



Commission on Children and Youth

October 8, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NDNhYWM4OTQtZjJjMi00YWEzLWJkODMtZDhiMDk5Mml0NjZi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%226e01b1f9-b1e5-4073-ac97-778069a0ad64%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22de2fa4d4-1208-482b-9fc8-ea1052f61817%22%7d

Attendance

Members Present

- Michael Jimenez
- Kirsten Andersen
- Shane Tate
- Molly McAlvanah
- Leon Peace
- Kimberly McClurkin-Harris
- Sara Rosen
- Nina Bersabal
- Keena Howell
- Greg Tucker
- Megan Pantellis
- Johnathan Berhane
- Jessica Isabella Berrellez
- Joelle Butuyan
- Rizwan Rana
- Chelsea Zhu

Members Not Present

- Stephanie Clarke
- Ary Amerikaner
- Nandi Walcott
- Jane Chappell
- Corinne Yourman

Proof of Quorum

The presence of 16 members confirmed a quorum.

Staff Present

- Jameela Hyland

Guest Speakers

- Dr. Amy B. Lewin, Associate Professor, Family Science, University of Maryland School of Public Health

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:34PM.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair provided opening remarks and briefly highlighted the commission's business.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Review and Approval of September Meeting Minutes was approved by Kirsten Andersen and second by Sara Rosen.

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved for the meeting.

Meeting Minutes Agenda Items

1. Guest speaker presentation on sexual and reproductive health, adolescent mental health, community-led interventions, and working with marginalized youth and families
 - a. Presented a contemporary understanding of resilience as a dynamic, contextual process rather than a fixed trait.
 - b. Emphasized the importance of supporting system-level change in addition to individual support.
 - c. Noted that trauma and chronic adversity reshape developing brains, affecting behavior and learning in youth.
 - d. Highlighted that one of the strongest protective factors is a consistent, nurturing relationship with at least one adult caregiver.
2. Other Business & Discussion
 - a. The Commission discussed a draft 2025-2026 Priority Statement. The draft text will be reviewed once more by the Chair and DHHS Liaison before being shared with the County Executive's office.
 - b. Additional members introduced themselves.
 - c. The Commission discussed the need to review possible guest speakers for upcoming sessions.
 - d. There was a discussion about reviving the Dworkin Awards, which previously ran for 33 years before being paused in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will November 12 at 6:30pm – 8:30pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm.