

Children, Youth & Families Collaborative Commission



2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



Making children, youth and families a priority.

Background

The Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission (CYFCC) was established by city ordinance on June 25, 2011, and held its first meeting on February 8, 2012. The full Commission meets from September through June on the second Wednesday of the month at seven p.m. in the Sister Cities Conference Room in City Hall.

Tammy Mann, PhD, served as the first Chair from March 2012 through June 2013. Timothy Peterson served as Chair for 2013-2014. For 2014-2015, Sean McEneaney served as Chair.

2015-2016 Executive Committee

Tammy Mann was elected for the second time serving as Chair. Eric Williams served as the Chair-Elect. Kate Garvey, as the Immediate Past Chair-Elect.

For Fiscal Year 2016, the CYFCC Executive Committee included the Chair, the Chair-Elect and the following chairs of the five working committees:

- Advocacy – J. Glenn Hopkins
- Budget & Finance – Tammy Mann
- Outreach & Membership – Rose Dawson, Brian Orrenmaa
- Research and Data – Kendalllee Walker
- Implementation Monitoring – Gwendolyn Lewis, Gwen Mullen

In FY 2016, the Commission held 10 regular meetings, and 10 Executive Committee meetings.

FY 2016 Priorities

In addition to focusing on the implementation of the Children & Youth Master Plan, the Commission adopted two priorities:

- **Understanding Equity** – interest and attention to matters of equity are increasingly discussed in communities across the country. Exploring what this means and how it shows up in our community; and, exploring how our understanding of this issue should affect how we serve children, youth and families across public and private institutions.
- **Promoting Affordable Housing** – lack of affordable housing affects a broad range of the City's population and impacts their access to appropriate human services. Explore public policy options to promote and sustain affordable housing.

The Commission invited speakers to share best practices and provide updates on initiatives currently underway in Alexandria. A committee, headed by CYFCC Chair-Elect Eric Williams, was established to spearhead the affordable housing priority. Helen McIlvaine, Director, Office on Housing (OOH), made a presentation on affordable housing, and based on a recommendation from the CYFCC, OOH prepared a one-page affordable housing reference guide which was posted on their website.

During her presentation to the Commission on ACPS equity and cultural competence initiatives, Cheryl Robinson, Cultural Competency Coordinator for Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), defined the ACPS working definition of cultural competence and shared data compiled from visits to over 400 classrooms as well as one-on-one conversations and focus groups. The information will be used to expand the ACPS equity conversation and guide the work of the Equity Advisory Committee which will design, implement and evaluate equity work.



Tammy L. Mann, CYFCC Chair

2015-2016 CYFCC Members

Tammy Mann, *Chair*
Eric Williams, *Chair-Elect*
Kate Garvey, *Past Chair-Elect*

Natnael Adere
Councilman Willie Bailey
Robin Blair
Gisselle Brown
Ronnie Campbell, *School Board*
William Campbell, *School Board*
Councilman John Chapman
William Chesley
Rose Dawson
Ramee Gentry, *School Board*
J. Glenn Hopkins
Stacey Joyner
Gwendolyn Lewis
Melissa Ann Little
Councilman Timothy Lovain
Mike Mackey
Gerald Mann
Gwen Mullen
Jeffrey Murphy
Edward O'Keefe
Brian Orrenmaa
Sonia Price
Joyce Rawlings
Anthony R. Smith
Carlos Suber
Michael Suppa
Kendallee Walker



The Agenda: Put children and youth first!

Presentation Highlights

OCTOBER 2015—John Porter, President and CEO of ACT for Alexandria and Co-Convener, Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations, presented on the 2015 ACHSO Needs Assessment.

NOVEMBER 2015 — Morgan Rutt, Acting Director of the City of Alexandria’s Office of Management & Budget, presented a PowerPoint outlining next steps in the FY 2017 budget process.

Clinton Page, Chief Accountability Officer of ACPS, made a presentation on the 2013-2014 Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

JANUARY 2016 — Helen McIlvaine, Director, Office on Housing, made a presentation on affordable housing.

MAY 2016 — Presentation from Cheryl Robinson, ACPS Cultural Competency Coordinator, on ACPS Equity Initiative.

CYFCC Committee Highlights

Advocacy — The Committee, which developed a legislative agenda based on the success of the previous year, met with Bernie Caton, the City’s Legislative Director.

Budget & Finance — The Committee drafted a position statement regarding the City FY 2016-2017 Budget, which was delivered by Kendall Walker at the Budget hearing.

Implementation Monitoring — The Committee provided oversight on the implementation of the Children & Youth Master Plan.

Research & Data—Selected youth member, Kendall Walker, to serve as its Chair. The Committee approved the *Alexandria Children and Youth Well-Being Data Profile 2016* and presented the final draft to the full Commission for adoption.

Outreach & Membership—The Committee worked throughout the year to notify members of term expirations and monitor vacancies; and led the group in the nomination and election process for its 2016-2017 Officers.

Commission Staff

Deborah Warren, *Department of Community & Human Services, CYFCC Executive Director*

Ronald Frazier, *Department of Community & Human Services*

Carol Farrell, *Department of Community and Human Services*

Jacqueline Coachman, *Department of Community and Human Services*

Shanna Samson, *Alexandria City Public Schools*

Barbara Farrington, *Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities*

2016-2017 Meeting Schedule

The Commission meets every 2nd Wednesday at City Hall , 301 King Street, Room 1101

September 14
 October 5
 November 9
 December 14
 January 11
 February 8
 March 8
 April 12
 May 10
 June 14

Children & Youth Master Plan Update

The Children, Youth & Families Collaborative Commission (CYFCC) oversees the implementation of the Children and Youth Master Plan (CYMP). Throughout FY 2016, the City and Schools Staff Group (CSSG) made CYMP update presentations to the Implementation Monitoring Committee, who subsequently reported the findings to the full Commission. The Research & Data Committee also received and vetted a presentation from staff about the updated 2016 Children and Youth Well-Being Data Profile, and how the data relates to each goal of the CYMP; this presentation was subsequently given to the whole Commission. The full Commission additionally reviewed proposed Action Step priorities, which were established by Goal Session Work Groups who met in March and June to discuss agency updates as they relate to the CYMP.



Early Care & Education

The **Early Care and Education Work Group** worked closely with the CYFCC in implementing the children’s agenda of the Children & Youth Master Plan. Thanks to a significant private investment, it was possible to obtain a national consultant to guide the group in the development of the *Common Agenda*, (specifically related to CYMP Strategy 2.1—“*Support the development and alignment of, and access to, an early care and education system that prepares young children to enter kindergarten*”) and a learning and evaluation guide.

Three CYFCC Members Receive Chambers’ 40 Under 40 Award

Three CYFCC members — Councilman John Chapman, Michael Suppa and CYFCC Chair Elect Eric Williams were among the honorees of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce’s prestigious *2016 40 Under 40 Awards* inaugural class. The 40 individuals were celebrated at the Awards reception, sponsored by EagleBank, on July 28, 2016. The 40 under 40 program was established by the Chamber to recognize top men and women, age 40 and under, engaged in a variety of fields including business, technology, nonprofit management, civic life, public service, education, and the arts, who are shaping Alexandria for the future. Honorees were selected by a selection committee and evaluated on specific criteria including professional and scholastic accomplishments, community and volunteer impact, and their goals for future and lasting impact.



Councilman John Chapman



Michael Suppa



Eric Williams

Children, Youth & Families Collaborative Commission

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