

Program and Service Committee Meeting
December 30, 2011
8:00 A.M.
Support Services
306 Public Square, Greenfield 50849

The meeting was held at Support Services, with a telephone conference option.

Board members present

Kendalyn Huff, John Jakes, and Amy Kimball; members absent, Ann Bass; others present, Debra Schrader
Those joining by phone Amy, John and Deb. Meeting began 8:10

The purpose of the meeting is to provide recommendation to the 4 R Kids ECI area board regarding a replacement contractor for the Madison County home visitation service. Family Directions of Iowa is terminating their Madison County PAT contract effective January 10, 2012.

Prior to the meeting the committee members were provided with detailed demographic data of the current programs. This data was gathered from the required the monthly tracking tool along with cost per visit rate. A one page written proposal from Partners in Family Development, Adair, County ISU Extension, and Lutheran Services of Iowa were also reviewed. The proposals detailed the capacity of the agency's to provide home visitation services in Madison County, no budgets were requested to be submitted with the proposals.

The committee discussed, in detail the benchmarks and progress currently being made by the three contractors. It was noted that Adair County ISU Extension is challenged meeting the current benchmarks. There was concern if they can really do more; there has also been a leadership change. They use the PAT model and they will be receiving a family support credential in the spring which is both positives.

It was noted that Partners in Family Development are meeting their benchmarks. The proposal included a plan to increase the number of families to 30; currently 21 families are being served by Family Directions. The PAT model is being utilized which is a positive.

It was noted that Lutheran Services of Iowa benchmarks are being met. The Healthy Families America model is being utilized which is different than the current program.

It was consensus that replacing one model with a different model may be more of a difficult transition for families. Additionally, if at all possible retaining the current staff would be helpful in the transition to a new agency; however it would be the agency's decision on hiring the current staff.

After much discussion it is recommended that Partners in Family Development be provided with a contract amendment to provide Parents as Teachers services in Madison County for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Funding was discussed. It is estimated that there will be approximately \$22,000 left in the Family Directions contract, which ends January 10, 2012. Additionally there is \$7,000 unallocated of school ready flexible funds if there is a need to fill gaps in the transition. It was consensus to have Partners in Family Development submit a budget not to exceed \$22,000 to serve the families in Madison County for the remainder of the year. If there is an identified need for additional funding, the committee will review at a later date. The budget will be sent to the committee for review.

Next meeting is February 3 at 12:00 at a location to be determined. Agenda items include review of semi-annual progress reports and an update on the Madison County PAT transition.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 .