



**Ohio Children's Trust Fund  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2008**

**Board Members Present:**

Mary Deel	Jewel Neely (Director Dawson)	Ericka Thoms
Kelly Lynch	Frank Putnam	Rep. Jeff Wagner
Lisa McDuffie		

**Board Members Absent:**

Chairman Schuring	Karen Hughes	Sheriff Gene Kelly
Crystal Allen	Arlene Jones	Director Jones-Kelley
Rep. Edna Brown	Senator Kearney	

**Staff Present:**

Candace Valach, Executive Director  
Karen Minton, Trust Fund Program Admin.  
David Monder, Legislative Aide to Chair

**Guests:**

Tracy Robinson, Executive Director of the Ohio Fatherhood Commission  
Kimberly Friedman, Nurse Family Partnership

Finance Chair Ericka Thoms called the Ohio Children's Trust Fund Board Meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. on July 9, 2008 in the Riffe Building.

**Old Business**

Mary Deel moved that the meeting minutes from the July 9, 2008, Board meeting be approved. Kelly Lynch seconded. The minutes were approved.

*Executive Director's Report*

Candace Valach provided an update on current Trust Fund activities. The report highlighted the status of county SFY 2009 applications and allocations and the closeout of the SFY 2008 grant period. Candace reported that, to date, 69 applications had been approved for SFY 2009. Candace is following up with the remaining counties on their applications with the intent of having all allocations released as soon as possible. To date, approximately \$1.5 million has been released for local prevention efforts.

In addition the report provided an update on the Trust Fund's participation with the Ohio Domestic Violence Network for the Child PREVENT Maltreatment Institute, as well as the work with the National Governor's Association.

**New Business**

*Finance Committee Report*

Finance Chair Ericka Thoms provided an update from the OCTF Finance Committee. The CTF and Finance Committee were informed by JFS Fiscal of errors (resulting in a decreased cash available of \$2 million) in the approved SFY 2009 operating budget. In light of the revised numbers and the recent announcement from the Governor concerning shortfalls in revenues, the Finance Committee spent considerable time reviewing and revising the previously approved SFY 2009 budget and proposed budgets for SFY 2010 and 2011.

#### *Revised SFY 09 Budget*

Candace Valach presented an overview of the revised operating budget for SFY2009. Based on declining annual revenues, budget corrections regarding the available carry over balance, and the depletion of the cash balance, the revised budget eliminates approximately \$2 million in spending. Given this reduction, the CTF Board highlighted the immediate need to strategically invest prevention dollars within the CTF annual revenue amount. The revised SFY 09 budget removed proposed discretionary spending, including a temporary placeholder for a potential statewide respite program. In order to contain costs and focus CTF dollars on prevention programming versus administration, the board encouraged CTF staff to maximize its relationship with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, who serves as the CTF administrative agent per state law, as opposed to seeking third party, independent contracts. There were no changes offered for the proposed revised SFY 2009 operating budget. Lisa McDuffie moved that the revised SFY 2009 budget be accepted by the Board. Frank Putnam seconded. The motion was unanimously accepted.

#### *Review of Revised SFY 2010 – 2011 Biennial Budget*

The revision of the SFY 2009 budget required the Board to review revised SFY 2010 and 2011 proposed budgets. Before proceeding with the review of the SFY 2010/2011 proposed budget, the Board elected to hear programming recommendations from the Prevention Programming Workgroup before holding a vote.

#### *Prevention Programming*

Kelly Lynch provided the report from the Prevention Programming Workgroup. The Workgroup met with Finance Chair Ericka Thoms in order to be briefed on the recent change in the OCTF budget and discuss potential impact on the programming recommendations to the full Board.

The first recommendation to the full board was that the application for start up funding (\$5,000) for the Child and Family Advocacy Center of Henry County be approved. Frank Putnam moved that the Board approve the application for *start-up* funding. Lisa McDuffie seconded. The motion was unanimously accepted. (*Board member Kelly Lynch abstained from this vote*)

The workgroup recommended that the review of applications for on-going CAC funding be temporarily suspended while the Trust Fund creates and implements an application process. The Board acknowledged the important prevention work being proposed in the following applications: the Child Advocacy Center of Fairfield County (originally \$688,248.70, revised to \$50,000) and the Children's Advocacy Center of Guernsey County (\$10,000). The Board discussed the importance of developing criteria and funding parameters in order to ensure fiscal transparency, accountability, sustainability of programming and a sound and equitable application process for all CACs. The Board noted that this was all the more critical in light of the current financial times. The Board asked CTF staff to immediately move forward with the development and implementation of an application process for ongoing funding. Mary Deel moved to accept the recommendation that the review of applications for on-going CAC funding be temporarily suspended while the CTF creates and implements an application process. Frank Putnam seconded. The motion unanimously carried. (*Board member Kelly Lynch abstained from this vote*).

The workgroup recommended that, in light of the revised SFY 2009 operating budget, the Catholic Social Services request for contract renewal for \$315,000 be denied. The board acknowledged the value of the work being done by the vendor and identified the incarcerated parent population as an at risk population. The Board noted in light of the current financial times, it is critical for the board to engage in strategic planning to not only guide the direction of prevention programming in Ohio, but to ensure fiscal transparency, accountability, and sustainability of programming, Lisa McDuffie moved to accept the recommendation that the contract renewal for Catholic Social Services be denied Mary Deel seconded. The motion was unanimously accepted.

*Continued discussion of Revised SFY 2010 – 2011 Biennial Budget*

Taking the recent board votes into consideration, the Board continued discussion on the revised SFY 2010 and 2011 proposed budget. Representative Wagner moved that the Board accept the revised SFY 2010 and SFY 2011 budgets which account for the \$2 million shortfall in SFY 2009. Frank Putnam seconded. The motion was unanimously accepted. Candace Valach will submit the approved SFY 2010 and 2011 proposed budget to JFS Fiscal for inclusion in the department's submission to OBM. The Board will continue to have ongoing budgeting discussions for SFY 2009 as well as SFY's 2010 and 2011 as they coincide with internal budget preparations.

*Infrastructure Workgroup Report*

Mary Deel provided a report from the Infrastructure Workgroup. The report highlighted the proposed Revised Code and Administrative Rule changes, including general organizational changes, clarifying the restrictions on Trust Fund dollars (such as funding for tertiary prevention), and updating administrative code rules.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.