



## Ida County Early Childhood Committee Meeting

Siouxland Human Investment Partnership  
MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, March 10, 2022 2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Meeting Site:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89904297029?pwd=MWlyczZRa283VE5MbzYrSzB5dKxzZz09>

Attendees: Shelly Conover, Lexy Klemish, Linsey Gilbert, Rebecca Burns, Kendra Rensink, Jen Derby, Mikka Belson

Staff Present: Kerri Hall

- Legislative Updates
  - Association of ECI Area Boards
    - Session Updates

This week **SF 2268** passed the Senate Chamber by a vote of 32-18. The bill requires the DHS to allow childcare centers to increase child-to-staff ratios to 7:1 for children 2 and under and to 10:1 for children 3 and older. The bill is now eligible for debate by the House because the companion bill, **HF 2131**, has passed out of committee.

- Iowa Department of Management
  - Early Childhood Iowa
    - Future Changes
    - Director's Meeting Updates
- CCR&R Update:(Becky White) to demo of NDS 2.0 (new data system/child care search portal)
  - Parents and providers can utilize/add information now
  - Previously 2 different databases/area previously – now those 10 are combined into the new database
  - Allows providers to update their information, including vacancies/openings – will be rolled out in the next couple of weeks. Becky walked through a view of the database from a provider level.
  - Providers can also upload pictures and documents

- Parents can login as a guest or register as themselves; if registered, they can save items.
  - Parents will be able to easily see if in the QRS/QRIS - even in the listing of the program; also can see how far the program is from your address
  - Moves us towards real-time data
- CCNC Update - no update today
  - Shared Services/CCMS Update - (Tami, Amanda)
    - Survey summary results almost ready to share
    - Will walk through the survey summaries at 3-4-board meeting
    - Will be releasing 1-2 page updates at the beginning of every month
    - Co-Design team had first meeting on 2-9-22; began to share overview//as well as gather individual feedback after every meeting is planned
  - ECI Office- Update (Shanell, Amanda)
    - An Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was enacted on February 8, 2022 between the Iowa Department of Management (DOM) and the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) to transfer the administration of the Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) State Office duties, including 2 FTEs, to DHS from the date of enactment through June 30, 2022. During this period of time the 2 FTEs, Shanell Wagler and Amanda Winslow, from the ECI State Office will collaborate with DHS leadership and the Governor's office to discuss opportunities for new infrastructure developments within DHS to increase early childhood system connectivity; with an emphasis of stewarding large amounts of federal dollars that may impact child care in Iowa.
    - It is currently understood that ECI's mission, state and local authorities, funding allocations, public and private stakeholder collaborations, integrated data system work (I2D2), ECI statewide strategic planning, and all authorities identified within Iowa Code Chapter 256I will not change. The current MOU states Iowa law controls and takes precedence over the MOU terms. Our hope is that this will better place the ECI team to serve young Iowans. We will review its effectiveness prior to extending the MOU.
- Ed Approps – [presentation update](#) (Shanell)
  - [QRS/IQ4K](#) – updating your RFPs, expectations, etc.
    - We need a piece to share with child care center board to educate them on the change. – Shanell will work with DHS and QRIS Oversight Team to create a document to assist with education. QRS Specialists might also have.
    - Safety data – move to online format? (Jenny Robinson asked)
    -
  - Questions about submitting a [budget amendment](#).
  - Phones for Families (March 31, 2022 MIECHV only)- ECI Areas could include Phones for Families support to their programs & Risa from LSI can help with the

US Cellular connections & ISU has a data brief from the Phones for Families program: <https://i2d2.iastate.edu/publications/>

- Ida County
  - Early Childhood Programs
    - Updates
  
- Ida County
  - Kids Fest
    - Updates

2022 Kids Fest will be held May 17, 2022 at the Ida Grove Skate Palace from 3:30 – 6:00 PM. The Kids Fest Committee will be handling the finalizing of the details and get report back to full committee.

- Additional ECI/EC Updates

Lexy Klemish- working on lots of grants as well. Looking for another staff person to assist. Siouxland District Health has a new website and asked us to review it and see if there is anything missing.

Shelly Conover – Early Childhood Special Education has started training for the new Individualized Education Plan (IEP) System and they are solidifying calendar for the next year.

Kendra Rensink – updating Head Start and Early Head Start

Rebecca Burns – working hard to catch children up with all of their vaccines

- Agency Updates / Other Business
  - Next Meeting is May 12, 2022