

**Georgia Children’s Cabinet  
Executive Meeting  
Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013 - Minutes  
Executive Cabinet: 8:00 AM to 9:45 AM  
The Governor’s Mansion, 391 W. Paces Ferry Road, Atlanta, GA**

**Attendees:** First Lady Sandra Deal, Katie Jo Ballard (GOCF), Frank Berry (DBHDD), Corinna Magelund (Disability Services Ombudsman), Bobby Cagle (DECAL), Martha Ann Todd (GOSA), Eric John (CJCJ), Bonnie Holliday (SCSC), Tonya Boga (OCA), Keith Horton (DHS)

**Members Not in Attendance:** Avery Niles (DJJ), Clyde Reese (DCH), Brenda Fitzgerald (DPH), Dr. John Barge (DOE), Erin Hames (Governor’s Office),

**Others Attending:** Ember Bishop (First Lady’s Office), James Howgate (DPH), Lavin Gartland (DBHDD), Arin Johnson (GOCF), Hayley Howell (GOCF), Barbra Tempel (GOCF)

Agenda Issue	Discussion	Conclusion/ Action to Take/Follow up
<b>Opening Remarks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Deal.</li> <li>➤ The minutes from the May 16th, 2013 Executive Cabinet meeting were approved.</li> <li>➤ Katie Jo Ballard introduced new Executive Cabinet member Commissioner Keith Horton.</li> </ul>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>Monthly Highlights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Governor and First Lady Deal, Katie Jo Ballard, and CHOA and DPH representatives, visited Strong4Life Camp in Winder, GA for June-Fitness Month. Mrs. Deal shared some of the activities available for campers at Strong4Life Camp including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Skits to practice how to order healthy meals at a restaurant</li> <li>○ A competition to make the best tasting snack with healthy ingredients</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Katie Jo Ballard encouraged the Cabinet to spread the word about the services that Strong4Life Camp offers it is a free week of camp, including transportation to and from for any child that meets the BMI criteria. Information about the camp is available at <a href="http://Strong4Life.com">Strong4Life.com</a></li> <li>➤ Cabinet representatives including First Lady Deal, Katie Jo Ballard, Corinna Magelund, and Rick Ward joined Governor Deal on July 16<sup>th</sup> for a proclamation signing identifying July as Immunization Awareness month.</li> <li>➤ Mrs. Deal and Katie Jo Ballard noted that they are accepting suggestions for site visits dealing with alcohol abuse awareness(specifically underage drinking) for the month of August. They will share suggestions with the Full Cabinet.</li> </ul>	
<b>AARA Final Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The goal for this fund is to have states setup a State Advisory Council for early childhood education               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s Cabinet members are members of Georgia’s State Advisory Council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Commissioner Bobby Cagle summarized the State Advisory Council final report to be sent to the federal government with statistics and findings.</li> <li>➤ Cagle noted that children in a childcare facility are 10 times less likely to suffer fatal injury than in another form of care.</li> <li>➤ Cagle offered to share population projection data. This data is used to project the amount of funding needed for each county for Pre-k slots. The study was assisted by Georgia State University.</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Cagle mentioned that we want to encourage child care employers and providers to adhere to the Professional Development Registry so we can have a good snapshot of Georgia’s workforce at any given time.</li> <li>➤ He went on to mention that although many of Georgia’s children receive health screenings, there is a lack of follow through which needs to be addressed.</li> <li>➤ Katie Jo Ballard GOCF and Department of Public Health have some telehealth equipment around the state – some in schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballard suggested partnering with sites that have telehealth equipment so it may be fully utilized and efficiently provide services for those in need, specifically rural areas.</li> <li>• She went on to suggest removing equipment from sites that weren’t utilizing it and relocating it to an area more in need.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Videos showing children who are developed according to the Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS) are available on <a href="http://gelds.decal.ga.gov">gelds.decal.ga.gov</a> for easy use by parents.</li> <li>➤ 1300 childcare facilities have applied for Quality Rated; those who have been rated (230) have been posted online</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Cagle requested approval of the official report to be submitted to the federal government on July 26<sup>th</sup>.</li> </ul>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>Safe Sleep/ Immunization Distribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Katie Jo Ballard thanked Cabinet members for raising awareness about the Safe Sleep campaign. She opened the floor for suggestions on how to build on the campaign and baby safety awareness.</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Frank Berry suggested a long term approach of continually pushing the message to Georgians.</li> </ul>	

	<p>He also suggested the Cabinet target women who are being reunited with their families in addition to traditional new mothers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Commissioner Horton suggested pushing awareness of the dangers of co-sleeping along with SIDS.</li> <li>➤ Mrs. Deal suggested reiterating the importance of babies having supervised tummy time as to prevent a flat head from being on their backs for too long.</li> <li>➤ Bonnie Holliday posed a question pertaining to the rate of infant mortality, specifically SIDS, given a particular geographic region. Tonya Boga will be able to provide numbers to assist answering Holliday’s question beginning next week (July 22<sup>nd</sup>)</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Berry also suggested weaving in the importance of a father’s presence in regards to baby health and safety. Commissioner Horton agreed with this notion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ember Bishop suggests using males more in marketing pieces.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Mrs. Deal suggested having some form of marketing in the schools where parents frequent. Her suggestion was followed up by Martha Ann Todd who noted getting something on a secretary’s desk will receive high traffic.</li> <li>➤ Tonya Boga invited cabinet members to attend the Child Fatality Review Panel meetings.</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Cagle offered photography services for cabinet photo at the next Full Cabinet meeting (September 19<sup>th</sup>).</li> </ul>	
<b>Reach Out and Read</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Katie Jo Ballard suggested a pilot project called Reach Out and Read to track immunization card use. Parents who are visiting the pediatrician with their child and demonstrate use of their immunization card will receive a free children’s book.</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Cagle passed around a potential book to use for partnership – <i>Amari’s Adventure</i> written by the Rollins Center for Language and Literacy at the Atlanta Speech School.</li> </ul>	
<b>Agency Announcements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Mrs. Deal opened the floor for agency announcements</li> <li>➤ Commissioner Berry informed the Executive Cabinet that he sent a management team to Gateway Community Service Boards in South Georgia.</li> <li>➤ Martha Ann Todd informed the Cabinet that the Georgia Reading Mentor project had a great startup year. It’s available in 43 schools. It is also working with the Savannah Learning Project.</li> <li>➤ Tonya Boga mentioned that for the first time, the Office of the Child Advocate is working with DFCS to compare data. Now they will be able to recognize overlap of homes where children are injured or killed with homes that have required DFCS intervention.</li> <li>➤ Bonnie Holiday says that the State Charter School Commission has received petitions for new charter</li> </ul>	

	<p>schools. She also announced that there is now a Pre-K matriculation preference for charter schools.</p>	
<b>Adjourn</b>	<p>➤ Mrs. Deal thanked the Cabinet members for their attendance and participation. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.</p>	