



## Woodbury County Early Childhood Committee Meeting

Siouxland Human Investment Partnership  
MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, August 5, 2021 11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.

Meeting Site:

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

Attendees: Kim Schroeder (Chair), Erika Fuentes, Bridgid Strait, Mallory Berkenpas, Linsey Gilbert, Lexy Klemish, Jennifer McGregor, Rachael Ostermyer

Staff Present: Kerri Hall

- Legislative Updates
  - 89<sup>th</sup> Iowa General Assembly
    - 2022 Legislative Session

The first day of Iowa Legislative Session will be January 10, 2022. The Committee reviewed the Association of ECI Area Boards and Advocates Legislative Agenda. Erika Fuentes serves on the Iowa Governor's Child Care Task Force and was able to provide an update about what recommendations we can expect to come out of the Task Force. Governor Reynolds is anticipated to prioritize these recommendations.

- Iowa Department of Management
  - Early Childhood Iowa Bi-Monthly Meeting
    - Update

### **National Family Support Certification Exam**

Deadline is December 31, 2021

Exam Waiver:

Any home visitor that is seeking a waiver to extend the time they have to prepare for the exam, must have their waiver submitted by December 15, 2021 close of business.

WHO:

First Group: Family Support Direct Service Professionals that were hired on or before January 1, 2021 that have NOT earned the National Family Support Certification by December 31, 2021.

Second Group: Anyone that was hired between January 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021 that has NOT earned the National Family Support Certification and is concerned that they will not earn it by March 30, 2022.

The waiver is specifically for persons that may have difficulty with achieving a passing score and could benefit from more preparation time. To be successful in being granted a waiver, persons seeking the waiver must take advantage of the numerous supports available to them prior to submitting the waiver request.

### **Ebonie Bailey - Iowa Black Doula Collective**

- <https://www.facebook.com/IowaBlackDoulas>
  - Doula Bag videos are available to provide further information
- Jazzmine Brooks: ibdoulascollective@gmail.com
- Ebonie Bailey: naturallyebonie@gmail.com

### **CCNC -- Update**

***HCCI/CCNC MCAH SPM3 Overview PDF link on the HCCI website at***

<https://www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants>

This document includes information about the 25 year history of the HCCI program, child care in Iowa, Child Care Nurse Consultant services and FY21 performance measure data. Thank you to all of our local CCNCs for their excellent work this past year and throughout the pandemic!

The following have also been updated on the HCCI website

<https://www.idph.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants>

- HCCI/CCNC Map (with contact information)
- Sample CCNC MOU for FY22

### **Family Surveys -- please share email from Amanda**

Dear Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholder:

As you may be aware, Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) leads the state-wide collaborative efforts involving education, health, and human services programs to improve results for families with young children, ages 0- 5 years.

Early Childhood Iowa would like to collect feedback from families with young children about their experiences with early childhood programs. The information collected will help us continue improving services so that families have access to what they need, when they need it in our area. Your input is important, and will be kept completely confidential. Whether you choose to participate or not, your services will not be impacted in any way.

Here is a link to an anonymous survey which should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. The survey can be completed in English or Spanish.

We would greatly appreciate your feedback. There is also a QR Code that can be scanned easily to send you to the survey.

[https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8J8J8PwxMEacrie](https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8J8J8PwxMEacrie)

Thank you for your input.

If you have questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your participation in this process to help recruit family voices is greatly appreciated.

### **CCR&R Update - Melissa Juhl**

- IQ4K roll out preparations are underway
- Iowa Women's Foundation announced a new funding opportunity today for child care centers for on-going costs (more details to come via email)

### **ECI Annual Report Information - by Service Type**

- The ECI TA Team has reviewed and approved all 38 local area annual reports. This month updated service type spreadsheets will be used for the ECI FY21 Annual Report. These spreadsheets will be shared with area directors once available per these updates as a reference/resource. (email will be sent out next week)
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### **CC Taskforce Webinar - Dec 16 ; 1:30-3:00pm**

This webinar will highlight activities that are being implemented to support the Governor's Child Care Task Force Report that was released in November. Participants will learn about specific programs that are being planned and why these efforts are prioritized at this time.

- Woodbury County
  - Early Childhood Programs
    - Updates

Lexy Klemish - Siouxland District Health Department HOPES Program: SDHD HOPES is looking to fill 15 more slots ( Lutheran Services in Iowa received funding for 5 more slots). They are looking for Bilingual Spanish or French speaking family support worker.

Bridgid Strait – Crittenton Center HOPES Program: Now hiring Family Support Workers

Kim Schroeder – Mid-Sioux Opportunity Child Care Resource and Referral: Their 23 counties were awarded another \$6 million in Investing in Child Care funds for a total of \$7.5 million. The list for the first round is posted on their website.

Rachael Ostermyer – Community Action Agency of Siouxland: Head Start issued a final rule that mandates all employees receive a Covid Vaccine by January 31, 2022. A mask mandate was issue for Head Start and Early Head Start, effective immediately, on Monday November 29, 2021 for all children and employees.

CAA is experiencing staffing shortages as well as open slots for children.

- Agency Updates / Other Business

Kerri Hall - SHIP Ida/Woodbury ECI RFP

ECI RFP SFY 2022

Timeline (Tentative):

**TIMELINE OF SUBMISSION AND GRANT REVIEW PROCESS (Draft)**

ECI FY2023

- Wednesday, February 2, 2022 - RFP Release Date (Tentative)
- Wednesday, February 9, 2022 - RFP ECI Bidders Conference
- Tuesday, March 15, 2022 – **Application Submission Deadline 4:30 PM**
- Tuesday, March 22, 2022 – Grant Review process begins
- **TBD, May XX, 2022** - Grant Review Meeting @ Northwest AEA – Room G or Zoom (**New Location?**)
- Friday, May 20, 2022 - SHIP Board of Directors meeting with final approval of committee recommendations
- Monday, May 23, 2021 - Funding notifications (pending state budget allocation)

SHIP ECI team is redesigning the RFP/RFA process, application, grant review, policies, and procedures

SHIP ECI Designation (Every 4 Years)

Last Designation was SFY 2020 – we were given an extension for Covid

Next Designation - Submit Materials October 31, 2024 (Mid-Cycle April – October 2022)

This next RFP will be written for 3 years for FY2023 through FY2025

So that the new SHIP ECI RFP will then be written for (4 years) SFY 2026 through SFY 2030 that will then align with the next Designation

- Next Meeting is February 3, 2022