

**Madison County Early Childhood Committee  
Minutes**

Tuesday, October 14, 2014  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
1120 N. 8th Street  
Winterset Iowa 50273

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**Meeting began at 6:00 and ended at 6:45.**

**Attendance**

Janet Reutzell, Myra Wilms, Kate Honer, Lynette Judd, Mindy Bencik, Janelle Peiffer, Myrna Kepford, Jovanka Westbrook, Cynthia Nitchels, and Deb Schrader

**4 R Kids Annual Report**

The FY14 annual report is available and can be found at [www.4rkids-eci.org](http://www.4rkids-eci.org). Additionally, the executive summary was disseminated.

**4th Annual Appreciation Reception**

The 4 R Kids ECI Board invited everyone to attend the 4th Annual Appreciation Reception December 4, 2014 from 5:30-7:30 at Summerset Winery. Invitations were disseminated.

**Child Care Data**

The FY14 CCRR data for Madison County was reviewed. It was noted it is difficult to engage child care providers in registration as well as QRS. Currently about 19% of providers have a QRS rating. The average cost of care for infant in a child development home is \$130 and a center is \$172. It was also noted that nationally Iowa ranks 43rd among all states for quality child care. Reasons for the low rating is providers do not need to be registered to receive state child care assistance and we have little to no enforcement laws supporting child care. It was discussed that this needs to be priority for legislators and that they need to be informed how Iowa ranks in the United States.

**Mental Health Resources**

A draft of local mental health resources was shared with the group. The purpose of the document/tool is to provide a user friendly document that providers and/or families could use. There was much discussion regarding the need for mental health services locally. Community partners were encouraged to let Deb know of other mental health resources that are available and they will be added to the list. This will be an item on December's meeting agenda with hopes to have final copy ready to post on the website in January.

**Next Meetings**

The next meeting will be December 9, 2014, 2014 at the St. Paul Lutheran Church.  
Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader, 4 R Kids Director