

Family and Human Services Committee

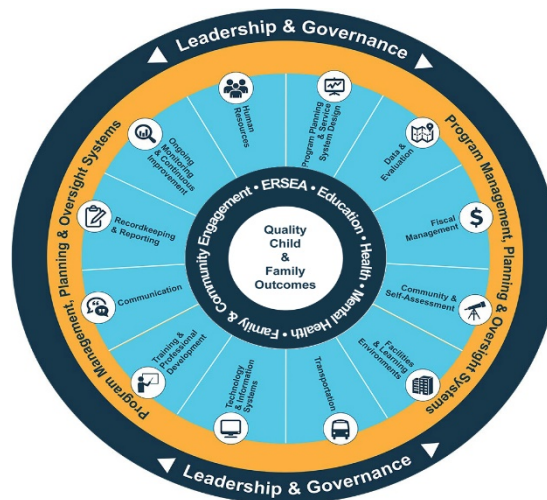
Community Services Bureau

Report/Proposal

Background:

During the week of February 21st, the Administration for Children and Families conducted a review of CSB that focused on all services areas. After 4 days of exhaustive record analysis, interviews and on-site visits, the Federal Reviewers advised that the final report, which would be released in 45 to 60 days, might include potential findings in the following areas: Health and Safety, Fiscal Monitoring and Governance.

The Head Start Performance Standards and the Head Start Act mandate that the Board of Supervisors, as CSB's Governing Body, provides guidance and supervision in the areas of strategy, fiscal and policy. The Federal Reviewers were not certain that the current mechanisms and processes in place allow for that relationship to happen.



Head Start Management Systems Wheel

Proposal:

With the intention of being proactive, CSB proposes the consideration of the following actions which would strengthen the link between CSB and the Board of Supervisors and increase compliance with federal regulations.

1) CSB suggests the idea of a Board Member attending the Head Start Policy Council meetings (on a rotational basis). The Policy Council is a group of Head Start and Early Head Start parents and community

members who, along with the Board of Supervisors, help lead and make decisions about their program. Policy Council members are elected by the parents of children enrolled in the program. Parents often join the Policy Council after serving on a parent committee. The current Policy Council Executive Team are: Chair, Jasmine Cisneros; Vice Chair, Juan De Dios Batiz; Parliamentarian, Myriah Herrington; and Secretary, Karen Medrano.

The Policy Council meets every second Wednesday of the month (except July and December). Members can serve for one year at a time, and for up to five years. Their role is to work closely with the program's management team and the Board of Supervisors to provide overall direction for the program.

2) CSB submits a monthly report to the BOS titled “CAO Report” which is part of the Board agenda as a consent item. This report is a comprehensive document that provides fiscal and programmatic updates. CSB proposes that this item be converted into a Discussion Item and the CSB Director be allowed to be present and available to answer questions or engage in the discussion.

3) CSB suggests to include a standing item covering CSB on the Family and Human Services Committee monthly agenda, and have a quarterly Discussion Item with the full Board (as opposed to monthly as suggested on #2).

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen
CSB Executive Director