

**From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
Of
September 29, 2021**

The From Cradle to College Foundation, Inc. held a Board of Directors meeting on September 15, 2021, at 10:00 AM through a Zoom Meeting initiated at 600 8th Avenue West, Palmetto, Florida

Board Members Present:

Marc Gilner
Dianne Kopczynski
Diana Dill
Howard Veltz
Rachel Quinn
Andrew Minor (non-voting)
Paul Sharff, Managing Director

Board Members Absent:

Linda Guritz (excused)

ELC Staff Present:

Darrell King

Foundation Staff Present:

Marie O'Connell

These minutes are a summary of the discussion and action items of the From Cradle to College Foundation Board of Directors meeting on September 29, 2021.

Welcome and Roll Call

Marc Gilner called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.
Paul Sharff conducted roll call and determined a quorum was present.

Foundation Update

County Funding/Contracts

Mr. Sharff reported to the board that WIT program continues at \$210,000 for the county contract year. Due to the nights and weekends required there have been some staffing issues. The work is performed by ELC staff who provide services to the Foundation for this program. The program has been running successfully and currently has a wait list of clients as the program enters its second year.

CARES

Mr. Sharff noted that all of the CARES funds were spent, but there is now additional funding available. The Foundation will apply again for this funding and hopes to expand its vehicle fleet by adding more buses to serve the community's needs.

PEARLS

Mr. Sharff shared with the board that we are working on great ideas for PEARLS in the future, asking for continuing funding shortly after the new year. Marie O'Connell reported that she has been back out in the field training in person at childcare centers and that interest in the program continues. To be certain that we do not exclude family childcare homes or smaller centers, zoom trainings have been continued. Ms. O'Connell reported that during the contract negotiations, she was able to lower the minimum number of attendees to 10. This change allows the training to be provided to centers who could not previously meet the minimum of 15 and those who are now smaller because of the pandemic and resulting labor shortage. PEARLS continues to receive positive feedback from participants through the evaluation process, showing appreciation of a positive and productive approach to a topic that is difficult.

Golf Tournament 2021

Mr. Sharff reminded the board that the Association of Early Learning Coalitions will be holding its annual meeting here in Manatee County at the time of the Golf Tournament which provides an opportunity for them to participate. Darrell King shared that this is the 10th Anniversary for the tournament which has brought in more sponsorships. He also asked that the board join in with a foursome and enjoy a fun day. Mr. King stated that he anticipates a \$70,000 net from the tournament which will benefit the Foundation and Coalition.

Leadership Prayer Breakfast 2021

Mr. Sharff noted that FCTCF is very excited about the progress of the Leadership Prayer Breakfast and asked Diana Dill to share more about how additional funds can be raised through match at the event. Ms. Dill shared that the match being provided will increase the day of donations equally which can be very impactful. She also told the board that one of the ideas for using these funds would be to set up scholarships to help individuals get started in first responder careers, such as law enforcement, firefighters, and EMTs. Manatee Technical College also has matching monies for scholarships. For the students most in need, Florida Prepaid may also be an option for additional scholarship funding. At this point, there currently a commitment for \$30,000 in match and another potential \$15,000. Mr. Sharff shared that in the last several days, \$5,000 has come in to support the breakfast and the event will be very successful. It was also noted that there is one prayer from clergy and the others are being presented by public servants. The program should be complete and everyone ready to leave by 9am to be respectful of everyone's time commitments. Mr. Sharff asked the board for the names of organizations they would like to see the foundation support, noting that there would be about \$100,000 to be given back to the community. Mr. Sharff discussed with the board that he was working with Moss Krusick to determine if the DSP designation would best serve the Coalition's and Foundation's interests for serving the community. Andrew Minor asked about the grant application process and Mr. Sharff referred to the grant application used by Parenting Matters which is reviewed by their board. More discussion ensued regarding ages that should benefit and possible timelines. The board agreed that more discussion would be needed to determine procedures for handling these awards.

FCTCF Financials

The June 2021 financials were reviewed by the Board. These documents indicate that the Foundation is operating in a financially sound manner. Ms. O'Connell noted that these financials will be reviewed by Moss Krusick and compiled with the Coalition's annual audit report.

FCTCF Budget FY 21-22

The Foundation's annual budget was reviewed by the board, detailing both programs and also fundraisers. Ms. O'Connell shared that the fundraising and WIT program salaries are charged through the monthly ELC and invoice. Ms. O'Connell also noted that she provides Human Resources services to the Coalition, which is also billed monthly and thus reduces salary expense in the Foundation.

Items for Approval on Consent Agenda

The June 2021 Financials were presented to the Board for approval under the Consent Agenda.

Upon a motion duly made by Linda Guritz and seconded by Diana Dill, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda item was unanimously approved as presented.

Items for Approval on Non-Consent Agenda

The Fiscal Year 21-22 Budget was presented to the Board for approval under the Non-Consent Agenda.

Upon a motion duly made by Diana Dill and seconded by Dianne Kopczynski, the motion to approve the Non-Consent Agenda item was unanimously approved as presented

Approval of the Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2021

Upon a motion duly made by Diana Dill and seconded by Howard Veltz, the Minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting of September 29, 2021, were unanimously approved as presented.

Old Business

None

New Business

Mr. Sharff spoke to the board about the possibility of childcare licensing being handled locally in Manatee County rather than through DCF. There was a child harmed at a Manatee County provider and the information was delayed by 2 weeks before being reported to the Coalition. Mr. Sharff did terminate their contract and ELC children were moved from the site if the parent wanted to retain their scholarship. This conversation with

Manatee County government began seven years ago when there was another concerning situation, this time resulting in the death of a child. At that time, the change was not made possible, but this time it seems more likely. The County does have reserve funding that could possibly be used to set up this program. Mr. Sharff has been speaking with the commissioners to encourage the implementation of local licensing similar to Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Sarasota.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Dianne Kopczynski moved to adjourn, and Diana Dill seconded the motion. The Meeting was adjourned at 10:33AM.

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes approved by:

Marie O'Connell

Marc Gilner, Esq.

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