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**Minutes – Collaborative Meeting August 12, 2022**

The meeting of Fannin County Family Connection Collaborative was held Friday, August 12, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. In Attendance: Chris Martinez, Sheena Rymer, Kristy Lindstrom, Victoria Turner, Tom Niswander, Lois Blockley, Tara Cantrell, Joy Sneed, Mark Snoddy, Amy Miles, Debby Beck, Monica Clark, Shannon Kirby, Amy Williams, Dawn Heaton, Jessica Olson, Nicole Post, TC Dillard, Renee Lunney, Robert Gleadall, Teresa Ross, Sherry Morris and Mandi Hyde.

Tom Niswander, FCFC Board Treasuer, called the meeting to order at 12 pm. Introductions were made by those present and on zoom. Attendees were asked to look over the minutes from May 4, 2022 for approval. After a motion to approve the minutes was made by TC Dillard and seconded by Amy Williams, the minutes were approved without correction.

This Collaborative Meeting was an open discussion about our Collaborative and how to make your investment of time beneficial to us and your organizations. Jim McKnight facilitated this discussion by asking us what training/educational topics those in attendance needed or wanted. The following topics were mentioned: Homelessness, community resources, early childhood literacy & tutoring, affordable housing, mental health, and LBGTQ support. Several of these topics had solutions already in place and didn’t need to be focused on by the Collaborative. The two main topics that the collaborative found that need to be addressed were Affordable Housing and LBGTQ support.

Jim asked the group, “How can we ensure optical collaboration?” The group suggested having presentations by the different organizations with a quick overview of what they offer to the community and having a Q&A time to help us all to become familiar with all the organizations. Also, to have continuing education from the organizations. Jim then asked us, “How to make the meetings fun?” the ideas that were mentioned were having food, time to network with others, open & frank talks, idea leverage, DYADS, and celebrating collaborations.

Upcoming Community Calendar events:

*Wednesday, October 5, 2022 – Community Services Conference* 9am – 1pm at Kiwanis Fairgrounds, 124 Jones Street, Blue Ridge, GA - Vendor set up 7am & Program starts at 9am

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Morris