



## Safe Harbor Commission Meeting Minutes

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, May 4, 2022

Microsoft Teams

**Meeting Attendees:** Commissioner Candice Broce, Jay Neal, Allison Ashe, Dianne Scoggins, April Hale, Judith Fouts, Theresa Schiefer, Amy Boney, Kristy Carter, Amy Hutsell, Lindsey Chatham, Erica Atzenhoffer, Trishi Malhotra, Robin Herron, Tyrone Oliver, and Salena Perry.

**Called to Order:** 1:04pm

- I. **Welcome and Call to Order – Commissioner Candice Broce, Chair of the Safe Harbor Commission**
  - a. Call to Order
    - i. Commissioner Broce called the meeting to order at 1:04pm.
  - b. Roll Call
    - i. Commissioner Broce took roll which resulted in a quorum. The Commission members that were present were Commissioner Broce, Dianne Scoggins, Jay Neal, April Hale, Judith Fouts, Allison Ashe, and Theresa Schiefer.
  - c. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
    - i. The motion to approve the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting was made by Jay Neal. It was seconded by Co-Chair Scoggins.
  - d. General updates and announcements
    - i. The joint Safe Harbor and Grace Commission meeting is still pending. Salena agreed to follow up with Jacob Cone for an update on possible dates to meet.
- II. **Standard Order of Business**
  - a. Safe Harbor Grant FY21 Updates
    - i. Kristy Carter from CJCC gave updates on the Safe Harbor Commission applicants and recommendations.
    - ii. There were five agents that were awarded funding in FY21. Those agents were Children’s Advocacy Centers of Georgia (CACGA) \$70,000, Gigi’s House \$50,000, Micah’s Promise \$100,000, University of Georgia Research Foundation -CEASE Clinic \$50,000, and Wellspring Living \$30,000.
    - iii. CACGA assisted with 5 hotline calls as well as 26 referrals from agencies such as law enforcement, DFCS, Independent Court, Children’s Advocacy Centers, and the greater community. They also provided 181 services for 38 clients.
    - iv. Micah’s Promise was awarded funds to secure fencing and add a security gate around the property. The installation of the fencing and security gate will begin once the construction of the two-bedroom wings, sports court, outdoor classroom, and the extension of the parking lot is completed. They anticipate the completion of the project in October 2022.



- v. The University of Georgia CEASE Clinic was awarded funds to expand current services to Athens-Clarke, Gwinnett, Chatham and Douglas County. They provided 44 survivors with legal services ranging from screening and assessment to legal advice to representation in legal proceedings. They also provided a variety of non-legal services to survivors including needs assessments, benefits eligibility assessment, counseling referrals, and support during legal and non-legal proceedings.
- vi. Wellspring was awarded funds to expand access to services for unfunded/noncustodial minors of human trafficking victims by using trauma-informed, evidence-based interventions to achieve increased safety and wellbeing for victims. Wellspring served a total of 24 unfunded youth through the Receiving Hope Center (RHC).
- vii. Salena agreed to reach out to the First Lady's Office to help schedule the joint Safe Harbor and Grace Commission meeting.
- b. Safe Harbor Grant FY22 Updates
  - i. Applications for the FY22 Safe Harbor Grant were due April 1, 2022. Initial awards will be distributed from July 1, 2022 -June 30, 2023.
  - ii. CJCC received four applications requesting \$756,941 in FY2022 Safe Harbor Commission grant program funds. The recommended award total was \$351,005.00.
  - iii. Micah's Promise requested \$165,000. The recommended amount was \$62,000.
  - iv. Tharro's Place, Inc. requested \$191,941. The recommended amount was \$75,000.
  - v. University of Georgia Research Foundation requested \$100,000. The recommended amount was \$72,000.
  - vi. Wellspring Living, Inc. requested \$300,000. The recommended amount was \$142,005.
  - vii. The Safe Harbor Commission members agreed to vote on the recommended amounts for each applicant. All applicants were approved except for Tharro's Place pending a visit to the site or meeting with the Executive Director.

III. **Next Steps/Final Thoughts**

- a. CJCC will coordinate the meeting between the Safe Harbor Commission and Tharro's Place.
- b. Salena will reach out to the Grace Commission to schedule a joint meeting.
- c. Allison Ashe requested an updated Safe Harbor Commission member roster.
- d. A Doodle Poll will be sent to determine the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Safe Harbor Commission meeting.

IV. **Adjournment**

- a. The motion to adjourn was made by Jay Neal and seconded by Dianne Scoggins.



V. The motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned: 2:10pm**