

Montana Children's Trust Fund Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 14, 2025
USFG Corner Conference Room

Present: Brandi Loch, David Landis, Justine Guthrie

Staff present: Josh Kendrick (Early Prevention/Intervention Program Manager), MacKenzie Forbis (CTF Manager) Lona Gregor-Martin (CTF ARPA Program Specialist), Susan Wensel (CTF Budget Analyst), Alex Dahy (CTF Administrative Assistant)

Guest present: None

=====

The Montana Children's Trust Fund Board Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair David Landis.

No public comment was made.

Chair David Landis called for changes or edits to the draft for the April MT CTF Board Meeting minutes. No changes or edits were made. An oral vote was taken. Minutes were accepted as written unanimously.

Board Business:

- **Board Welcome and review of April Meeting Minutes**
- **Introduce new board members**
 - MacKenzie introduced Justine Guthrie who is the newest board member. She is from OPI.
- **MT CTF Budget Review**
 - Susan reviewed the budget for CTF
 - STIP was not sold in June, the Fiscal Bureau Chief Shannon Mackey decided, because of the potential for CTF to receive funding from HB 962. Josh advises that there will be a chance that CTF will not receive funding from this bill.
- **Community Response Program Update**
 - CRP will hopefully be expanding to 8 contractors. Previous contractors will need to reapply. TANF and CTF will be braiding services and funding to continue this project.
 - CTF is currently working on the API and will be starting the RFP process soon for this as well. CTF is hoping to have the contracts complete by October.
- **MT CTF Manager's Report**
 - Mackenzie attended a wellness fair in Butte and also attended open house for Mountain Home Montana in Missoula.
 - MacKenzie presented at the Prevention Specialist Round Table.
 - MacKenzie is currently working on getting the application ready for mini-grants. These will hopefully be available in late August/ beginning of September.
- **MT CTF ARPA Program Specialist's Report**
 - Lona was accepted into Friends Leadership Institute and will be working directly with a coach to build leadership as well as forming cohorts for prevention work. She will be traveling this month to attend conferences for this.
 - Lona presented to the Court Improvement Plan Advisory Committee about CRP
 - GBGF scholarship up and running
 - Lona is conducting final site visits for CRP. On August 1st CRP will stop taking new

clients

- **Review of public awareness strategy and campaign**
 - Windfall completed an audit for visibility of CTF.
 - Short-term goals include building awareness for Strengthening Families Month
 - Long-term goals include sustaining awareness and increasing fundraising and donations.
 - Access to Facebook has been restricted for CTF by Meta- we are currently looking for solutions to this.
- **Review Strengthening Families Month**
 - There was a huge uptick in supplies ordered for strengthening families month.
 - There was more participation than there was in the past two years.
 - Next year a letter will be sent out to school districts and other community entities for SFM in hopes that this will boost engagement in Strengthening Families Month.
- **Review Strategic Plan**
 - David suggests connecting with the Montana Talks podcast to see if we can work with them to get the word out about Montana CTF.
 - David also suggests connecting with PBS Montana and asking if they could show siloed and have someone speak on CTF and the resources and services that are available.
 - MacKenzie will follow up with these suggestions.

Brandi Loch motions to adjourn the meeting. Justine Guthrie Seconds the motion. **Meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM**