

Dallas County Early Childhood Committee

Minutes/Notes

November 14, 2012

28059 Fairgrounds Road

Adel, Iowa 50003

1:00

Attendance

Myra Willms, Bob Ockerman, Peggy Steckline,, Jovanka Westbrook, Michelle Mains, Christy Wellenbors, Tracy Ostendorf, Laurie Wernli, Dena Owens, Jeremy Johnson Miller, Tammy Engebretson, Libby Schuler, Becky Strable, Shirley, McAdon, Bob Ockerman, Sara Black, Jennifer Downs, Colleen Theis, and Debra Schrader.

Announcements and Information Sharing

Embrace Iowa – Community Action Agencies have funding from Embrace Iowa which is sponsored by the Des Moines Register and community donors. The funds run from November 1 through January 15 and can be used for up to \$500 for items of need, such as car repairs. Contact New Opportunities in Perry for more information.

Community Survey – The 4 R Kids ECI Board is in the process of updating the community plan as it is a requirement for levels of excellence. A draft of a community survey was discussed. The draft has been taken to Warren, Madison, and Adair county Early Childhood committees for input. The survey will be conducted in the early spring by hard copy and on line.

Board evaluation – The 4 R Kids ECI Area board is looking for members of the public that have attended at least one board meeting to conduct an evaluation of the board. The evaluation can be completed by hard copy or online. The results are utilized to draft the professional development plan for the Board.

Fiscal Assessment – An in-depth fiscal assessment is required to be completed as part of the community plan. This will be able to be done online or hard copy. More information will be coming out in the next few weeks. The fiscal assessment asks questions to agencies that serve the 0-5 population, funding, sources, numbers served are part of the questions.

First Five – Sara Black with Visiting Nurse Services provided a presentation on First Five. The project assists medical practitioners in linking children ages 0-5 experience developmental issues to appropriate community resources.

Preschool Experience Rate – Deb shared data regarding the preschool experience rate for Dallas County and the 4 R Kids Area. Dallas County preschool experience rate for FY2013 is 83.6% with Dallas Center Grimes with the lowest rate of 47.6% and Perry with the second to lowest rate of 74.8%. The four county area rate was 85.4%.

Dental Screenings – Local preschools noted their concerns with the not being able to have the dental screenings that were scheduled at several preschools in October which affected more than 180 children. Deb will follow-up in regards to the challenges.

Marketing- The Play Symposium by IAEYC (Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children) was discussed. A target audience was also discussed. Myra will do more research and connect with Deb. It was consensus to do a spring event.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40. The next meeting will be Wednesday February 13, 2013 at the Dallas County Extension office.

Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader, Executive Director 4 R Kids ECI Area