



Lafayette County  
Children's Services Fund

Executive Director's Report

April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Executive Director's Report

### **Objectives for the Month**

**Objective:** Management and planning

**Objective:** Accountability oversight of funded agencies

**Objective:** Community outreach

**Hours worked each week-** 40

**Holiday Hours-**

**Sick hours-**

**Vacation –**

**Office Hours-** Monday through Friday

“A community where all children of 19 years and less and their families of Lafayette County can reach their full potential in a supportive and nurturing environment.”- LCCSF long-term goal

Over the course of the past month the Executive Director continued to work towards the goals of the LCCSF Board identifying areas of consideration among the board, promoting LCCSF within the community and looking at the overall well-being and safety of the children of Lafayette County.

Identifying objectives throughout the month help the Executive Director approach areas in which to work on behalf of the board. Those objectives were; Management and planning, accountability oversight of funded agencies, and community outreach. Throughout this past month the executive director attended meetings for the mental health board, travelled to Columbia for the quarterly Director's meeting, met with the executive committee, attended the D.A.R.E. graduation, attended the HCC General Membership

meeting, reported to the county Commission, planned and prepared for the Resilience Film viewing, and took care of all of the day to day operations.

### **Lafayette County Mental Health Board**

This past month the mental health board for the county met. The Executive Director was nominated to serve as the board chair alongside of Charlie Grom. With the recent dissolve of the board, the goal is to re-structure and create some foundational guidelines so that they are able to move forward on mental health projects in Lafayette county. In the past this board has served as an advisory board, working toward county wide implementation projects such as; creating a children's services fund, the stepping up initiative and creating awareness of mental health problems.

### **Director's Meeting**

Thursday April 5th the Executive Director attended the state wide county director's meeting in Columbia, Mo. The purpose of meeting is to collaborate with other county funds, discuss data and strategic planning, learn about programs and activities taking place, and share information useful for smooth processes among the board of directors.

No formal agenda was presented at the meeting and the discussion revolved around agency updates and events, as well as the counties collaborating on creating an impact framework (dashboard) for consistent data collection. This recommendation was made by director Kelly Wallis, from Boone county. The purpose of creating a framework is to be able to show outcomes on a statewide level and track positive outcomes from the funds. Boone county has been collaborating with other programs to create a community level indicator (dashboard). Examples of the indicator statements are "We are healthy" and "We are safe". The indicators are measured with measurement tools and are monitored throughout the funded agencies. The hope for the Children's Services Funds is that we would be able to say things such as "We are healthy" and "We are safe" because of specific services that have occurred and the outcomes

that are reported. Several of the counties require their agencies to select specific indicators to measure and report on however, not all of the counties are consistently requiring the same information to be measured through their agencies. Next month the directors will meet to plan and begin working on a framework jointly.

### Updates

Franklin county - Annie reports that she has been working on the Ring For Hope campaign to bring about awareness of children's mental health day. Ruby Payne has been contracted to do an all-day poverty training at a local school district. This event will take place in November.

Boone county - Kelly reports that she has been working with their area systems of care through a grant that was obtained to benefit prevention programs for ages 0-3. They also have implemented the Stepping up Initiative and are seeing positive results in their community.

St Louis City - Jama reports that this is the 25th anniversary for the mental health board/children's services fund. They will be having grant selections coming up and utilize community residents in the grant selection process. They are also looking to hire a director of children, youth and families.

Lafayette county - Tiffany reports on the upcoming events and the goal of maximization of funding. The showing of the Resilience Film and the Ruby Payne workshop upcoming.

Lincoln county - Cheri reports that she has been working on mandates without money and suicide prevention. Her fund revenue has been down the last year and her board is looking on ways to maximize funding to the fullest extent possible.

St Charles county - Bruce reports that he has been working on the regional data alliance.

Clay county - no updates to report. Kathy is working to create a smooth flow and has been structuring the organization of the board.

Jackson county - Rob was not able to attend the meeting

### **The Wayfair Fix – House Bill 548**

Friday April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Director received information from St Louis city in regard to HB 548.

This concerns the Children’s Services Funds as we are a fund created by a voter approved sales tax measure. In this regard, it is important for the directors to be informed of legislative measures that could affect the revenue of the funds.

A notice from Amy Blouin, Missouri Budget Project,

#### **“House May Debate Damaging Tax Proposal Next Week**

#### ***Tax Bill Would Cost MO \$74 Million in 1st Year, Divert Education Funding, and Bar Cities and Counties from Collecting Online Sales Taxes Owed to Them***

Although certain provisions of House Committee Substitute for House Bill 548 (HB 548) would close an ongoing tax loophole, **the remainder of the bill would make Missouri’s tax structure more unfair for most Missourians, shortchange education funding, and jeopardize the resources our communities need to prosper. The bill would cost Missouri \$74 million in just the first full tax year of implementation.**

#### **The House Committee Substitute for House Bill 548 (HB 548) would:**

- Implement the components of the “Wayfair Fix,” allowing Missouri to collect sales taxes owed on online retail purchases just like the state does for purchases at local retailers.
- Endanger public services while directing an additional tax cut to Missouri’s wealthiest. The bill would cut the top rate of income tax by 0.14 in the first year of implementation, followed by additional reductions in the income tax rate that would be triggered by growth in sales tax revenue. The cost of the income tax reductions far outweigh the benefit of Wayfair.

- **Shortchange pre-K to 12 education funding by diverting currently earmarked sales taxes for education. Earmarked sales taxes that would be collected under the “Wayfair Fix” would be designated as general revenue, reducing education funding over time as e-commerce grows.**
- **Limit the ability of cities and counties to collect taxes due for online retail purchases, even if those localities already have a “use tax.”**

See our full analysis here: <http://www.mobudget.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/HB-548-Would-Further-Destabilize-MO-Budget.pdf>

**Please contact House and Senate members and urge them to oppose this measure, priorities for contact and message are below:**

**Message:**

Missouri’s tax code is *unfair* to most Missourians, and is causing a budget crisis. Missouri is facing more than \$500M in additional tax cuts that haven’t been implemented yet. Our current budget situation is volatile, at best, and any changes in tax policy should help us meet current needs and not stop us from correcting issues when they arise. **House Bill 548 would make the volatility more severe.** Increases in General Revenue should be used to address current budget needs and not irresponsibly wasted on *new loopholes or giveaways*. **Ask that they oppose HB 548 and instead support a clean version of the “Wayfair Fix”** (See our quick summary of the Wayfair Fix here: <http://www.mobudget.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Wayfair-Fact-Sheet-April-2019.pdf>)”

Since learning of this concern, the county directors collaborated on a letter that was sent to the representatives listed on the committee which would approve this to move forward. The letter asked that they would oppose the proposed bill. As of April 12<sup>th</sup>, we have learned that the final draft had removed the section which would prohibit the special tax funds from collecting the internet sales tax revenue.

While this is a relief, and there is possibility to drastically increase our revenue, we still need to remain vigilant.

### **D.A.R.E.**

This year millions of school children around the world will benefit from D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the highly acclaimed program that gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence.

D.A.R.E. was founded in 1983 in Los Angeles and has proven so successful that it is now being implemented in 75 percent of our nation's school districts and in more than 52 countries around the world.

D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives.

Lexington school district, through the employment of school resource officer Beckfield, implemented this important program again this school year. Officer Beckfield reports that the students have learned a lot and completed D.A.R.E. projects that captured the information they have learned.

### **HCC General Membership Meeting**

Tuesday April 9th the Executive Director attended the HCC General Membership monthly meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to collaborate with other agencies within the county and share about events and information. The speaker for this month's meeting was Officer Beckfield. Officer Beckfield shared about the purposes of having a school resource officer and the role he plays in Lexington school district. He also reported about the D.A.R.E. program and the numerous encounter he has had with students, helping to bridge the gap between a good and bad perception of police officers.

Chris (HCC) shared about the totals from Lexington's Project Connect. 123 individuals were served and 200 attended the event. The next Project Connect is scheduled to take place on Friday July 19th, in Odessa, Mo.

### **Report to the County Commissioners**

Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Director reported to the county Commissioners. The purpose of reporting is to keep the county involve and aware of what is occurring with the LCCSF board and fund. The annual report was given to them and information shared in regard to the service that have been taking place through our funded agencies. Financial information was shared, along with a success story.

### **Looking Forward**

Throughout the course of the next month funding proposals will be submitted. During this time, the board will review those proposals and plan to meet for a special meeting to discuss. The director will address questions with the agencies. The school districts will meet with Compass Health and LCCSF on April 24<sup>th</sup>. The mental health board will meet on that date as well. Schools will let out for summer break at the end of next month.

Dates to Remember:

04/19/2019 – Full RFP'S are due for funding cycle 2  
04/24/2019 – Meeting at LCC1  
04/24/2019 – Mental Health Board Meeting  
05/06/2019 – LCCSF Executive Committee Meeting  
05/15/2019 – LCCSF Board Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Harbour  
Executive Director