



Woodbury County Early Childhood Committee Meeting

Siouxland Human Investment Partnership

Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, June 1, 2017 10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Meeting Site: Northwest AEA – Room F

Attendees: Kim Schroeder (Committee Chair), Linsey Gilbert, Erika McWell, Mona Scaletta, Jocelyn Flattery, Mary Groen, Kim Burrack, Terrie Binneboese, Brenda Jenkins

Staff present: Kerri Hall

Woodbury County Early Childhood Committee welcomes Brenda Jenkins as a new committee member.

- Early Childhood Iowa Levels of Excellence
 - Recommendation to State Board

Committee reviewed the Early Childhood Iowa Department of Management's scoring recommendations to the State Board of Directors for the submitted Levels of Excellence Matrix. The Matrix Scoring for the Ida/Woodbury County Early Childhood Iowa Area will be submitted to the State Board for approval June 2, 2017. Recommendation: The Ida/Woodbury Early Childhood Iowa Area Board (SHIP) has met the requirements for a Compliant Levels of Excellence designation.

- Iowa Department of Management Summary

Committee reviewed the Iowa Department of Management's Summary and Recommendations rational for submitted Levels of Excellence Matrix. The Iowa Department of Management Summary and Recommendations for the Ida/Woodbury County Early Childhood Iowa Area will be submitted to the State Board for approval June 2, 2017. Iowa Department of Management is offering technical assistance to be provided upon request to the Ida/Woodbury Early Childhood Iowa Director as they have written in the Summary that the director is still "relatively new" in the position.

- Community Priorities and Indicators
 - Screenings for Developmental Delays
 - Verbiage and Memo

Committee reviewed, confirmed, and solidified outline and mandates for the Ages and Stages Questionnaire. Mandate has been written in provider's new fiscal year 2018

contracts that will begin July 1, 2018. Child Care Nurse Consultant, Linsey Gilbert, will continue to provide training to all preschool and child care environments receiving Early Childhood Iowa funding within the Early Childhood Iowa Area. Developmental Delay Screens will be allowed to take place prior to the designated screening period but children must be screened before completion date.

- Early Childhood Iowa Area Scholarships
 - Sliding Fee Scale
 - Sub-Committee Recalibration

A sub-committee was assembled for recalibration of the ECI Sliding Fee Scale. The sub-committee considered how to support all families after sustaining cuts to the fiscal year 2018 funding streams. Committee reviewed and approved the sub-committee's recommendations.

- Legislative Update
 - National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)
 - Preschool Development Grants (PDG's) funding elimination

Committee reviewed NIEER's State of Preschool 2016 – "*Change is in the Air (NIEER) has released The State of Preschool 2016, (<http://nieer.org/state-preschool-yearbooks/yearbook2016>) showing state-funded preschool program enrollment reached an all-time high, serving nearly 1.5 million children; state funding for preschool rose 8 percent to about \$7.4 billion, and state funding per child exceeded pre-recession levels for the first time. But our evaluation also reveals how much more states must do to provide high quality preschool. The Yearbook tells a story of growing inequality in access to high-quality preschool as some states invested in providing high-quality preschool for all children and others did little, or nothing. In 18 states, we found federal Preschool Development Grants (PDGs) were used to expand enrollment and enhance programs. PDGs funded nearly half the increase in enrollment of 4-year-olds. The PDG program was designed to accomplish this goal, but the new administration's budget would eliminate the \$249 million program. Rather than cutting PDG, we argue for doubling funding for some form of competitive grants to states would allow the federal government to incentivize high quality preK in the majority of states, while still the size of a dust mote in the federal budget. In addition, NIEER's report recommends the federal government support a national pre-K quality audit of public and private preschool programs. Parents and taxpayers deserve to know to the extent to which pre-K programs in their state provide a good early education and how this varies by auspice. The last nationwide study of pre-K quality in 2005 found that most classrooms, private and public, were not good. Yet, high quality is needed in order to provide young children the strong start in school and life that can make a lasting difference. For the first time, NIEER this year introduced major revisions to the quality standards benchmarks (<http://nieer.org/2017/05/26/state-preschool-2016-raising-bar-quality>) focusing on policies that more directly support continuous improvement of classroom quality. These new benchmarks are providing the GPS to guide policymakers toward sound investments in our children's futures. The State of Preschool Yearbook (<http://nieer.org/state-preschool-yearbooks/yearbook2016>) provides a guide for states and valuable information for parents and policymakers. But only an impartial assessment of children's experiences in the classroom can tell whether we are headed in the right direction."*

- Agency Updates / Other Business

Kim Schroeder – Iowa Department of Human Services Director - Charles Palmer announces resignation. Child Care Resource & Referral is still looking for a candidate to fill the Child Care Consultant position for Woodbury County. Please contact CCR&R for details.

Mona – Mercy Child Advocacy Center hired a new therapist and a new nurse

- Moving to new facility next week Jackson and 7th – next to the helicopter pad
- Changes to the mandatory child abuse reporting protocol for medical professionals to be announced
- Siouxland District Health 4th Accreditation Notification

Kim – Still looking for CC consultant for Woodbury Co.

July meeting has been cancelled – next meeting will be august

- Adjourn

Next Meeting is Thursday 8/3/2017