

**JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

**Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction**

**Family Engagement Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**March 21, 2019**

**4:00 pm**

**Committee Room B**

**First Floor, City Hall**

**117 W. Duval Street**

Chair: Ellen Glasser

Tom Geismar

Phyllis Hall-Excused

Timothy Sloan

Alicia Sitren

Shamika Wright

Mia Allen, Subject matter expert-Absent

**Topic:** Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction –Family Engagement Subcommittee

**Attendance:** Chiquita Moore – Mayor’s Office; Colleen Hampsey- Council Research; Crystal Shemwell and Jessica Smith - Legislative Services

For all other attendees please see the sign in sheet

**Meeting Convened:** 9:01 am

Chairperson Glasser convened the meeting and welcomed the members. This was the third meeting for the Family Engagement Subcommittee and the group approved the minutes from the previous meeting. There was a brief discussion about the May 1st subcommittee reporting deadline and steps necessary to complete the outline and draft. The members also talked about the town hall event being held by Council President Bowman on March 28 at the Legends Center to discuss crime and safety. Task Force members may attend, but must adhere to Sunshine Law communication restrictions.

The subcommittee received a memorandum distributed by Chairperson Glasser. In the memo, the vision statement was: *Support every family for a safer Jacksonville*. As not all residents of the city have families, the members agreed to change the phrasing of the vision statement to be *Support all individual and families for a safer Jacksonville*.

In the memo, the mission statement was:

1. *Identify individuals in Jacksonville with the greatest need in terms of public safety*
2. *Engage single parents and family units who can offer support to them*
3. *Acknowledge and eliminate barriers to trusting relationships*
4. *Create connections to effective services that include but are not limited to education/skills, employment, health/nutrition, housing and transportation*

The members agreed to change the wording in the first bullet point from ‘identify’ to ‘recognize’, and to change the sequencing, putting the third bullet point (trusting relationships) in the first position.

The Chair reviewed the research assignments she had given to each member. Ms. Sitren will be responsible for presenting best practice models of family engagement programs (the Chicago Parent Child Program and the Carolina Abecedarian Project). Mr. Sloan will report back to the subcommittee after interviewing staff from JREC and FSCJ. Ms. Wright will research family engagement programs associated with the JAXChamber, Jax Journey recommendations and City programs conducted through the Parks Department.

Mr. Geismar presented his findings gathered with a phone interview with Jennifer Blaylock from the Kids Hope Alliance. According to that interview, KHA partners with various local entities, such as Duval County Schools, to serve 15,000 children annually. According to the interview, the barriers to family engagement and program participation are transportation, time, child care, trust, and social norms. To provide more services and reach more families in need, KHA would require more funding, possibly from a dedicated revenue source.

Mr. Sloan spoke about the need to connect with and support small nonprofits and street level service providers who often do not receive City funding. These grassroots organizations will be included in the subcommittee’s inventory. Chiquita Moore, Mayor’s Office, noted that the smaller nonprofits could use help with the business aspects of operations and grant management. Ms. Wright mentioned that she will reach out to some of these groups to assist with planning and/or organization.

In closing comments, Ms. Glasser said she remains frustrated with the process timeline and impending report deadline, which to her feels rushed. With no further business, Chairperson Glasser adjourned the meeting. The next subcommittee meeting will be on March 28, 2019 at 9:00 am.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 10:16 am

Minutes: Colleen Hampsey, Council Research

CHampsey @coj.net (904) 630-1498

Posted 3.25.19 5:00 pm

Tape: Task Force on Safety and Crime Reduction Family Engagement Subcommittee -Legislative Services Division 3.21.19