

**GREENE COUNTY FAMILY AND CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL**  
**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**FCF, 158 E. Main Street, Xenia**

**MINUTES**  
**May 2, 2022**

**PRESENT:**

Rebecca Cantrell	United Way of Greater Dayton Area
Deb Cordell	GC Family & Children First
Renee Crossman	GC Family & Children First
Pamela Hamer	GC Combined Health Dept. Help Me Grow/Early Intervention
Melissa Howell – (Rep. Ms. Hamer)	GC Public Health Department
Brent Lewis	GC Family & Children First - Director
Deborah Matheson	Family Violence Prevention Center
Greta Mayer (CHAIR)	GC Mental Health & Recovery Board
Lillian McCree	GC Educational Service Center
Beth Rubin	GC Department of Job & Family Services

Ms. Mayer called the meeting to order at 10:13 am.

Ms. Hamer requested that “Early Intervention” be included on her title line as there are actually 2 departments that she oversees. (Ms. Crossman-Noted and updated Minutes & meeting Sign-in Sheets)

**REVIEW / APPROVAL OF APRIL 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Mayer put forth a motion to recommend acceptance of the April Minutes. Motion was made by Ms. Rubin, and seconded by Ms. Hamer. This motion passed without exception.

**OTHER ITEMS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR/DIRECTOR:**

**Mandated Members Continued Interest for 2023 to serve on Steering Committee:** Mr. Lewis mentioned that for those present if they could please sign the documents prepared by Ms. Crossman for the 2023 Continued Interest.

**Select Non-Profit to serve as Mandated Member for 2-year term—previous was United Way:**

Mr. Lewis reported that since May of 2020 United Way has been our Nonprofit member and has done a fabulous job. He opened the floor to discussion if there were any other nonprofits the Steering Committee would like to nominate for this position. Everyone was happy with United Way continuing on, and Ms. Cantrell is also willing to continue in this capacity.

Ms. Matheson made a motion to recommend United Way to continue on the Steering Committee as our Non-Profit Mandated Member for the next 2 years, ending in May of 2024. Ms. Rubin seconded it. This motion was passed without exception.

**Local Services and Resources:** Mr. Lewis mentioned he would very much like to continue conversations from the last Steering Committee concerning the needs in the community, and what services, resources, and even new partners could be brought in to fill these ever-growing needs. Mr. Lewis explained he had shared details from our Program Report at the annual Mental Health Recover Board meeting, stating the needs and how there are not enough providers to handle these specialized services. Mr. Lewis expressed what a shame it is when we need to send families to Warren or Butler County, as this in itself creates a host of other challenges with parents working, transporting youth to and from facilities that are half day programs. It's already a challenge getting families to local programs at Family Solutions, let alone to a county further away Mr. Lewis concluded.

Ms. Mayer mentioned for smaller children **Pathway Services Youth Partial Hospitalization Programs (Corrected 6/6/2022)** in Clark and Madison Counties could be a stop gap solution until other resources and partnerships with other agencies become available. Ms. Mayer continued that MHRB is working with the State Department regarding a possible Workforce Grant in order to attract graduates from Central State and surrounding colleges/universities to be committed to service provider careers. MHRB also reached out to Wilberforce University where they participated in round table discussions and focus groups. Ms. Cantrell mentioned again Ms. Delores Wright, who is the Chair of the Psychology Department, as a possible resource.

**Further discussions developed concerning graduates becoming interns and choosing service provider careers.** Ms. Matheson mentioned that her observation is that those coming out of Central State or other local colleges/universities do not go through with the final steps of taking their state exams in order to qualify for licensure after graduation. Lack of transportation and sufficient resources and materials to study for the exam seem to be potential barriers.

Mr. Lewis explained that FCF previously took on 2 interns from Central State and transportation was a major issue. The students did not have transportation and relied on staff to transport them back and forth from campus. They tried to organize this with Greene CATS, however Greene CATS runs either early morning or late in the evening creating problems for students getting back to classes and/or appointments. The only other transportation available is UBER which is too costly for most students. He also reported that through FCF's collaboration with United Way and Strong Family Initiatives, he and Ms. Cantrell have participated in several meetings with Central State's new administration, and they are encouraged with the new administration's engagement to see forward progress.

Ms. Cantrell mentioned that when she was discussing Freedom Schools with Wilberforce and their interns they also face the same barriers with no transportation available.

Additionally, Ms. Matheson mentioned another barrier with graduates not finalizing their exam for accredited licensing is that they do not feel prepared for the test, lack books and materials, as well as the cost involved. Plus, most interns are unpaid, which is another barrier most students face.

Ms. Hamer mentioned that at the Library graduates can request these books for free, though they need to be ordered and can only be kept for 30 days. However, maybe there are partners to be found to help make these books readily available for graduates to use up to 90 days in order to be prepared for their final exam and license. Ms. Hamer suggested talking to the library Director regarding this.

On a positive note, Ms. Cantrell ended this discussion by mentioning that “Strong Families” initiatives will pay for some education, so this could also be a Resource available to graduates as well.

**United Way “Glow Run”:** Ms. Cantrell mentioned they have a 5K event that is held by Mad Cab Company at the Xenia Station taking place on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. If you want to register you can go to Link: [Glow Run 5k @ Xenia Station | Sat, May 14, 2022 \(localraces.com\)](https://localraces.com) OR [Glow Run 5k @ Xenia Station \(runsignup.com\)](https://runsignup.com)—see enclosed flyer.

With no further business Ms. Mayer adjourned the meeting at 10:27am.

The next Steering Council Meeting will be on: **Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 starting at 9:00am at FCF, 158 E. Main Street, Xenia.**

Respectfully submitted,



Renee Crossman, Admin. Support  
Greene County Family and Children First Council



Approved Date: