

Cuyahoga County Council
Health, Human Services & Aging Committee

Dan Brady, Chair
Yvonne Conwell, Vice Chair

Agenda

Thursday, May 5, 2011

1:00 pm.

Council Chambers

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call; Members Present: Dan Brady, Chair; Yvonne Conwell, Vice Chair; Michael Gallagher, Pernel Jones, Jr., Sunny Simon
- III. Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2011 – upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved
- IV. Public Comment - none
- V. Presentation – **Coalition for Cuyahoga County’s Children and Families**; represents the six largest child serving residential treatment providers - Dave Lundeen, President – organizations and foundation dates; Applewood (1832) Beech Brook (1852) Bellefaire (1868) Berea Children’s Home (1864); Parmadale Catholic Charities (1912); Cleveland Christian Home (1900);
 - a. Coalition has a Long history of working in collaboration with DCFS to support children and families
 - b. Coalition meets national accreditation standards
 - c. provide services to 60,000 children, youth and families in Cuyahoga County
 - d. Coalition members have a significant economic impact in county
 - e. Coalition members raise additional money to meet their needs; experienced boards and committed network of volunteers
 - f. Services –
 - 1) Residential treatment
 - 2) Specialized treatment – A and DA; autism; sex offender
 - 3) Foster care
 - 4) Partial hospitalization
 - 5) Adoption
 - 6) In-home and outpatient counseling
 - 7) School-based services
 - g. Economic realities
- VI. Member Agency Comments
 - a. Deb Cowan from Bellefaire noted its origins as a Jewish orphanage and that it still looks to the Jewish community for assistance, while opening its services to

all. She discussed federal medicaid programs; although there are 22 categories, Ohio will only pay for 7 Medicaid services.

- b. Melanie Falls of Applewood also discussed Medicaid funding, historic and impending. She noted that increased violence in children being served may be attributed to the loss of higher end funding; children who should be served in residential are now being treated in foster care
- c. Maureen Dee of Catholic Charities (Parmadale) discussed the alcohol and drug services provide by Medicaid and explained MACSIS, the claims billing system for state Medicaid
- d. Deb Rex of Beech Brook noted that fundraising efforts are aimed at bridging the gap between funding from the state and the actual cost of services
- e. Jim McCafferty of Community Care Network also discussed the limits of Medicaid in Ohio. Ohio limits services and now is limiting the number of units; increased chances of children ending up in adult systems if not provided needed services. Cuyahoga has moved from 6000 kids in custody to around 1900. Medicaid reimbursements have not increased in 13 years.

VII. **Other Comments-**

- a. Joe Gauntner, Deputy Chief of Staff for HHS– noted that the state Medicaid director may allow requests for additional services; proposed changes were not intended to change the patterns of care, but to address outliers. Mr. Gauntner also discussed the state budget and timeline.

b.

VIII. **Public Comment**

- a. Michael Cook of Merrick House/ABLE/CPAAHC commented on the impact of the state budget on community organizing efforts and urged funding
- b. Wenda McCord – United Cleveland Agency against poverty commented on the issue of guardianship and the representation of older adults.

IX. Adjournment at 2:30 p.m