

## Madison County Shared Services Meeting

### Virtual

January 26, 2022

#### **Present:**

Tonya Bell, Donna Hagan, Cindy Hutto, Elizabeth Schmidt, Laura Blue, Tracy Gallon, Kimberly Allbritton, Renee Demps, Trish Blair, LaFonda Wilson, Shanita Mitchell, Lori Swafford, Tangela Knight, Laura Clock, Charlie Dickinson, Amanda Ballenger, Lisa Hill Boatwright, Betsy Rykard, Larena Fleck, Jacob Clore, Lorena Fleck, Emily Calvin, Shanae Pritchett, Chris Wells, Chastity McCarthy, Kelli Greene, Chelsey McCoy, Andre'a Gelsey, Emily Kohler, Nichole Perez, Kristin Reshard, Debbie Saenz, Kara Palmer Smith, Asheena Moses, Susan Loftis, Catherine Monismith, Melinda Richie, Yolanda Gillette, Sue Loftis, and Janay Perry.

**Agencies Represented:** Healthy Start Coalition, Healthy Families Seven Rivers, Partnership for Strong Families, Child Find/Parent Services from FDLRS/NEFEC, DOH Minority Health, FL Dept of Health-Jefferson and Madison counties, Big Bend AHEC, FSU CARD, Disc Village, FL Impact to End Hunger, Sickle Cell Foundation, Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT), Health Equity Coordinator, Madison County School District, ARC Big Bend, Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend, Early Steps, CMS Title V Family Leader, and North FL Medical Madison, Three Rivers Legal Services, and Milk and Mamas.

**Tonya Bell** opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Lori Swafford said that her office is in Lake City but they serve Suwannee, Columbia, Hamilton, Madison, and Lafayette counties. Her email is [swaffordl@nefec.org](mailto:swaffordl@nefec.org) and she can be reached at 386-319-7328.

Amanda Ballenger can be reached at [Amanda.ballenger@careersourcenorthflorida.gov](mailto:Amanda.ballenger@careersourcenorthflorida.gov). She said that they have several job openings and if anyone has open positions to let them know.

Betsy Rykard told us about a free blood pressure monitoring class, Tuesday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at 2 PM at the Jefferson Health Dept. On Feb 18<sup>th</sup> there is a Healthy Heart event in Jefferson County from 2 to 4 PM.

Donna Hagan asked if anyone wanted to do a Madison Kiwanis presentation. If so please contact her at [dhagan@healthystartjmt.org](mailto:dhagan@healthystartjmt.org). She also introduced Laura Blue as a new employee here at Healthy Start.

Larena Fleck spoke of Autism Awareness and told us about the Autism Navigator webinars available at <https://autismnavigator.com/webinars>. This website is for child care workers and social care workers. There are 1 in 44 people that are being identified with autism. Webinars are offered to everyone in FL. Early detection and care. Register online to screen your baby at [babynavigator.com](http://babynavigator.com). This website shows milestones to look for.

Kara Palmer Smith discussed that her organization ensures that all children are prepared for school. She also spoke of openings in all counties. They received 3 million dollars for childcare. They are a Partner for Children's Week. This is the largest advocacy group in the state of FL. They are also collecting hands to hang in Capitol Rotunda. Children's Week is from Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> to Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. They are also wrapping up a 20 year anniversary celebration highlighting significant partnerships. Looking for Celebrity Readers in Madison County on Mar 30<sup>th</sup> for livestream with partners to present.

Shanae Pritchett has clients in Madison and Jefferson Counties. Serve people with substance abuse concerns. Her email is [Shanae.pritchett@discvillage.org](mailto:Shanae.pritchett@discvillage.org). Her number is 850-510-1669.

Emily Kohler spoke about a free Tobacco Cessation workshop. You only need to be a Florida resident to qualify for the workshop. They provide patches, gum, etc. Her email is [ekohler@bigbendahec.org](mailto:ekohler@bigbendahec.org).

Yolanda Gillette advised that her cell phone number is 850-661-0120. They are doing a virtual 6 week diabetes program for rural counties. More info is on their website. They also have a Matter of Balance program for elderly people. Obama Care closed Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. If anyone needs assistance with obtaining this to please contact her. They can help if the cutoff was missed.

Chastity McCarthy said that they work with youth and adults to build and maintain healthy relationships. They are looking for hosts for adult or youth classes. They are also partnering for a fun summer camp event with the middle and high school students. Contact her at 850-274-0680 or [chastity.mccarthy@flhealth.gov](mailto:chastity.mccarthy@flhealth.gov).

Chris Wells is the Program Director for the Sickie Cell Foundation and they are looking to strengthen their services in Madison and Jefferson counties. Interested in doing Sickie Cell workshops and they offer free sickie cell trait screenings. He can be contacted at 850-222-2355 or at [chris@sicklecellfoundation.org](mailto:chris@sicklecellfoundation.org).

Sue Loftis gave her contact phone number as 850-591-2372. Early Steps for children from 0 to 36 months that have an established condition or have significant developmental delays can be referred. The Children's Home Society has openings and to please check out their website.

Catherine Monismith said that they are trying to keep patients safe and healthy. She announced that they will have a new 10,000 square foot building to include a dental section in the future. She can be reached at [cmonismith@nfmc.org](mailto:cmonismith@nfmc.org) and her phone number is 850-973-1402.

Kristin Reshard asked about purchasing high quality wireless breast pumps for working Moms. She said that they normally cost less than \$50 and it would help her Milk & Mamas program a great deal.

Jacob Clore advised that his organization addresses children that have issues due to severe neglect. They have a budget for Madison and Taylor County of \$5,000 (\$2,500 for each). Madison has not used their funding in the last 6 months. He said that the money is there and make sure it is used. There was a motion made, approved and passed for Madison to get 10 Pack and Plays. He also spoke of a \$200 stipend, one every fiscal year, for every family that has a child under the age of 18 in the home. Don't lose the money. Florida infants are really important. He also gave information that if anyone is interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent, to please contact Recruitment Specialist Mellisa Montrowl at [HopePartner@pfsf.org](mailto:HopePartner@pfsf.org) or call her at 352-213-7219. He also said that if anyone is looking for someone to speak at the workplace or table at an event to talk about recruitment to contact Outreach Recruitment Specialist Andrea Dziwulski at 352-318-1298 or via email at [andrea.dziwulski@pfsf.org](mailto:andrea.dziwulski@pfsf.org).

Chelsea McCoy gave her email address as [Chesley.mccoy@flhealth.gov](mailto:Chesley.mccoy@flhealth.gov) and her number is 850-510-0347. She also introduced Carol Gibson as a SWAT Coordinator for Jefferson and Madison County and she can be reached at 850-782-1544 or at [caroline.gibson@flhealth.gov](mailto:caroline.gibson@flhealth.gov).

**Our next meeting is March 30<sup>th</sup>.**