

UPPER PENINSULA CHILDREN'S COALITION
P. O. Box 881
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BY-LAWS
UPPER PENINSULA CHILDREN'S COALITION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Purpose of the Upper Peninsula Children's Coalition is to work with all Upper Peninsula organizations and individuals concerned with children in order to identify children's needs, promote their services and rights, and provide long range planning for positive change. Our primary goal is to maintain existing resources and address the need for additional services. To help realize this goal, the UPCC, reviews existing services to children and takes positions on proposed legislation affecting youth, supports communication and training regarding young people's issues, and is active in the support of prevention initiatives.

ARTICLE I

MEMBERSHIP

- Sec 1 Members: Membership shall be made up of individuals of public and/or non-profit agencies who pay annual dues. To be eligible for membership, the individual or agency must reside or be located in the Upper Peninsula or have an interest in serving children and families in the Upper Peninsula.
- Sec 2 Membership fees: Agency and individual membership fees shall be determined annually by the Coordinating Committee.

ARTICLE II

MEETINGS

- Sec 1 Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting, at which officers will be elected, and general business transacted will be at a time and place determined by the Coordinating Committee.
- Sec 2 General Membership Meetings: Other meetings will be held at such intervals as agreed upon by the Chairperson and the Coordinating Committee. The Coordinating Committee will determine the location, special fees, and agenda for all meetings.
- Sec 3 Member Notification: Members shall be notified electronically and/or in writing at least 10 days in advance of meeting.

- Sec 4 Voting: Individual members or agency representative members may each cast one vote. Proxy votes are permitted. Questions shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting.
- Sec 5 Conduct: Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE III

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Sec 1 Purpose of Coordinating Committee: The Upper Peninsula Children's Coalition shall have a coordinating committee which shall carry out the day to day work of the UPCC between general membership meetings.
- Sec 2 Selection and Composition: Members of the Coordinating Committee at the time of the adoption of these by-laws will continue to serve until resignation or removal. Vacancies on the Coordinating Committee will be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the Coordinating Committee. The Coordinating Committee will consist of up to five members plus the four current officers and immediate past chairperson, for a maximum number of ten members. The members of the Coordinating Committee shall be chosen from a wide range of public and private child and family-serving agencies. The Chairperson shall be a member of the Coordinating Committee.
- Sec 3 General Powers: The Coordinating Committee may exercise all powers for the general members between general membership meetings. All business transaction by the Coordinating Committee shall be reported to the general membership periodically.
- Sec 4 Meetings of the Coordinating Committee: The UPCC Coordinating Committee will ordinarily meet monthly to carry out the regular work of the coalition. These meetings may be canceled due to a lack of business or need.
- Sec 5 Attendance: If a member of the Coordinating Committee misses three or more meetings in any one calendar year, without being excused by the Chairperson, that member may be removed upon majority vote of the Coordinating Committee. Any member who is removed for lack of attendance shall be replaced as provided in Article III, Section 2.
- Sec 6 Quorum: A majority of those members of the Coordinating Committee present at any meeting shall consist of a quorum.
- Sec 7 Standing Sub Committees: The Coordinating Committee shall operate with the following six standing sub-committees: Communications: Secretary, Chair; Membership and Dues: Treasurer, Chair; Annual Conference: Vice-Chair, Chair; Special Projects: Coordinating Committee Member, Chair; Legislative Update: Coordinating Committee Member, Chair; Membership Liaison: Coordinating Committee Member Chair.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

- Sec 1 Officers: The officers of the UPCC shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers shall be nominated and elected in the fall.
- Sec 2 Nominations: Nominations for the officers of the organization may be made by a nominating committee appointed by the Chairperson or in writing by any member of the UPCC at least 21 days before the election.
- Sec 3 Voting: Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of members. Voting shall be conducted in a matter as designated by the chair person.
- Sec 4 Term of Office: The officers shall be elected to two year terms.
- Sec 5 Vacancies: Vacancies in officer positions caused by resignation, death, or incapacity shall be filled by a majority vote of the Coordinating Committee. The appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the un-expired portion of that officer's term.
- Sec 6 Assumption of Office: The Vice-Chairperson shall assume duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence.

ARTICLE V

COALITION FUNCTIONS

- Sec 1 The UPCC may perform, but not limited to, the following functions: collect and analyze children's data; identify and implement strategies to further the Coalitions' objectives ensure comprehensive UP involvement in the organization; identify and promote a comprehensive continuum of care; provide a forum for children's concerns; establish working communication with all Upper Peninsula legislators; coordinate advocacy for youth; promote joint training and educational opportunities; conduct a yearly conference on children's issues; help plan meetings and programs for the general membership and other persons, and assist with regional coordination efforts.

ARTICLE VI

COALITION POSITIONS

- Sec 1 Consistency: The Coalition may formulate and disseminate its views on a variety of needs and issues. Any expression of a particular viewpoint as endorsed by the Upper Peninsula Children's Coalition shall be consistent with the Coalition's Statement of Purpose.
- Sec 2 Formulation: The preferred method of formulating a Coalition position will be discussion and adoption at a general membership meeting. In the event this method is impracticable, a Coalition position may be adopted by obtaining the agreement of a majority of the Coordinating Committee.
- Sec 3 Dissemination: Public dissemination of Coalition positions shall be made only by the Chairperson or his or her designee, or in a form approved by the Coordinating Committee.

ARTICLE VII

YEAR

The Upper Peninsula Children's Coalition shall use the calendar year for all purposes.

ARTICLE VIII

BY-LAWS

- Sec 1 Adoption: The by-laws shall be adopted by a majority vote of the general membership.
- Sec 2 Amendment: The by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the general membership provided that the proposed amendments have been mailed to all the members at least twenty-one days prior to the adoption date.

ARTICLE IX

DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the Coalition, the Coordinating Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all its liabilities, dispose of all of its assets exclusively for charitable, educational, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Coordinating Committee shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of general jurisdiction in the county in which the principal office of the Coalition is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Revision approved on _____

Chairperson