

# Madison County Early Childhood Committee Minutes

Tuesday April 12, 2016  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
1120 N. 8th Street  
Winterset Iowa 50273

---

**Meeting began at 6:00 and ended at :645**

## **Attendance**

Barb LaGrange, Carol Peterson, Janet Reutzler, Lynette Judd, Carol Liechty, Cynthia Nitchels, Myrna Kepford, Janelle Peiffer, Haley Love, and Debra Schrader.

## **Legislative Updates**

There were several bill of interest that were discussed, SF2299 ECI bill, a hair braiding bill. A list of weird bills. The Iowa legislature is to adjourn April 14, 2016, however it is doubtful.

## **CCRR**

Child Care Resource and Referral will be hosting meetings to provide information of the changes in child care for Iowa. April 21 at 1:00 is for center and preschool directors, April 21st at 6:30 is for registered child care homes, and April 25th at 6:30 is for non-registered child care homes. All meetings will be at Grace United Methodist Church , 3700 Cottage Grove Ave, Des Moines Iowa.

## **4 R Kids Board Update**

- The 4 R Kids community survey is being distributed and will be completed in May.
- The Board is looking for board members and will have an open position for Madison County in January.
- The 4 Kids Board will conduct a fiscal assessment that is required in law to be completed every three years.

## **Madison County Strengths and Areas of Improvement**

The 4 R Kids Board will be updating the community plan and requested input from the group regarding strengths and areas of improvement in Dallas County.

### **Strengths**

- All three school districts receive state wide voluntary preschool funding and are QPPS rated.
- Quality services.
- High level of trust. Collaboration, coordination and connection among agencies
- Services for the elderly.
- Food resources has increased to 3 locations.
- Public transportation system works hard to try and meet the needs.

### **Areas of Improvement**

- Disconnected services.
- Retail leakage.
- Need a recreation center that includes indoor pool and other resources for year round services
- Need more for young people to do.
- Transportation options for summer and transportation for rural areas.
- Quality child care.

## **Toddlerfest**

The Madison County Toddlerfest was April 9, 2016 at the Winterset Elementary with about 100 in attendance.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be June 14, 2016 at the St. Paul Lutheran Church.  
Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader, 4 R Kids Director