**NCAPF Board Meeting Minutes February 7, 2025**

**Board Members Present**

In Person: Georgie Scurfield, Sara Morgan, Camas Holder, Dr. David Hansen

Zoom: Claire Bazata, Deacon Don Blackbird

NCFF Guests: Amber Winter for Budget Report, Brenda Weyers for Public Awareness

Other Guests: Michelle Padilla, Fremont Family Coalition (Zoom)

**Call to Order and Meeting Minutes**

Georgie called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Camas motioned to approve the April meeting minutes and Sara seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**Budget Report**

Camas presented the current draft of the Grant Tracking spreadsheet noting that the reports from last quarter, due on January 31st, are being reviewed and processed. Amber will update the amounts for the three public awareness grantees.

Each February, the Board looks at current revenues and a 10-year projection. Revenues remain approximately the same. Projections indicate that if annual allocations are $350,000, the funds will last until 2033; if annual allocations are $450,000, funds will last until 2029; and if annual allocations are $500,000, funds will last through 2028. However, spending has typically been lower than allocations.

**Selected Legislative Bills**

Camas provided an overview of LB346. This bill includes several boards and commissions, including the NCAPF Board. If passed, the NCAPF Board would end in June 2026. DHHS would need to create a plan for the funds and the work. A hearing is scheduled for February 13th. Georgie will testify against this bill.

Other bills related to child maltreatment and prevention include:

LB 104, 368, 369, 462, 141, 181, 668, and 48. Sara said two Public Health bills are also relevant.

**Program Report**

Board members reviewed the October-December 2024 grantee progress reports.

The six-month progress report from Nebraska Children was also reviewed as required by the current grant.

Additionally, members discussed the Qualitative Evaluation of Community Cafés which provides information that isn’t included in other reports. Kathy mentioned the goal of the Cafes to promote positive change at multiple social-ecological levels which takes understanding of the core elements, time to implement, and coaching to support. Sara shared a copy with her home visitors.

The Coordinator of the Fremont Family Coalition, Michelle Padilla, joined the meeting virtually to share information on their work through the NCAPF grant. She described the focus on building relationships with and among Children and Family Services, Juvenile Justice, and the Fremont Police that had experienced personal and system friction in the past. The Fremon Family Coalition (FFC) has promoted understanding of each other’s perspectives and work, identified areas to work on to serve families. FFC has begun receiving referrals from all. One area of focus is working with Children and Family Services investigative staff to provide a warm hand-off for families with unsubstantiated cases. Another focus is providing support for families during reunification by becoming part of the family’s team to identify and meet their needs. Other work includes convening partners as described in the recent local newspaper article the Board received. About 70 partners (including DHHS, Probation, County Attorney, School, GALS, Police and Sheriff) met through the Judge and Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative to have vulnerable and respectful conversations about barriers. An example is that police haven’t had quick responses after removing children. Board members asked about immigration and Michelle said ICE has been in employer parking lots. They are responding with education on the rights of schools, employers, and families, and safety planning. Fear is heavy and 500 children were missing from school one day last week as a result. Camas said it is all great work and progress.

**Marketing and Communications**

Brenda joined the meeting to provide an overview of the Bring Up Nebraska Prevention Store, funded by the NCAPF Board, and opening today. NC stocks the store based on requests from the community collaboratives that include products for various purposes. Kathy said twenty-one collaboratives are participating this year. Paid media through Learfield will include streaming audio and begin on March 31st. NC will also update the website and toolkit. Brenda will work with CFS to request a Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation and press conference. CFS may link these with LB668 if it passes. Brenda also said that a Strategic Marketing and Communication Committee is being established for Bring Up Nebraska.

**Board Development**

Bring Up Nebraska. An area of development for the Statewide Plan is focusing on Goal Area 2-Building Network Capacity.

Family Connects. Public Health is moving forward with VNA in Omaha at two birthing hospitals that may begin services this summer. Medicaid’s excess profit funds will help support and another sources will be needed. TANF home visiting priorities and the Healthy Families America needs assessment will inform future development.

**Allocations Plan for 2024-2025**

The Board discussion and approved issuing Requests for Applications for the following:

* Circle of Security Parenting – NEAEYC
* Central Navigation – Five Bring Up Nebraska Community Collaboratives: Fremont Family Coalition, Dawson County Family Partners, Norfolk Family Coalition, Columbus Area United Way, Valentine Children & Families Coalition
* Plans of Safe Care – Three Bring Up Nebraska Community Collaboratives: Families First (North Platte), United Way of South Central Nebraska (Hastings), Growing Community Connections (South Sioux City)
* Community Cafés – Four current sites: The BRIDGE (Omaha), Grand Island Public Schools, Auburn Public Schools, Crete Public Schools
* Public Awareness – Moxie16

Continuing grantees are eligible to apply for the same amount as this fiscal year.

Camas said the RFAS should include a notice that future funding could end or be delayed due to pending state legislation. Grantees should be advised to prepare for a potential gap in funding of unknown duration beyond June 2026.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be on **Monday, April 14th**, from 9:30-12:30 a.m.

Georgie adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.