

Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING	Monday, August 1, 2022 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Zoom Meeting
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ATTENDEES	Gabriella Celeste, Beverly Charles, David Crampton, Jennifer Croessmann (DCFS), Natasha Davis, Jacqueline Fletcher (DCFS), Andrew Garner, Angela Newman-White, Debra Rex, Marilee Santiago, Lakecia Wild Guest Speakers – Lee Weingart, Chris Ronayne Guests – William Tarter, Jr., Kaitlin Durbin, Digizoom Media – Richard Stewart, Rebekah Dorman, Shawna Rohrman, Zoetoscoc, Joe Gauntner, B. Gray
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MINUTES	Available Online –Jennifer Croessmann will post minutes upon approval
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RECORDER	Deborah Barber
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AGENDA ITEMS

	Introduce and Welcome
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lakecia Wild opened meeting• Roll Taken• Meeting minutes from June 6, 2022 Moved to accept – Lakecia Wild Second – Natasha Davis Unanimous Vote Minutes Approved

	Public Comment
DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rebekah Dorman – updated the board on her retirement status

	Director's Updates – Jacqueline Fletcher
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jacqueline Fletcher started as interim director July 5. An open staff forum was held 7/8/22 at the agency to address safety concerns, placement, staff retention and caseloads. Jacqueline Fletcher, Armond Budish, David Merriman, a representative from the sheriff's office and Bill Mason made comments and took questions• A Sheriff's Deputy is present at the Jane Edna Building 24/7, safety measures have been added, DCFS implemented protocols when children are present in the building, DCFS continues to engage children

<p>Lakecia Wild and Gabriella Celeste will follow up on Child Protection Teams and Emergency Child Care</p>	<p>in activities outside the building, including Families First Village, the Children’s Advocacy Center, and visits to the zoo, local beaches, etc...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCFS is working with the state Rapid Response Team • Currently there are 3 children in the building – 1 has a placement Wednesday; 2 arrived over the weekend & 1 early this morning • There are approximately 72 contracted/emg providers currently • Bill Mason has not yet scheduled another summit meeting • Child Protection Teams – DCFS is looking into the next steps • Emergency Shelter Care – The no eject/no reject policy is critical to the emergency shelter care proposal • The Rapid Response Team from the state will tour Metzenbaum August 2, 2022 • Jen Croessmann – update on Safe Sleep Training – the videos provided by Angela Newman from the Co. BOH were helpful. The following access points are under review: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Video links will be posted for parents, foster parents and kinship parents to view on the Just In Time Training site Cuyahoga County Just in Time Training Home (jitcuyahoga.org) 2. The link will be added to the safe sleep checklist as a requirement to view the videos for all infant caregivers. 3. Staff doing kinship assessments will email a link to the videos to kin caregivers at the time of the assessment when considering approval to care for an infant 4. DCFS will email links to the foster parent trainers and network providers 5. DCFS will add the links to our public website
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Subcommittee Updates: Prevention, Intervention, Government

<p>Lakecia Wild will send a reminder email regarding reappointment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intervention – David Crampton <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dashboard Update – board members send email to David Crampton or Jen Croessmann with questions about the Dashboard <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vote for approval <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Motion by Lakecia Wild ii. Second Debra Rex iii. Unanimous vote iv. Dashboard approved b. The dashboard can be viewed once posted: http://bc.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Children-Family-Services-Advisory-Board.aspx • Prevention Subcommittee – Marilee Santiago <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcomed DCFS interim director, offered support 2. Proposed DCFS hire a Prevention Officer and the board host a townhall to raise awareness 3. Jacqueline Fletcher – nothing is off the table and we appreciate the suggestions • Governance Subcommittee – Lakecia Wild <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board reappointments – deadline is August 8 to decide if members would like to remain on the board 2. Please send an email ASAP to Lakecia Wild with your intentions
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Guest Speakers	
Lakecia Wild and Gabriella Celeste will send thank you notes to both candidates	<p>County Executive Candidates: Chris Ronayne and Lee Weingart</p> <p>Each candidate was given two minutes for introductions, then time to answer two questions that were sent prior to the meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What role should the county play to better ensure the safety and well-being of our children, especially those at risk of neglect and abuse? How does prevention fit into this vision? 2. What do you see as the value of having the DCFS Advisory Board and how would you want to maximize this value? <p>Each candidate was then given time to answer additional questions relating to working with Cleveland’s Mayor Bibb and handling children with challenging behaviors</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Discussion – Gabriella Celeste requested the board to check their emails for any correspondence around December 13, 2021 relating to the 2021 annual status report. Please forward any emails to Lakecia Wild or Gabriella Celeste 4. Meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm

Next Meeting: October 3, 2022, 3:30pm

Location – Zoom

Recorder – Deborah Barber