

Dallas County Early Childhood Committee

Minutes/Notes

August 15, 2012

28059 Fairgrounds Road

Adel, Iowa 50003

1:00

Attendance

Myra Willms, Bob Ockerman, Peggy Steckline, Chris Lee, Leslie Stonehocker, Jean Yanders, Connie Jackson, Jovanka Westbrook, Val Cameron, Janelle Stribe, Vivian Degonzalez, Michelle Mains, Joy Rouse, Leslie Elizalde, Darci Alt, and Debra Schrader.

Announcements and Information Sharing

Introductions were made and members shared what they would be eating at the State Fair.

Group Parent Education – Partners in Family Development has taken the lead in constructing a Group Parent Education calendar that encompasses several agencies and programs.

Child Care Provider training – Myra provided an update regarding higher level trainings for child care providers.

Waukee Fest – The Waukee Fest 2012 will be August 25 in Waukee. The day will consist of a parade, craft vendors, kids activities, local entertainment, and food vendors.

Funding Opportunities – Build a Bear has grants available and is due August 31. Up to \$5000 can provide direct support children's health and wellness.

Mental Health Redesign – Darci Alt with Dallas County Community Services provided the committee with an overview of the redesign of mental health. Counties will be required to regionalize/merge and the only criteria is they must be contiguous. Dallas County is currently in conversation with several counties and a letter of intent is required to be submitted by April 1, 2013. Dallas County clients will not see a major change as core services and core plus services are currently offered and that will not change, how services are delivered may look different.

Health Navigation – Dallas County Public Health, Vivian and Peggy, provided the group with an overview of the health navigation system - www.co.dallas.ia.us/resource/. The primary goal is to assist the health care providers find resources for clients, the second goal is to assist clients in navigating services, such as assisting with applications for food assistance, medical, etc. For more information contact Vivian at 515-993-1763.

4 R Kids Update – The FY2012 annual report has been completed and the showcase summary was provided highlighting the FY2012 program results. This will be on the website once the website is up and running again. Bob updated the committee that he participated in a state ECI board retreat

Marketing- Early childhood marketing ideas were discussed. The committee was in agreement that a Play Symposium by IAIEYC (Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children) would be a great marketing and educational event for Dallas County. A Play Symposium lasts about 3 ½ hours is could be open to anyone, child care providers are likely a target audience. Leslie Stonehocker and Myra Wilms will work on the details for an April spring event. The 4 R Kids ECI area board has \$500 to support efforts. It was also discussed that the Dallas County Child Advocacy Council may be interested in collaborating on the event.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30. The next meeting will be Wednesday November 14, 2012 at 1:00 at the Dallas County Extension office.

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