



Special Needs Advisory Coalition (SNAC) - Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 3, 2020 @ 9:30am
Meeting Held via Zoom

Chairs in Attendance:

Robin Bartleman (CSC Council Member / School Board Member); **Dr. Justin Kohlhagen** (JAFCO Children's Ability Center)

SNAC Members in Attendance:

2-1-1 Broward (Billie Morgan, Frank Isaza, Jose Serrano); **Advocacy Network on Disabilities** (Irenaida Diaz: **Advocates** (Lou Ruccolo, Robert Mayersohn); **Agency for Persons with Disabilities** (Milroy Senat); **Center for Independent Living** (Brian Johnson); **Arc Broward** (Shawn Preston, Liliana Ballesteros); **Autism Speaks Florida** (Stacey Hoaglund); **Broward County** (LaToya Davenport); **Broward County Public Schools** (Brian Norris, Michele Bonsanti, Natalie Neree, Sonja Clay, Stacy Wolfe, Theresa Spurlock); **Center for Hearing & Communication** (Olivia Angeli); **Children's Diagnostic Treatment Center** (Ellen Schrot); **Dan Marino Foundation** (Susan Morantes); **Equine-Assisted Therapies of South Florida** (David Plath); **Family Network on Disabilities** (Lisa Math); **GAPS Legal** (Michelle Kenney, Esq); **Memorial Hospital** (Berta Plantz, Laura Costa, Marilyn Camerota); **Project 10** (Lisa Friedman-Chavez); **YMCA South Florida** (Alison Rodriguez)

CSC Staff in Attendance:

Marissa Aquino – Planning & Evaluation Manager Special Needs; Piper Weber – Programs Manager; Megan Turetsky – Government Affairs Manager; Liza Khan – Sr. Programs Manager; Melissa Soza – Programs Manager; Dr. Joshua Caraballo – Research & Evaluation Manager; Dr. S. Lorenzo Benaine – Research & Evaluation Manager; Jessica Rincon – Programs Manager

I. Welcome & Introductions:

Robin Bartleman welcomed the committee members at 9:45 am and wished that the members are healthy and well. Robin announced she will be attending the SNAC meeting as often as she can and another Council Member will be appointed to represent CSC at the SNAC meetings.

II. Approval of Minutes:

A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Billie Morgan, seconded by Robin Bartleman.



III. Recognize Service of Robin Bartleman:

Robin Bartleman was recognized for her years of exemplary service as a SNAC co-chair and presented with a plaque of the SNAC appreciation. Robin Bartleman served on SNAC from 2005 – 2020.

Ellie Schrot, Shawn Preston, Robert Mayersohn, and Lou Ruccolo highlighted Robin’s service on the Special Needs Advisory Coalition. They thanked her for advocating for all children and families. Members in the chat thanked Robin for her passion, advocacy, and support throughout the years. Robin thanked all the members for their hard work throughout the years. She will miss the members but will attend as often as she can to help with advocacy. She encouraged SNAC to invite families into SNAC projects and meetings.

The members were encouraged to contact Robin Bartleman for advocacy at Robin.Bartleman@myfloridahouse.gov

IV. Legislative:

Megan Turetsky, CSC Government Affairs Manager, reported Senator Jason Pizzo and Senator Jeff Brandes are Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, of the Criminal Justice committee, Senator Lauren Book continues to chair the Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee. Children’s Week may be impacted due to the current Covid-19 pandemic. More information will be shared via email. Please contact Megan if you have further questions or need clarification.

Robert Mayersohn announced he is currently working to create a special needs business certification for businesses similar to the minority owned businesses. He is currently working with State Representative Ben Diamond who supports special needs related bills.

V. Community Roundtable COVID-19 Community Update:

Frank Isaza (211 Broward) reported that from April to September during the Covid-19 pandemic 211 had an increase in mental health related calls. Frank encouraged the community providers to continue to update agency information on the 211 portal. Frank also reported the special needs website is currently being redesigned with input from the SNAC workgroup.

A quick poll was conducted to determine how many utilize the 211 portal to provide agency updates and how are they providing services. For the question: Are you updating agency information into 211 Portal, 12 out of 16 reported Yes; 2 reported No, and 2 did not know. For the question: Please describe how your services are being offered, 10 out of 16 reported offering both virtual and face-to-face services; 6 reported offering only virtual services. For the question; Are you open to any new referrals? 15 out of 16 reported Yes, 1 reported No.



VI. 2021 SNAC Calendar / Workgroups

The 2021 SNAC meeting dates are posted on the CSC website. Marissa requested the members to check the website for zoom registration links and agenda. Marissa provided a link to locating the registration links <https://www.cscbroward.org/fiscal-year-2020-2021-special-needs-advisory-coalition-snac-meetings>.

Marissa (CSC) shared the SNAC Committee Chairs discussion to shift the focus of their committees to address the pressing issues related to the COVID 19 pandemic. Members are encouraged to bring any current challenges to the SNAC that would be addressed. Marissa also encouraged the committee to reach out to her with a challenge or a need in the community which they would like to be discussed at the following SNAC meeting. An example of the shift in focus provided at the meeting was the workgroup created by Robin and Piper to create a one-page flyer listing resources and learning pods to be distributed to parents and caregivers. Additionally, The Policy & Systems committee will meet to discuss legislative items. SNAC members suggested ad-hoc meetings that to address specific projects or issues. As issues are addressed, the committees can refocus on the objectives from the SN community assessment report.

Marissa reported there has been discussion regarding how members are receiving SNAC notices, reminders, and invites. Majority of the members are not utilizing the Results 4 Broward Children website which leads to members following up with Marissa for meeting information on the day of the meeting. A poll was taken on how preferred methods would like to receive SNAC notices. Out of 23 responses, 19 preferred receiving notices via Outlook: 2 would prefer using constant contact, 1 member preferred using the CSC community blast, and 1 preferred using Results 4 Broward's Children website.

VII. Next Meeting: January 7, 2021, at 9:30 via zoom

VIII. Adjourn