

Warren County Early Childhood Committee

Minutes/Notes

June 5, 2013

10:00 A.M.

515 North Jefferson Way

Wells Fargo Building

Indianola, Iowa 50125

Attendance

Val Cameron, Janelle Peiffer, Bonnie Forsythe, Nichole Smith, Shelly Jensen, Jovanka Westbrook, Jason White, Colleen Reisener, Colleen Theis, Myra Willms, and Debra Schrader.

Announcements and Information

IFS Credential - Jovanka with Partners in Family Development announced that Parents as Teachers has earned the Iowa Family Support Credential and will be celebrating June 27th at 3:00. Invitations and announcements will go out to the community soon. This has been a three year process.

CPPC - It was announced that Sarah Hoenshelt will be pursuing a focus on serving child care providers in utilizing a new provider based curriculum of Al's Pals. This will complement the work that CCRR and ECI are currently doing to support early care environments. It would be helpful if Sarah could attend the Warren County EC meetings to share the progress.

IFAPA - It was announced that the Iowa Foster Adoptive Parents Association, Regina Johnson, may benefit from attending the EC meetings as well. For more information about IFAPA the website is www.ifapa.org. Deb will add her to the distribution list.

SNAP - Cindy Jones with the Iowa Food Bank Association assists families in completing food assistance applications and will go to their home if needed. For more information call 319-526-0533.

HIPP - HIPP is a health insurance premium payment program to people to get Medicaid (Title 19). The program helps people get or keep health insurance through their employer and reimburses the cost of the health insurance premium. For more information contact Tara Auspach with Iowa Medicaid Enterprise at 515-974-3039.

Child Abuse Data - Colleen shared the recent released child abuse data from DHS that is located on the Prevent Child Abuse Iowa website www.pcaiowa.org. It was reported that there were 11,637 unduplicated children that were confirmed abused in Iowa for FY2012 which is a decline of 110. Warren County had 153 abused children which is down 8 from the previous year. It has been consistent that about 50% of abused children in Iowa are under the age of 5. Warren county abused children under the age of five was 43.1%.

4 R Kids Board - The 4 R Kids ECI area board has issued letters of intent to award and are still waiting on concrete allocations. An updated list of programs was provided and will be added to the website. It is noted this was the second year of a three year grant cycle and that an open RFP will not be open until FY2016. Contracts will not be issued until official notification has been received from ECI.

Legislative Update - There was new language added to legislation in HF604 at the last minute that states "*Restricts membership on ECI area boards to no more than one member representing the same entity or interest*" and "*Restricts ECI area boards from providing services to or for the area board.*" There was also language change in SF 446 that ECI funding from TANF is changed to State General Funds. Based on the language, it is believed that the funding formula remains the same as current for the early childhood funding. The administrative rules will go into further detail how this new language impacts local areas. Other areas to note is that Shared Visions received a \$2 million increase and First Five received a \$1 increase. It was surprising that increases were provided for since the message was no increases would be allowed.

Community Plan - The committee spent an time reviewing sections of the community plan. It was noted that pieces of the 54 page community plan has been brought to the committee since last August and that this has been a work in progress. The Board will most likely take action regarding the plan at the June board meeting. The 4 R Kids area profile was reviewed with little changes. A lively discussion around the assets and challenges was conducted and some changes were added. It was noted it would be beneficial to have information from the Iowa Policy Project regarding the actual cost of living included somewhere in the community plan. The mapping of child care providers and centers was also discussed. There is more recent data that can be added and Janelle will review the information and provide corrections. It was noted that approximately 30% of the child care providers have a QRS and it is higher than the state average. A team of 5 people, 2 board members and 3 community members are reviewing the full community plan and providing feedback to needed changes. Additionally, they have been provided with a checklist to make sure required elements are in the community plan. It was discussed as to ways the community plan can be utilized. Jason indicated it would be a great tool to use for Warren County Economic Development and it would provide a great overview of what the area looks like. Jovanka with Partners in Family Development indicated she would be using this with new staff orientation. Colleen with the Warren County Prevent Child Abuse Council utilizes the information to write grants. Deb indicated she will use several pieces of the plan to conduct presentations to civic groups or other interested parties. It is noted that while it is a requirement to have a community plan, it's more important that it is useful to the community.

Warren County Support Groups - The support group 1 pager which is now 2 pages was reviewed and corrections were made. This will be added to the website.

County Meetings - Deb has drafted a list of 8 different meetings for FY2014. This has the contact name, number, where the meetings are held and all the FY2014 potential dates. This will go on the 4 R Kids website along with other county meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 There is no July meeting, The next meeting is August 7, 2013.