

Mayor's Commission for Children Minutes

February 13th, 2024

Bill Foster South Meeting Room

Spfld Chamber of Commerce

Commission Members present: Dr. Kaleen Long, Brandy Harris, Mike White, Chris Jarratt, Bria Coale Amy Chenoweth, Tom Masterson. Absent: Dr. Elizabeth Andrews

Advisory members present: Christina Moellering, Karen Kunkel, Christy Davis, Dr. Kristen Thompson, Dr. Jennifer Baker, Dr. Kayce Morton, Jhasmine Watson, Rinda Davis, Dr. Doug McNeal

Guests: Ruth Brown and Bre Tyger

Dr. Long opened the meeting at 8:00 and welcome our new advisory member Dr. Christina Moellering from Jordan Valley Health Center.

Bria made a motion to approve December minutes. There was a second by Mike white. The minutes were approved by the Commission.

Rinda introduced key staff members connected to the evidence-based model Family Connects.

An overview was presented to the group, and everyone had a copy of the presentation. The goal is to start March 4th with WIC. MOU's are in progress with Cox and Mercy. Greene co residents who give birth at Cox Health and Mercy will have the opportunity to meet with a Family Connects nurse in the hospital. Families can also self-refer through an online form. Those who choose to participate in Family Connects will receive a home visit from a trained RN within the first 12 weeks with their baby. The program is both free and voluntary to all Greene County residents.

The model utilizes trained nurses to link families to community services and resources immediately after birth up to 12 weeks postpartum.

This evidence-based model has shown to decrease suspected child abuse and neglect cases. Decrease infant emergency visits and hospitalizations.

Adjourned at 8:45 to have a group photo of MCC members, Adjourned at 8:55.

Next meeting will be at the chamber to organize goals for 2024-25.

