

## Jefferson Whole Child Meeting

August 30, 2022

**Present:** Cumi Allen, Tonya Bell, Brent Couch, Lakisha Eutsay, Eric Evans, Heidi Grantham, Cindy Hutto, Dawn Merrix, Rolph Paul, Shanae Pritchett, Janie Register, Elizabeth Schmidt, Quinn Steele, Brandi Turner and Betsy Rykard.

**Agencies Represented** Healthy Start Coalition, Healthy Families Seven Rivers, Florida Cares, Simply Healthcare, FDLRS Miccosukee, Florida Department of Health Jefferson, Disc Village, Department of Juvenile Justice, FSU CARD.

Tonya Bell opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Tonya announced she would be hosting Women's Health Workshops starting in November.

Brent Couch with Simply Healthcare reports they offer Clear Health Alliance, which is a plan for people on Medicaid, living with AIDS/HIV. They also offer Florida Healthy Kids insurance for 5 to 18 year olds who are not eligible for Medicaid. Brent can be reached at [bcouch@simplyhealthcareplans.com](mailto:bcouch@simplyhealthcareplans.com) or 850-294-4223.

Lizz Schmidt with Healthy Start announced the CONNECT program is a one door entry program. The CONNECT process delivers comprehensive services to families with young children which are available in offices and throughout the community, including home visits.

Shanae Pritchett with Disc Village offers outpatient and residential drug abuse classes; they link and refer clients to resources in the community. They will be hosting a community event in October, more info to follow. They also offer free Narcan kits to the public. For more information, contact [Shanae.pritchett@discvillage.org](mailto:Shanae.pritchett@discvillage.org).

Heidi Grantham with FDLRS Miccosukee. FDLRS Child Find in coordination with the school districts locates children who are potentially eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and links them with needed services. Child Find services help to promote general public awareness of programs and services available for young children who have or are at risk of developing disabilities. Service coordination for diagnostic screening, placement, training, and support is also provided. FDLRS Parent Services provides information, training, and support to districts and families, in order to promote effective parent participation in the education of children who are exceptional and/or have special needs. Parent Services include assistance in the development of family-friendly programs, training and support for services for children with disabilities, and the support of partnerships between schools and parents to support student achievement. For more information contact [granthumh@leonschools.net](mailto:granthumh@leonschools.net).

Betsy Rykard with the Florida Department of Health Jefferson announced September 29<sup>th</sup> is World Heart Day; they will be offering free health screenings. The Department will be offering Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring classes, this a four month program, they also offer Diabetes education. The Shepherd's Hands Free Clinic will be at Christ Episcopal Church in Monticello the first Tuesday of each month from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. For more information, contact [Leila.Rykard@flhealth.org](mailto:Leila.Rykard@flhealth.org).

Dawn Merrix with FSU CARD spoke about the Baby Navigator program, the mission of the program is to provide resources and tools for families to celebrate and support their baby's early learning and nurture the development of language and success in school and in life. For more information contact [dawn.merrix@med.fsu.edu](mailto:dawn.merrix@med.fsu.edu).

Eric Evans with Florida Cares is a 100% volunteer driven charitable nonprofit organization. The program constructs ramps, steps, repairs, landings and grab bars. Contact FL Cares at 850-347-1445 or [FL.Cares.info@gmail.com](mailto:FL.Cares.info@gmail.com).

Brandi Turner is the Program Manager for Healthy Families Seven Rivers. The program is a community based, voluntary home-visiting program designed to support and educate parents through the first years of their child's life. The role of Healthy Families Seven Rivers is to educate parents about healthy parenting options and to support them through this important and sometimes stressful time. For more information contact [bturner@healthystartjmt.org](mailto:bturner@healthystartjmt.org).

*Notes taken by Cindy Hutto*

