

Call to Order

The Leadership Council Meeting of Safe & Sound Hillsborough was held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at Egypt Shrine in Tampa. It began at 3:04pm; **Chair Julianne Holt** presided over the meeting; Chair; Meeting was properly noticed, and a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2023, was made by **Dr. Kathleen Heide**, seconded by **Chief Ken Albano**. Rebecca Bacon questioned the second sentence of Update on Year in Review and Planning Discussion for January Meeting. The sentence was removed from the update. Afterwards, a vote was taken, and the vote passed unanimously.

Old Business

The Leadership Council introduced themselves to the audience. **Julianne Holt, Chair**, introduced her new Director of Communications and Government Relations, Cierra Turner, along with Daniel Raysin, who sits on the Finance Committee and is the Administrative Director at the Public Defender's Office. **The chair** asked Irene Maslanik, Deputy Chief of Juvenile for the State Attorney's Office to introduce herself. She also mentioned Ernest Coney, CEO of CDC of Tampa.

Finance Committee Report was presented by Mr. Freddy Barton

- Mr. Freddy Barton updated members on financials for the month of November. Increase in revenue due to Interlocal agreements. Offset expenses. On Page 9 of the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, he mentioned Budget Variance due to awaiting on grants. In January, grants were received. Expenses being met due to staff vacancies and subsequently, lowered salaries cost.
- Costs at Reporting Center are being reported differently; various revenue streams being captured. Slight increases. DJJ renewed the contract in July. As of 02/07/24, county funding was approved. \$400,000 granted for Reporting Center as well as Gun Violence Initiative grant. Thanks to Commissioner **Gwen Myers**.
- General funds are calculated outside of Interlocal, or tax dollars. Revenue is generated by invoicing county for Department of Juvenile Justice on slot rate. Anything above expenses is allocated into profit category, money from Buccaneers, Lightning, etc. not county, city or public dollars. Discretionary funds are critical as SSH launches its film (Blink Twice) and also launches GVI grant with TPD.

Julianne Holt thanked Tonia Williams at the Children's Board and Ryan McClure at the CDC for Financial Statements preparation to answer any questions related to financials. However, if any questions related to format of financial statements, any member of the Leadership Council is welcome to provide feedback.

Dr. Kathleen Heide called for a motion to approve the November Financial Statements, seconded by **Rebecca Bacon**. The motion passed unanimously.

December Financials were presented by **Mr. Freddy Barton**

- Money received from Hillsborough County: Invoice around \$40000 for Reporting Center with the county and DJJ. Yet to launch GVI grant awaiting approval. Revenue is still off because SSH haven't invoiced grants.
- In January Safe and Sound Hillsborough will be invoicing Hillsborough County with a slot rate, per unit per day for youth for CVI and cost reimbursement.
- \$70,000 capacity money from NFL outstanding. **Cindy Stuart** asked if NFL funds have a time limit. **Mr. Freddy Barton** replied the only money with a time limit was used for Cisco to build a computer lab in the reporting center.

Chief **Ken Albano** called for a motion to approve the December Financial Reports, seconded by Clerk **Cindy Stuart**. The motion passed unanimously.

Action: **Chair Julianne Holt** mentioned a tour of the detention center with Deputy Secretary in place of the secretary along with Commissioner Cepeda and discussed the evening reporting center. Mentioned it would be a good idea for Mr. Freddy Barton to reach out to Kelly Hammersley and Mr. Parkinson about the evening reporting center.

New Business

Mr. Freddy Barton asked each member of Safe and Sound Hillsborough staff in attendance to introduce themselves to the Leadership Council, as many staff members are new additions to the team. **Chair Julianne Holt** requested additional information about job duties in addition to titles. **Mr. Freddy Barton** advised the Leadership Council that Pedro Rodriguez, Intensive Reporting Center Case Manager and Jasen Glanton, Reporting Center Youth Specialist will both be working on the Gun Violence Initiative grant. He also mentioned needing to find a space for staff. For those working on the CVI grant, he will be talking to the R.I.C.H house to find out if they can work there.

Action: **Clerk Cindy Stuart** wants to speak with Reporting Center Intensive Case Manager. Chair Julianne Holt also referred to Irene Maslanik for expertise.

Mr. Freddy Barton then discussed Reporting Center metrics for December and January, only, as covered in the Operations Report on December-January only; 45 kids ordered to Reporting Center. Not including kids already had in the case load. Out of those, 20 were ordered based on their DRAI score of 9 to 10, 9 ordered for supervised release outside, 4 to probation 90 days to holistic advocacy program and 2 ordered in lieu of sanctions to JHAB. 10 new youth under the new youth gun offender program. 24 youth completed successfully; 11 did not. 3 discharged out of our program, last chance. Keep YGOP kids monitored. 10 current placements Does not count all other kids, 37 actively working with daily. Thankful

for vans to pick them up and get them all there. Numbers going up; decrease supervised release, hefty increase in gun offender kids.

Chair Julianne Holt referred to Irene Maslanik, Deputy Chief of Juvenile for the State Attorney's Office, regarding the youth gun offender program. Irene mentioned first time offenders only possessing a gun on their person are eligible for the first-time offender program and office has been really promoting that as a hope to steer away youth from further complaints and possession of firearms,

Others, and especially youth that are using firearms during a criminal act of firing a gun; using a gun to commit a delinquent act, they are reviewing for transfer to adult. It's not an automatic process whatsoever. Every case is looked at on a case-by-case basis. Age is looked at as they can be transferred to adult, prior history, opportunities they had. Concern caused by a kid shooting a gun into a residential area; harm exists to the kid and the community.

Chair Julianne Holt expounded on the program and direct file advocacy, providing litigation, address aggravation, aware of mental health component. Direct filed working with State Attorney's Office cognitive behavioral therapy, child still eligible for immunizations. DJJ commitment programs have a 2-3 month wait so cognitive behavioral therapy will be a resource. Addressing kids' problems, letters of apology and community service looked at differently. Need more robust funding for substance and behavioral abuse problems.

Chief Marvin Johnson asked a question regarding parental involvement with the youth. **Chair Julianne Holt** mentioned RC's involvement in the youth's home environment. But a problem exists with parental involvement, severity of problems. Irene mentioned the difficulty in getting parents involved in a decision which takes 21 days: understanding the severity of direct file and actions. Parents might experience frustration with a child being bullied and not having options.

Irene said on a very short timeline and difficult for parents to understand the need for immediate action; If parents don't get on board, they will be left behind in decision making process.

Chief Marvin Johnson mentioned the problem with lacking parental involvement is that program participants will re-enter the same environment after the program, after leaving community partners and will invalidate the efforts.

Dr. Kathleen Heide requested Irene to comment on the number of kids charged with gun violence within the last year and the percentage. Irene mentioned she didn't have data at the moment; however, the office tracks this information. Commenting however she mentioned an increase snowballing within families; siblings charged with gun violence.

Action: Irene Maslanik mentioned she will obtain information and get back to Council.

Mr. Freddy Barton mentioned case managers will be working with kids, bringing in the life center providing therapeutic counseling for the youth and support. The challenge for case managers is finding ways to connect with family in the home as well as school. Will have a small pilot group of kids but with 2 case managers that will stretch them out. Will be working with Nilda Otero (Tampa Police Department). Will have other providers to provide support.

Dr Kathleen Heide asked about kids charged currently with gun violence in the last year. What is the percentage? Is looking for scope and percentage.

Irene's anecdotal data indicates siblings snowballing, increase in kids using guns, not just carrying. Anecdotal data point to snowball effect of youth violence, using a gun.

Mr. Freddy Barton October 2022-September 2023, 54 kids total, 45 pleaded 9 discharged, 17% percent recidivism, what works is keeping them involved. At RC 6 months, monitored 6 months. 28% of kids in gun offender program have a sibling that's also been arrested. In CVI program, will start working with younger siblings of offenders. Focus on kids at risk of being exposed to gun violence.

_____ asked (33:43) Are the discharge numbers always related to picking up a new charge?

Mr. Freddy Barton: Yes, new charges are beyond technical violation, curfew, etc. 80% is new charge. JPO will call us first. AOS we launch CVI, officers will come into the center to engage.

Irene: Are offenders in YGOP program motivated? FB: Yes, because they're self-defined last chance kids. What works well is we keep them for a long period of time and youth don't want to go home. They want to come back.

_____ asked (35:48) When do they successfully complete the program? What is the continuum of care? How do we transition them to another connected program?

Mr. Freddy Barton: We work with kids who exit out of our program. Over the past 2 years, we've had over 350 kids come through the program. One of the ways to keep them connected, working with a mentoring program. Have 13 mentors signed up through churches that will come to the center to keep kids engaged.

Mr. Freddy Barton: Mental Health First Aid. Rose has taken over program for Sammechia. In January 11 were trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid. Just completed an Adult Mental Health First Aid with 10 people. Advent Health and BayCare are continuing with the partnership, looking to expand. Since starting we've trained over 1000 people in MHFA. Looking to add psychological first aid, to address chaos and trauma to de-escalate situations. Program continuing and growing.

509 Committee gun violence committee meeting this evening. Mentioned the December 10 event. The subcommittee is looking at wrap around support, engage parents, obtain feedback. Next project for Committee is a job fair; working with CDC, Urban League, Housing Authority to attract vendors to provide quality jobs in East Tampa.

ACTION: **Mr. Freddy Barton** will report back on the job fair initiative with the subcommittee.

Chair Julianne Holt: What is takeaway from youth that watched "Blink"?

Mr. Freddy Barton: Script written, film will premiere in June. Questions were those intentionally left hanging to address people in community don't address law enforcement. Want to have people question this. Also, how accessible are guns to kids? All those questions are addressed in the film. Blink is 3-part series designed to "hit, hurt, heal". How do heal holistically and through policy? Casting call about to go out into community. One of the kids in the reporting center gave the opening scene.

Chair Julianne Holt discussion taking place in Tallahassee about accountability for those leaving their guns in their cars.

Mr. Freddy Barton Partner Spotlight - Men of Vision, who focus on Academic Enrichment and Mentoring. Ross Anderson provides mentorship and academic support. Over 18 years have mentored over 2000 young men. Every Monday, new kids go to Carter G Woodson, Ross enrolls them in credit recovery if needed. Also provide community service with food and clothes pantry. Ross will speak next month. Selected Men of Vision to partner with for CVI grant.

Mr. Freddy Barton – Media Coverage. In December and January, continued to get the message out covered in media with WUSF and State Radio. Report concluded.

Chair Julianne Holt opened the floor to questions.

Chief Marvin Johnson: Missing link is tied to one of the parents being absent. The second discussion is what happens when youth get out of program? Would like Safe and Sound to find more organizations to impact youth to help fill the gap to keep them off the street. Working with coaches but need time to mentor them, maybe on a weekend. Sports and boxing help anger management and stress release.

Chair Julianne Holt recommended that **Mr. Freddy Barton** reach out to Freddy Williams, CEO of the Boys and Girls Club. Also important for the Chief of Police to become part of the discussion. Increase relationship with club and law enforcement.

Mr. Freddy Barton recognized the arrival of **Board Member and School Board Chair Perez, who ex.**

Chair Julianne Holt mentioned now at Leadership Annual and Organizational Structure Meeting; First order of business is electing a chair and vice chair.

A motion to elect **Julianne Holt as Chair** for 2024 was made by **Clerk Cindy Stuart**, seconded by **all**. The motion passed unanimously. Julianne Holt mentioned this will be her last year as a public defender, it's important to look for the next person who will serve.

A motion to elect **Chief Ken Albano as Vice Chair** was made by **Clerk Cindy Stuart**, seconded by **all**. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Freddy Barton mentioned on page 6 of the Annual Report, as part of the Federal grant with TPD, there must be a committee consisting of law enforcement, hospitals, social services, public defenders, district attorneys, school-based law enforcement. Community based organizations are missing. Will have other members from various community organizations and nonprofits. Include report in the agenda monthly addressing CVI grant separately have members from community organizations nonprofits attend committee meeting.

Nilda Otero spoke about bringing in CBC's, having ongoing conversation with community. Needs to happen regularly. Need to report to DOJ on a quarterly basis, but Safe and Sound reports to her monthly.

Chief Marvin Johnson mentioned meeting monthly to work through issues, recommends a monthly report to the Council is given.

Nilda Otero is encouraging stakeholders to report back to ensure targets are being met: how many youth are being served in a month, what services are being offered to that youth?

Chair Julianne Holt asked when the program will commence.

Mr. Freddy Barton answered that once the program is approved; they will begin. Brought to council because it will need to be memorialized and sent to DJJ outlining team and contributions, most members are already represented. Will add in additional members to meet requirements of grant.

Gina Justice (?) requested materials referencing how grant monies must be used; will help her correlate information with bylaws.

Nilda Otero outlined the 1.5M TPD grant given by DOJ to provide prevention and intervention services for youth arrested with possession of a gun charge. Can't provide direct service to youth but can partner with a nonprofit to provide direct service; partnered with Safe and Sound to provide intensive case management to hire case managers. Required to partner with case managers. Will provide educational support, mentoring, Mental Health First Aid, Victim Support and other wrap around services. Looking at family holistically.

Chair Julianne Holt asked who applicant and subrecipient are.

Nilda Otero answered TPD is the grant recipient and Safe and Sound Hillsborough is the subrecipient.

Chief Marvin Johnson Provided background. TPD had to add organizations to work with. Safe and Sound is subrecipient. USF is another subrecipient. Can use any subrecipient, also initially Rise up for Peace, but can provide support to many nonprofits. Safe and Sound will provide oversight to other nonprofit organizations. Many will be attending monthly meetings. Once approved by DJJ, will receive information for the grant by September. Once approved and funds released, he will provide outlining grant criteria, subrecipient criteria.

Mr. Freddy Barton clarified \$750,000 is disbursed over a 3-year period. Out of \$750,000, Safe and Sound Hillsborough will receive \$300,000 to hire case managers, managing applications for other nonprofits. Some nonprofits didn't understand the criteria, some sent in complete applications. Will be vetting organizations to ensure applications are in compliance with requirements. Will put together a clinic to assist nonprofits provide criteria to receive grant funding. Mentioned importance of ensuring other nonprofits are in compliance with reporting requirements.

Chief Marvin Johnson stated many don't have the structure or foundation needed to receive funding. Part of the CVI grant is to ensure other nonprofits are self-sufficient.

Gina Justice requested additional information other than synopsis representing stakeholder responsibilities, vetting of other nonprofits, additional process inclusive of stakeholder group.

Mr. Freddy Barton stated the stakeholder group doesn't have to approve nonprofits, its an application process, checklist is provided to nonprofits, if meet requirements funds can be distributed. Organizations that don't can't be extended funds. At each meeting, during CVI grants meeting monthly nonprofits awarded will be in attendance.

Chief Marvin Johnson stated BJA has a group TPD will be meeting with on a monthly basis.

Dr Kathleen Heide asked if there's a specific number of clients that need to be served? Will we have the money to work with the groups?

Mr. Freddy Barton mentioned we'll be working with 30 youth confined to the City of Tampa. All cost reimbursement. Most nonprofits don't have funds to spend so we'll have to supervise those contracts.

Chief Marvin Johnson stated the grant is 3-year; first year of grant we'll have to establish foundation, second work with youth in real time, work with whoever is in program not add any new youth.

Nilda Otero explained grant had 3 categories: implementation of a new community program, in year 3 applying for enhancements, capped at 50 youth.

Action: Chair Julianne Holt requested copies of packet for Gina Justice and to refer to governance committee for guidance and will ask them to convene. Council would like the opportunity to review backup documentation. She would like the opportunity to speak with Executive Director about grant. She recommended Ms. Gina Justice contact Ms. Suzy Lopez and ask her to allow Irene to join in on this aspect of the grant.

Mr. Freddy Barton will send out **vision statement** to have Council review after the meeting. Annual report has been completed and will be released to financial stakeholders and interlocal agencies. Will schedule a public meeting with CVI grantees. Will schedule rounds with BOCC and City Councils, Temple Terrace, Plant City and Tampa. Over next 3 months will be doing multiple releases of annual report.

Chair Julianne Holt answered a prior question for Dr. Kathleen Heide in FY 2021-22, 81 direct file youth with Public Defender's office. FY2022-23 109. FY23-YTD 60.

Family Mental Health and Well Being Committee was updated by **Mr. Freddy Barton** as **Ms. Marie Marino** was on vacation. **Mr. Freddy Barton** mentioned that the Family Care Survey will tell us community needs and will also be included in the Annual Report. Will also be bringing back Family Focus Groups. A new project he'd like to undertake this year is a video communication project with fathers. In the past, Abe Brown Ministries in conjunction with the Children's Board headed this project, however, he's currently unaware of anyone else currently working on the same project. 60% of Reporting Center participants have either a mom or dad currently incarcerated or previously incarcerated with a release date of 3 years or less. Will try to determine if project is feasible and reach out to Robert Brown at Abe Brown Ministries to determine how they were able to do it so that youth can talk to their fathers.

Mr. Freddy Barton also mentioned Upcoming Events; "Blink" shown at the NFL Yet Center for the East Tampa Walk and Public Safety Summit and the other at the Reporting Center in partnership with the Coalition of 100 Black women. Family Health and Well Being Committee on 2/13 and Adult Mental Health First Aid Training scheduled. The 509 Committee Meeting will be held at Greater Bethel on 2/24. Encouraged everyone possible to attend a committee, there will be committees addressing workforce development, physical and mental health and COC's in the school district.

Rebecca Bacon asked the time for the 509 Committee Meeting and **Mr. Freddy Barton** answered "5 o'clock". She also asked who chairs the committee and Mr. Freddy Barton answered "Commissioner Myers oversees the 509 Committee". Gun violence committee is chaired by Mazie Murphy and **Mr. Freddy Barton** helps her out.

Chair Julianne Holt opened the floor to comments or questions.

Chair Julianne Holt adjourned the meeting at 4:23pm.

