



## Safe Harbor Commission Meeting Minutes December 7, 2023

### I. Welcome and Call to Order

- a. Call to Order:
  - i. Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m.
- b. Roll Call:
  - i. Members in Attendance: Candice Broce, Dianne Scoggins, April Hale, Irene Munn, Jay Neal, Theresa Schiefer, Grant Thomas
  - ii. Members Absent: Judith Fouts
- c. Approval of Agenda
  - i. Motion by Jay Neal
  - ii. Seconded by Dianne Scoggins
  - iii. Agenda Approved
- d. Approval of Minutes from September 15, 2023 Meeting
  - i. Motion by Dianne Scoggins
  - ii. Seconded by Grant Thomas
  - iii. September 15, 2023 Minutes Approved
- e. General Updates and Announcements
  - i. Dr. Shaun Johnson, DFCS Senior Director, Caregiving and Wellbeing Coordination
    1. Grace's Place is a 24-bed facility for children in state custody with a history of CSEC involvement, operated by Devereux. They have hired essential positions and are working on filling third shift vacancies. They have a job fair today where they hope to be able to do this. They are working with their legal team and DOE to finalize MOU with Gwinnett County School System. Goal is to accept placements as soon as January.

### II. Standard Order of Business

- a. Attorney General Update- Ron Stay, Senior Assistant Attorney General - Section Chief, Commercial Transactions & Litigation
  - i. At the end of November, the Court contacted the Attorney General's office for Proposed Order on the motion for summary judgement. The order was entered at the beginning of this week and we have won at the trial court level. However, the case will be appealed and will go to the Supreme Court of Georgia. The Solicitor General's office will handle the appeal and their office expects for everything to be concluded by the end of 2024.
- b. Financial Report- Melissa Barwick, DHS Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Finance



- i. Total General CJCC Funding: \$706,053
- ii. CJCC Contract Encumbrance: \$661,790
- iii. Remaining Funding: \$44,263
- iv. Current Allotment for next CJCC Grant Cycle: \$310,790
- v. SFY 2024 Safe Harbor State General Funds Base Appropriation: \$3,375,000
- vi. Contract Encumbrance: \$5,894,000
- vii. Needed Funding in ASFY 2024 or SFY 2025: \$2,519,000
- c. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council- Kristy Carter, Victim Assistance Division Director
  - i. CJCC SFY23 Subrecipients:
    - 1. Micah's Promise: \$62,000
    - 2. Tharros Place: \$75,000
    - 3. University of Georgia Research Foundation- CEASE Clinic: \$72,000
    - 4. Wellspring Living: \$142,005
  - ii. Safe Harbor Fund Draft Priorities/RFA
    - 1. Estimated amount of money available to disperse for SFY24: \$310,790
    - 2. Cap Awards: Safe Harbor Commission reserves the right to cap awards at up to \$100,000 per award
    - 3. Purpose Areas/Priorities:
      - a. Residential Treatment Facility and Safe Home Support
      - b. Prevention and Awareness
      - c. Innovative Community-Based Services & Underserved Populations
  - iii. Process for Administering and Dispersing Funds
    - 1. Commission Reviews and Approves Request for Applications
      - a. Extending the Grant award period to March 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
    - 2. Release RFA and in early January and Convene Review Committee
      - a. Applications due February 9<sup>th</sup>
      - b. Awardees notified in mid to late March
  - iv. Motion to Approve RFA
    - 1. Motion by Theresa Schiefer
    - 2. Seconded by April Hale
    - 3. RFA Approved
- d. Agency Presentation- Bobbi Starr, Micah's Promise



- i. Micah's Promise is an agency serving girls ages 12-17 in their therapeutic residential home in Columbus, Georgia. They became a nonprofit in 2018 and have lots of support and partners in the community.
- ii. Received first resident in October. Working on fully completing the licensing and reimbursement process.

III. **Closing Comments**

- a. Next meeting will be Wednesday February 28th at 1:00 p.m.
- b. We are excited to have Judge Roxanne Formey, who runs Chatham's Hope Court for CSEC youth, present on how this court runs during our February meeting.

IV. **Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.