

**Kids Hope Alliance – March Finance Meeting Minutes**

**March 19, 2025**

**1. Introductions and Instructions**

Cynthia Nixon, Finance Chair

Mrs. Nixon called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Members Present: Cynthia Nixon, Kevin Gay, Carson Tranquille, Marsha Oliver

**2. Public Comments**

Mrs. Nixon explained that public comments would be taken specifically for each item on the agenda. At the end of the meeting the public will also have an opportunity for general public comments. There were no public comments.

**3. Approval of January Minutes**

Mrs. Cynthia Nixon, Finance Chair

Mrs. Nixon asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none. She then asked for a motion to approve the January minutes.

Motion: Carson Tranquille

Second: Kevin Gay

Approved: 3-0

**4. New Business**

Kenneth Darity, Chief Administrative Officer

**a.** **Juvenile Justice Diversion Extension Request**

Mr. Darity explained that the Juvenile Justice Diversionprogram was initially procured through a competitive RFP and has operated successfully for the past five years. The current request is to provide an additional six months of funding to Managed Access to Child Health Diversion Services to provide juvenile justice services in the amount of $500,000.00 which will be effective through November 30, 2025.

During the discussion, the Board clarified why the extension was necessary, which is because the program is set to end on May 31, 2025, however the contract renewals take effect in the new fiscal year. The additional $500,000 will be reflected in the Juvenile Justice budget category.

The Director of Diversion Services also provided an overview of their services to youth and explained that the Diversion program is a systemic framework of care that utilizes evidence-based practices for eligible youth who are diverted from formal prosecution. Several notable outcomes have occurred over the past five years including:

1. Since 2020, the diversion system of care has more than doubled in its capacity to serve justice-involved youth in our community (2019-20=352; 2023-24=917)
2. Since 2021, 70% of youth have been assessed and identified with mental health, substance abuse or co-occurring disorders.
3. Since 2020, recidivism rates have been consistently low with 95% of youth remaining crime free within 12 months of completing diversion.

After some discussion, Mrs. Nixon asked for a motion to approve this action item.

Motion: Kevin Gay

Second: Carson Tranquille

Approved: 3-0

**5. KHA Financial Reports**

 Jessica Pitts, Finance Director

Cynthia Nixon, Finance Chair

Mrs. Pitts reviewed the following reports and explained line item activity and reallocations for the October 1 – February 28, 2025, time period: Operating Fund – with Year End Projections,

SAMSHA ReCast Grant, SAMSHA Create Grant, Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant, DOJ – Project Rise, American Rescue Plan Fund, Jax. Upward Mobility Program, Youth Travel Trust Fund, Mini Grants Trust Fund, Jax. System of Collaborative, Comprehensive Anti-gang Youth Program, KHA Fund with Year End Projections.

**6. Finance Activities**

Cynthia Nixon, Finance Chair

Dr. Saralyn Grass, Chief Executive Officer

**a. Review of Renewals**

Dr. Grass explained the process for approving contract renewals. The Budget office asked KHA to prepare a level budget. Every contract was reviewed to determine its level of performance. The review included provider requests for renewal forms, site visits, and data points i.e. usage rates, outcomes and attendance.

Mrs. Nixon asked to modify the contract renewals report to include the delta for each program (increase/decrease amounts) which Senior Leadership agreed to do, and Dr. Grass recommended that the Finance Committee host a workshop next year to review the data points of each program before contract renewals. The Finance Committee agreed to participate in this workshop.

**b. Approval of Final Budget Submission**

Upon completion of the contract renewals discussion, Mrs. Nixon asked for a motion to approve the budget submission action item.

Motion: Cynthia Nixon

Second: Carson Tranquille

Approved: 3-0

**c. Review of KHA Grants (if time permits)**

Due to a lack of time, this item was deferred to May’s Finance meeting.

 **d. Review Next Month’s Activities**

The Financial Year-end Activities will also be addressed on May’s Finance meeting agenda.

**7. Public Comments**

Mrs. Nixon asked if there were any public comments, there were none.

**8. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Mrs. Nixon at 11:39 a.m.