

*MONTANA CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND  
MEETING MINUTES*

*September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

**I. Call to order/Attending**

Vice Chair Mary Gallagher called the meeting to order at 12:35pm on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room in the Old Federal Building.

Chairperson Betty Hidalgo was excused due to work conflicts.

Others in attendance: Rosie Buzzas, Roberta Kipp, JoAnn Eder, Deborah Hanson and Lisa Stroh.

**II. Minutes from May 2012 meeting**

The minutes were read and reviewed. Rosie made a motion to approve and JoAnn seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

**III. State Report**

All members present received and reviewed this report. Mary asked for discussion. It was decided to bring the report to the next meeting and that it should be referenced in writing the new job description and a copy given to Vicki Turner.

**IV. Grantees Report**

All members present received and reviewed this report. Mary asked for discussion. JoAnn noted that St. Peter's was terminated. It was also stated that \$5,900 was not spent and that it would automatically carry over to the next year. On item #5 it was noted that Forever Families unmerged with Center for Children and Families and will be on their own again. It was also brought up that there was some confusion on where some of these organizations were located and it was agreed that including a town on all of them would be most helpful as well as a total of how many people were served.

**V. Best Beginnings Report**

Deb said that the meeting in July took them a step backwards. The needs assessments changed and so by joint decision the contract was stopped. She insisted the relationship remained good! She was also tasked with the needs assessment report that she will present in Power Point to the BB Advisory Council on November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Several board members offered suggestions: One was using consensus data tools available to go deeper in each county. MNA has an online tutorial. Also that Bonnie Satciatello in Bozeman is an excellent resource for American Indian data. OPI is yet another resource. Deb also briefed on the MIECHVID grants. This was the second year for reviewing the apps. They had heard from

23 of 24 communities. Tuesday was the last day for review. The contract start date is for November 1, 2012 or sooner. There is a training here in Helena on October 11 & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. There was a reminder to ask for help from other board members who live in communities other than Helena to identify communities in dire need or at high risk.

**VI. TA contract**

Mary read a report of activities from the carry-over extension of FY 2012 TA contract from Melisa Synness at Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies (HMHB) and opened the topic for discussion. There was much discussion on this topic including the need for a job description and what exactly is meant by TA, technical assistant. Many ideas of how a TA could be most beneficial were discussed. The TA could help extend the information and assist in meeting the goals of the strategic plan. Develop a new TA by mentoring with strong programs already in place. It was felt that it was important to keep the TA job separate from HMHB because CTF is more than just PURPLE.

TA job may be need to be more hours than originally anticipated. There was a question of who would supervise the TA. It was decided to table the TA decision until the December meeting as further discussion was needed. There was a request for copies of the former contract with HMHB and a job description available for the December meeting. Mary will check on job description and contact Vicki Turner and review contract. It was felt they would be more informed and in a better position to take action in December. Situation will be monitored until then.

**VII. Legislative request for endowment**

In August MT Senator Kristine Kaufman proposed a bill to the Children, Families Health and Human Services (CFHHS) Interim Committee to add \$10 million to the \$1 million already in the MT Children's Trust Fund Endowment. She based her bill upon two prior meetings with MT CTF board and TA and testimony presented at their June Interim Committee meeting. Melisa of HMHB serving as the TA was on hand to present testimony. The CFHHS Interim Committee approved the motion and the draft bill will be developed on their behalf.

**VIII. Meeting with Anna Whiting Sorrell and Sarah Corbally**

Sarah was unable to make it but Mary said it was a short, positive meeting to say thank you for the direction and it was well received.

**IX. Community Grant Discussion**

Everyone has a different idea on what it is. JoAnn shared using Great Falls as a pilot program. Fund the state and the state works with communities. Deb shared that the Best Beginnings Councils are a great place where training could be cost shared between communities. Roberta suggested having a "lighter" CTF board meeting in a community that we fund and possibly have a

sight visit. There was some good discussion but it was decided to table the topic until the December meeting as further discussion is needed and that Betty should be present.

**X. New Business & misc.**

Roberta questioned whether the CTF Board ever sent out Thank you notes and if stationary was available. It seems that there wasn't but everyone agreed it was a really good idea and supported it. Roberta offered to take it upon herself to design some stationary that would be appropriate and send them out. There was a motion by Rosie to approve the cost of thank you stationary to be ordered by Roberta. JoAnn seconded the motion and all approved.

Rosie made a motion to have the CTF board pay to send Betty to the National Board event in Birmingham, Alabama

**XI. December meeting scheduled**

The December meeting was collectively scheduled for Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at HMHB 400 North Park Ave. beginning at 9:00am. Mary will let Betty know so she can request the time off well in advance. There was also some discussion about the confusion surrounding the communication in regard to meetings and such. It was agreed that better communication was in order and would be worked on.

**XII. At 2:30pm the meeting was adjourned by Mary.**

Minutes submitted by: Val Smith of Westaff Temporary Services of Helena