion County Health reached out with a potential space. The two organizations will follow-up with each other.

Jim Seymour, Catholic Community Services: Announced that all commission members will be receiving an invite to the Aug 1 Call-to-Action and asked for support of the event.

**Adjourned at 12:55pm**

**The next Children and Families Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup> at Broadway Commons in the KEIZER ROOM.**