

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES – 1/8/25 Virtual

Attendance

Trinady Maddock
Barbara Paulson
Julie Murphy
Meredith Forbes
Amanda Guff
Councilwoman Sarah
Bagley

Nicole Davi
Catherine Clinger
Michelle Rief
Daniel Daponte
Ursula Rocha
Eva Billips
Terry Glover

Laura Durham
Carrie Phillips
Christine Raino
Kate Garvey
Zeinab Yassin
Laura Funes Quinones
Angela Green

Excused Absent

Dan Edwards
Councilwoman Aliyia Gaskins
Isabel Shultz
Donna Kenly
Marcia Jackson
Rose Dawson

Staff

Noraine Buttar
Chelsea Eickert
Barbara Paulson

Guests

Mike Mackey
Caitlin Brown

Erica Mack
Jennifer Lockwood-Shabat

Taneika Tukan
Allen Lomax

Meeting Called to Order at 6:32P by Trinady Maddock

Trinady welcomed the Commission and guests.

Public Comment: There were no public comments.

Minutes from December: The minutes were approved.

Out of School Time Update – Caitlin Brown (ED) and Erica Mack (Program Quality Manager), ALX Beyond

- [Increasing Opportunities for Alexandria City Youth](#)
 - ALX Beyond's work is rooted in this report
 - To sum up in one word: disconnected
- Terminology
 - Out of school time (OST): any program outside of K-12
 - Terminology is moving towards "expanded learning" over OST

- There are a number of providers in Alexandria and DC, but
 - They compete for funding/resources
 - They experience similar issues (eg, recruitment, retention)
 - There is no system for collaboration between programming, few intermediaries
 - In Alexandria, we don't yet have a systems-based approach for these OST programs to work together
- Alexandria should take a more preventative approach to addressing the challenges/needs of youth and families—systems-based expanded learning programs can be that preventative approach
 - There is robust research to support that expanded learning programs keep kids positively engaged, allows families to go to work, and supports school staff who don't have to take the lead on connecting students with OST programs
- ALX Beyond is building an “intermediary” entity for OST programs
 - The intermediary can share and collect data from OST programs/ACPS, offer an OST program locator, offer PD for employees, and coordinate program models
- Youth Program Quality Intervention process
 - Helps to identify areas for improvement in youth workers/programs and create a plan for improvement
 - Working on improving the effectiveness/quality of adults in youth programs
- The Flourish Lab
 - Builds SEL skills in adults so they can positively role model those characteristics for youth
- Coordinated Program Model
 - One of the things the intermediary can oversee
 - School-based program manager leads a Youth Advisory Board that helps student build afterschool programming schedules based on their interests, etc.
 - This model would also include transportation
 - Most intermediaries provide providers with funding directly to participate in this model—in return, the providers collect data, etc.
- Where does the money for intermediaries come from?
 - Intermediaries are usually nonprofits with a combination of grants, private funding, or public funding
 - ALX Beyond's intermediary is funded by the Wright Foundation and from City ARP funding
 - As of June, the ALX Beyond intermediary will have no more programmatic funding
 - Public funding primarily comes from the federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers—this funding is then allocated to states
 - VA's money comes through the Department of Education (VDOE)
 - VDOE plans on prioritizing elementary programs and rural programs
 - Local funding

- The additional COVID funding is gone
 - There are few local foundations in NOVA
- FCPS, DC, and Richmond have made significant local investments in OST intermediaries. Other states have, too.
- What can CYFCC do?
 - Advocate for funding!
 - Public funding request with City Council, ACPS
 - State advocacy?
 - Community engagement
 - Share social posts
 - Circulate information
 - Mailing list
 - They will be participating in fundraising events this year
- Feel free to reach out to Caitlin: caitlin@alxbeyond.org
- Questions from CYFCC
 - What are the program's top budget priorities?
 - Funding for program locator—most urgent need
 - Funding for Program Quality has no funding past June of this year
 - We have a great model in the city for intermediaries on the childcare side. Have you looked at collaborative grant seeking, etc?
 - They work closely with Kids First Years and are always open to the opportunity to collaborate with them
 - The biggest difference is more on the public funding side—there are more resources and federal dollars available for ECE than there is for OST. The number of providers are also different—there are more OST programs than ECE, and they serve a broader age range
 - Can you build off the momentum of all the excitement for the new athletic programming in the middle school?
 - This is a great example of investment in our middle school programs, but it is still disconnected. It's operating in some schools and not others, not all students know about it, etc. The intermediary model centers student interest, raises awareness, and reduces barriers to access.
 - The intermediary also provides the program locator tool so that families can be aware of all that is available to them
 - Who is using the program locator?
 - Created for everyone—students, families, teachers, etc.
 - Open to updating and developing to meet whatever need
 - How does tutoring fit in?
 - Tutoring schedule can still work within the coordinated program model. The schedule is flexible
 - Who provides the transportation?

- It depends on the community. In most communities, the school is a close partner of the intermediary, so the school helps to provide
 - Some intermediaries stand up funding for it
 - Depends on whatever arrangement the school, city, and providers come to
- Is there grassroots awareness of this program? Is the general parent population aware of it? This program would be so popular among parents and families—ripe for a grassroots campaign.
 - They have really struggled to connect with the community and families
 - When they first began, they were mostly connected with providers in order to complete the landscape study, but now, they've reached a turning point where they need to outreach to the community and families—they need support with this!
- From Councilmember Bagley:
 - Prioritization is going to be hugely important in this tight budget season
 - Have them prioritize, then the Commission can refine further for our ask to the City

CYFCC entered breakout groups to allow Goal Groups to meet.

Announcements

- Isabel and Eva are taking over social media! If you have anything you'd like for them to post, please [complete this Google Form](#).
- Mayor Gaskins will be at the next PTSA meeting
- The City Council is going to be looking at CYFCC's proposal to provide compensation to youth board members on 1/28
- City Council retreat is on 1/31-2/1—the public is welcome to listen in