

Dallas County Early Childhood Committee

Minutes/Notes

October 23, 2014

28059 Fairgrounds Road

Adel, Iowa 50003

9:45 A.M.

Attendance

Jenny Felt, Debb Franz, Lisa Mickelson, Christia Schalk, Terra Frank, Erica Wagner, Katie Bee, Kristi Wellendorf, Paula Klocke, Carlye Wellman, Jennifer Walters, Myra Wilms, Ann Cochran and Debra Schrader.

Announcements and Information

Toddlerfest - The Dallas County Toddlerfest date has been moved from April 18, 2014 to May 2, 2015 at the Dallas County Fairgrounds.

Story Time - There are numerous story times for toddlers in Adel, DeSoto, Granger, Perry, Van Meter, Waukee, and Woodward.

Mobile Food - There is the mobile food pantry November 1, 2014 at Crossroads Church in Perry from 10-12:00. Families can receive up to 20 food items and are encouraged to bring their own bags.

Preschool Experience - Deb is in the process of gathering the preschool experience rate and hope to have the data at the December 11 meeting.

Preschool Scholarships - 4 R Kids Preschool tuition scholarship requests are down this year, currently there are 123 children receiving scholarships and last year there were 222 children. The group discussed possible reasons for the decline in requests, such as a turn in the economy, there weren't as many children born, etc.

Hunger Free Initiative - Discussion regarding hunger and meal packaging will be today at 3:00 at the Adel Library.

Health Care- New enrollment through the market place will start November 1 and fines will be instituted this year for those that do not sign up for health insurance.

Unity Point - Terra Brewer, Unity Point Pediatric Care Coordinator provided an overview of the care coordinators and how Obamacare has affected practice.

Mental Health Resources - Deb drafted a mental health resource document with Dallas County and surrounding resources. The purpose of the document is to have a user friendly list of resources for the helping profession in order to better assist families. The document is not intended for emergency use. Deb will make updates and bring back to the December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00

The next meeting is December 11, 2014 at 9:45.