



**Roundtable Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 3, 2024**  
**8:30 am – 10:00 am**  
**Location: Children’s Services Council**  
**Chair: Tony Loupe**

**Roundtable Members Attending:** Terissa Aronson, Linda Bartz, Josephy Cracchiola, Richard Del Toro, Carol Deloach, Thomas Epsky, Sonya Gabriel, Jeff Lee, Tony Loupe, Heather Parker, Natha Peterson, David Pickett, Clint Sperber, and Lisa von Seelen.

**Roundtable Members Absent:** Tom Bakkedahl, Rosetta Washington, Brian Bauer, Ann Berner, Sean Boyle, Diane Hobley-Burney, Arnold Gaines, Diamond Litty, Bob McPartlan, Troy Norman, Dr. Prince, Peter Tesch, Dana Trabulsy, and Andrew Treadwell.

**Guests Attending:** Craig Sommer, Valeria Richards, Robert Ridle, Cory Hulings, Veronica White, Anthony Delgado, Stefanie Myers, Hamsa Mazou, Jovil Wharton, Kevin Singletary, Amanda DeMan, Shamra Gilles, Christopher Pierce, Diana Colunga, Lisa Cobb, Carol Fiddis, Natasha Ramlagan, Vic Miller, and Mary Huffstetter.

**I. Welcome**

Tony Loupe opened the meeting at 8:36 a.m. and welcomed all members.

**Pledges**

The Pledge of Allegiance and Treasure Hunter Pledges were recited.

**II. May Agenda and April Minutes**

*A motion was made by Heather Parker to accept the May Agenda and the April Minutes; seconded by Carol Deloach. The motion passed unanimously.*

**III. March 2024 Financials**

Christann Hartley presented.

*A motion was made by Terissa Aronson to accept the March Financials; seconded by Linda Bartz. The motion passed unanimously.*

**IV. Chair Report**

Tony Loupe welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. The Chair shared the results of the board member survey regarding potential changes to board meeting dates and/or times and locations to improve attendance. A discussion was had about possible changes to the quorum requirements. Mr. Epsky suggested 40% and a change to bylaws that would allow voting to be done electronically, via email. Carol

Deloach discussed possibly opening seats to delegates for members unable to attend consistently. Teresa Bishop shared that it is important to the fidelity of the Roundtable that it maintains members who are the CEOs or executive-level representatives at each agency. Tony Loupe and Teresa Bishop will contact board members whose attendance is inconsistent. The board agreed that there will be no change to the bylaws or quorum requirements until it becomes a problem to establish a quorum. Tony Loupe also reminded the board that per the bylaws the nomination committee needs to be created at the June meeting and he recommended to members that they start the process now to stay on top of bylaw requirements. Terissa Aronson volunteered to be the Nomination Committee Chair. The slate of officers will be presented at the August Board Meeting.

## **V. CEO Report**

Teresa Bishop shared that the Community Assessment Report (CAR) has been a massive undertaking, and she will be meeting next week with the Roundtable Networks to discuss items they will be addressing in preparation for the strategic planning sessions. The Roundtable and its Networks will reach out to the board members to identify people each agency would like to have at the table or identify evidenced-based practices agencies are currently using and would like to be included in the strategic plan. The Roundtable Board Members' Retreat will take place in early fall for the board to make recommendations for additional items in the strategic plan. Mothers at Hope has partnered with Families of the Treasure Coast and Graceway Village for their meetings. Mothers at Hope is hosting a Mother's Day Crafts in the Park event for moms and children to create crafts together. Youth Leadership St. Lucie is transitioning to a coalition and will be referred to as H.Y.P.E (Helping Youth Pursue Excellence) with the core group of youth. They are collaborating with END It! and the Lincoln Park Community Center youth on a PhotoVoice exhibit. The Roundtable is prepared to present the request to sunset the Comprehensive Gang Model (CGM) and the Safe Neighborhood Network (SNN) at the June Board Meeting at the Housing Authority. Drug Free St. Lucie (DFSL) held their Drug Take Back Day in partnership with Jackson Drugs and the Fort Pierce Police Department and collected 62 pounds of prescription drugs. DFSL also distributed Deterra bags and "lock your meds" prescription locking bottles. DFSL also hosted the Marijuana Summit with over 125 participants. The Opioid Summit is scheduled for May 30<sup>th</sup> and over 140 registrants have already signed up. DFSL is also participating in the Alcohol Policy Academy and Jovil Wharton will be traveling to Virginia this month. St. Lucie RISE will be completing several Teen Mental Health First Aid trainings at the Boys and Girls Clubs this summer. St. Lucie RISE (SLR) Project Coordinator, Shamra Gilles, also presented at the Infant Mortality Network/Pediatric Integrated Care meeting; and SLR is participating in the Peace for St. Lucie meetings. SLR is hosting a "Speak Up, Speak Out" youth town hall event on June 20<sup>th</sup> and the Roundtable will invite key leaders to attend. The network is working to develop a response to trauma events in the community. There is a high number of kids in school with trauma from witnessing shootings in the community. The Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) workgroup is reviewing recommendations now, the report is available on the Roundtable website. The CYPM workgroup would like to establish a workgroup specific to non-Department of Juvenile Justice items.

Nathan Peterson shared his recommendations that the board fight not to sunset the CGM or SNN and spoke about the success the CGM and SNN had in preventing violence and deaths of young people. Carol Deloach shared that the Roundtable has tried to find agency and funding support. Teresa Bishop stated that the community is already seeing the effects of the CGM being gone from our community. Kids are being shot in broad daylight. If the CGM is not continued, it could be something else, but the community needs to fight for it. Tony Loupe recommended that Teresa Bishop look to convene a meeting with leaders. Clint Sperber recommended sharing the IGNITE recommendations report. Teresa Bishop requested assistance in coordinating the meeting. Tony Loupe mentioned that one law enforcement agency is not involved in it and that is where the problem is, there is no buy-in.

## **VI. Opioid Settlement Presentation**

Clint Sperber presented. See attached.

## **VII. Agency Announcements/Updates**

- Sonya Gabriel: Meeting with Roundtable Networks to improve structure.
- Fort Pierce Police Department/ Ridle: Annual Torch Run is tomorrow, Special Olympics. Registration starts at 8:00 am.
- Greg Sommer/St. Lucie Public Schools: 19 days left of school; 500 additional students showing up daily; testing windows are now open.
- Linda Bartz: Law Enforcement Memorial in PSL on 5/15
- Jeff Lee: SEFBHN awarded grant and will be taken to the board this month. Thanked Cling and the DOH for managing the funds.
- Terissa Aronson: She will act as Chair for the Nominating Committee.
- Joseph Cracchiola: Held the second graduation for the Fatherhood Initiative Program; it's been a great success, and they are proposing to continue it weekly as an open-ended program. Coordinating with wardens in two local districts to do an orientation and equip them with the program as well.
- Carol Deloach: Waiting on funding for nurse family partnership with Lisa von Seelen. Have had to freeze positions and cut contracts. Leveraging the best they can. Children being removed in St. Lucie County far exceeds other counties. Nearly all involved are related to drugs or alcohol. Exceeds the State. Violence and drugs in families.
- Nathan Peterson: Continue to work together to increase civil citation numbers and keep kids out of the system. The percentage of civil citation use is low in St. Lucie County. Mr. Peterson is asking law enforcement to help increase the use of the civil citation program. Kids are going to Diversion now and being given case numbers.

**Adjourned: 10:10 am**