

Mayor's Commission for Children

September 10th 2024

Spfld Chamber Office

Minutes

MCC attending: Dr. Kaleen Long, Dr. Christy Davis, Dr. Tom Masterson, Dr. Elizabeth Andrews, Bria Coale

Amy Chenoweth

Advisory Council: Rinda Davis, Dr. Kayce Morton, Dr. Kristen Thompson, Kimberly Shinn Brown

Guests/Presenters Dr. Courtney Martin SPS and Amanda Coleman CPO

Dr. Long opened the meeting at 8 am. Minutes from the July meeting were approved. The first presenter gave us an update on SPS efforts with reducing the population of housing insecure. The five social workers have a caseload throughout the district and help families get resources they can access. That solution seems to be keeping the numbers lower and more stable.

Amanda Coleman gave us an update on MO Wins advocacy and the snapshot of childcare locally and Statewide. Since DESE has incorporated other programs from different agencies in the new Office of Childhood -there has been a terrible backlog of childcare subsidies. Could be as high as 20 million in backlog payments.

Amanda's group continues to try to get businesses to invest in childcare has a benefit for employees. The community seems to recognize this as a top workforce development priority.