

Alabama Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2008

In attendance – See Attached

Emilyn Gipson (EG) called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. JJ Moody (JM) presents the minutes from the January 15, 2008 Board Meeting. Chris Newlin (CN) motions to accept the minutes, Mary English (ME) seconds, and the minutes are approved.

Lynn Hart (LH), Treasurer presents the financial statements and gives her report. LH reiterates to the board that the monies that have been expended were not physically moved around. The budget has not been altered in any way, rather the finance and executive committees approved for the monies to be spent according the state office needs. JM is taking detailed notes regarding how monies are spent, tracking overages, and documenting correspondence, keeping with sound financial practice.

EG asks the board if anyone has questions or comments regarding the Treasurers report. CN asks for the accountant to provide budget vs. actual when the quarterly financial statements are submitted. LH elaborates on the importance of having year to date financial statements available. EG motions to accept the financial statement. Susan Martin (SM) moved; CN seconded, the financial statement is accepted.

Committee Reports

Training Committee Report given by SM. While the Training Committee has not officially met, a lot of work has been done with regard the SRCAC Training Grant. On February 15, 2008, SM, Cym Doggett (CD), SRCAC, Amy Hinton (AH), and JM met at the ANCAC state office to discuss the summer training sessions. The annual Multidisciplinary Team Trainings are set to be held in Jasper, and Selma, which covers both un-served and underserved areas of the state. Diversity Training ideas were also discussed as well as the New Director Orientation/ANCAC Orientation.

CN suggests inviting Rachel Sims, ADECA to the New Director Training.

Legislative Report given by CN, who commends Mr. James Dupree (JD) for working so diligently to keep the ANCAC informed on all Legislative matters through the session.

Diversity Training Report given by Helen Rardin (HR). The Diversity Committee has not officially met; however, two Diversity Stipends were awarded this year. One of which went to Morgan County CACs intern, Sherri Coleman (SC). SC spoke to the board about her experience at the center. SC is a graduate student at Alabama A&M school of Social Work. SC didn't know what to expect but after seeing the work of the CAC first hand, she has been inspired and felt very honored to have worked with the center. SC has used the diversity stipend \$??? to pay tuition and replace her tires.

Public Relations Report given by JM. The ANCAC disseminated 250 packets during April for Child Abuse Awareness Month. The packets included information about the ANCAC: Annual Report, brochure, poster, and a cover letter. Governor Bob Riley sent a thank you note after receiving his packet. EG expressed her thanks, to the ANCAC staff, for putting together a captivating Child Abuse Awareness package.

Standards Committee Report given by Debbi Land (DL). The Standards Committee has met twice since the last board meeting. DL and Patti Steele (PS), who is ill today and could not be here, have met several additional times. They have scheduled the 2008 Site Visits and have revised all the necessary documents needed, which will be disseminated via email. For members not scheduled for a Site Visit this year, they will need to mail their forms in. Site Visits will be conducted during June & July. Site Visits are conducted on a three year rotation.

Ad-Hoc Committee Report given by SM. The bylaws revision is in progress.

EG thanks the ANCAC staff for securing new office space, then turns to discussion of a retreat for ANCAC members and families. CN tells of a state wide theme retreat where participants bought something specific to their part of the state. Perhaps ANCAC could do something at Symposium.

Long Range Planning Committee Report given by Tim Birt (TB). An overview is given of the work of the Committee and the overall success rate of the SWAT analysis. The next step is prioritization of the vision. TB says they would still like some more feedback from the board, they will be sending out one last email to gather feedback. Afterward the committee will assume that the consensus will be happy with the work that has been done and where things stand.

EG there are no recommendations from the Executive Committee at this time.

CN the board is here to support the work being done by this Network, but the directors are not here to do all the work themselves. CN wants to see the ANCAC staff take on more responsibility of the Network and the work of the subcommittees. Such as, having all membership documents/standards documents be sent to the ANCAC office who will in turn provide copies on an as needed basis. CN motions, Joe Nabors (JN) seconds, the motion is accepted.

SM reiterates that all correspondence will be coming directly from ANCAC. JN suggests purchasing a fire proof safe or storage box for vital documents, perhaps a safety deposit box.

CN says the SRCAC is working on a program where CACs will be able to upload documents to an online server for secure storage.

State Coordinator Report given by Amy Hinton (AH). AH informs the board of an attorney that has agreed to represent the ANCAC, Spence Singleton who could not be

here today, has offered to represent ANCAC at a discounted rate. AH gives an overview of the lengthiness of moving and setting up the office. AH also tells the board about attending the Leon Prince hearing, CTF, and the Department of Children's Affairs was also in attendance. AH discussed the value of, and appreciation for her being able to attend the National Symposium on Child Abuse and the NRCA Summit. AH said both opportunities were invaluable to her as the new State Coordinator, to gain a better understanding of CAC model and for networking.

JM talked briefly about her experience at the National Symposium on Child Abuse, which inspired her to contact the local Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. On Thursday March 27, 2008, AH and JM met with Lt. Karl Youngblood and other team members at the local ICAC office to discuss partnership. We were well received and since been in contact to discuss how we can work together to promote internet safety.

AH tells the board that while at the NRCA Summit she talked with Sue McInnish briefly about some of the agency needs. It was then brought to AH's attention that there was a grant opportunity that was closing in a week, from the Civil Justice Foundation. The Capacity Building Grant was turned in on March 3, 2008, for the purpose of having a Strategic Planning Retreat in order to produce a policy and procedures manual, revise the by-laws, and create a strategic plan.

AH tells the board about the technical assistance provided to Escambia County CAC and Central AL Regional CAC. AH and Yvette Kubik, SRCAC went to Escambia County for a board training. AH and JM met with Nekia Moore (NM), new Executive Director of Central AL Regional, DA Michael Jackson, and Debra Brock to discuss the restructuring of the CAC. NM then gave her report on the progress made by the center. The CAC now has five board members, and still looking for house for the CAC. AH interjects to inform the board how accommodating SRCAC was in helping to find scholarship money for NM to attend the National Symposium on Child Abuse.

AH says the new format for the newsletter will now be a re-cap of events that have occurred, and will be disseminated at the end of the month. AH gives a status report on the NCA application for accreditation. It is in progress, with only two Standards left to address. The ANCAC will ask for a two week extension to submit the application by May 13, 2008

JM asks for suggestions from the board as to what the target community grant will be written for. Stephanie Jackson (SJ), suggests new director training. Joe Nabors (JN) suggests computerization of ANCAC files

Legislative Report given by James Dupree (JD): As of today the budget should pass as it is currently written. However, AH & JD will look for extra monies for the ANCAC on an as needed basis. JD stressed the importance of the Network upholding a positive and unified image. There have been some recent issues that have come to pass that could have resulted very poorly on the Network as a whole. The Network can better arm themselves with pure professionalism and unite as one organization rather than having a

divided agenda. JD gets the overall impression from the legislature that the ANCAC has a good reputation, but we have to keep working to maintain that point of view. JD says we are sitting, waiting, and watching right now, however, he feels in another week we should have the bills passed (during regular session). Hopefully, we won't have a special session, if so it will be focused on the education budget. But this is only a synopsis and doesn't reflect the actual path the legislature may take.

AH requests all legislative requests be coordinated through her.

Unfinished Business by EG: the CARCAC is working on securing its entire inventory. While all of the CACs confidential case files have been secured, some of the CACs furniture and equipment still has not been recovered. SM suggests that centers could donate things to the Selma CAC (CARCAC) that are no longer used.

NM discussed the trainings she has been to: two Forensic Interviewer trainings, VOCA training and the CAC will host the MDT Development Training.

EG presents the letter of intent from Morgan County CAC regarding moving up to Associate Membership. Tim Birt (TB) motions to accept, (JN) seconds, the motion is approved. Teresa Young, Director of the Morgan County CAC will continue to go through the process of becoming an Associate Member.

EG discussed the new protocol for conducting center Site Visits; ANCAC staff will accompany Richard Davy on site visits therefore, taking the actual reviewing of members out of the hands of the Standards Committee. TB suggests for ANCAC to contract with someone outside of the Network, who has CAC experience and to be accompanied by the State Coordinator or ANCAC staff. SM motions, CN seconds, the motion is accepted.

EG has asked Pat Guyton (PG) to chair the nominating committee. Nominations will be made at the July board meeting.

Other Business: SM brings to the board's attention that Limestone County is starting a CAC; they have received a program development grant from the NCA. It is important to note that the efforts made by the Network to expand the CAC model into every county in the state - since the 2001 Long Range Plan – are continually being fulfilled as intended.

EG asks if AH should contact Limestone County, CN says Cym Doggett will have their contact information. EG mentions Mary Miglero of SRCAC provides an in kind service for preparing site reviews or trainings, requiring only mileage reimbursement.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.