

Dallas County Coalition

Minutes
Lutheran Church of Hope Waukee
305 N.E. Dartmoor
Waukee, Iowa 50263
10:30am -12:00pm
Wednesday May 27, 2020

Attendance and Introductions

Kirsten Johnson (American Lung Association), Myra Willms (ISU Extension), Val Cameron (ISU Extension), Joy Greer (Family Connections), Amber Schelling (Every Step), Kyra Sorenson (Every Step), Kelly Phelps (CCRR), Michelle Greenough (CCRR), Mary Krisco (ISU Extension), Jenny Felt (CPPC/DCAT), Dena Owens (Providence Place), Jeanette Luthringer (Every Step), Colleen Theis (LSI), Hannah Vader Kopso (CIAC), Abigail Chihak (Dallas County Public Health) Suzanne Hegarty (Dallas County Public Health), Ann Cochran (Dallas County Public Health), Gina Wells (CCRR), Marisue Hartung (ISU Extension), Amy Karaidos (Every Step), Tonya Weber (New Opps), Jeannette Luthringer (Every Step) Abigail (CIAC) Karen Goff (Broadlawns) and Debra Schrader (4 R Kids ECI).

COVID-19 Response

- The 4 R Kids ECI area received a \$1,000 from Iowa Communities Insurance Pool to provide infrared thermometers for child care providers.
- Eat Greater Des Moines has food available to anyone in need, dairy and fresh fruit and vegetables and can be delivered. This is a great resource for child care providers in Dallas, Polk and Warren County.
- Food recovery is being implemented with Fareway and Hy-Vee.
- Toilet paper has been provided by the Des Moines School system for child care providers
- The Federal Cares Act will provide stimulus money to licensed and registered providers.

Agency Sharing

- WIC is providing services by phone, no face to face appointments required of participants. There has been a 4% increase in the state of Iowa for WIC benefits and of the 5%, 34% of the increase is from Polk, Dallas, and Jasper County. Flexibility has been provided to participants.
- Kirsten Johnson is the new American Lung Association representative for Dallas County.
- New Opportunities will have the center based Early Head Start program in Perry up and running this fall.

Early Childhood Updates/Information

- The 4 R Kids ECI board has positions on the board.
- The Board will be renewing all current contracts at the same amount or slightly more for FY21, however there is an expectation there will be funding cuts of 10% or more during the new fiscal year.
- The legislature will resume June 3, 2020.
- Assets and challenges were reviewed for the 4 R Kids Community Plan. Deb will be updating the community plan to be ready for designation in FY21. Quality child care, affordable child care, affordable housing were issues that will go into the community plan.

Dallas County Children's Advocacy Council Updates/Information

- Hannah provided an update regarding the sexual abuse prevention activities. Online training will be conducted until the end of the fiscal year.
- The Council was awarded funding in the amount \$24,047 for sexual abuse prevention education starting in FY21 and is a five year grant.
- Due to the pandemic, limited awareness was conducted, however Val managed the Facebook page and provided regular posts and the proclamation with the supervisors was done. The Pizza for Prevention was unable to be completed.
- FY19 Child abuse data was reviewed, there were 131 children abused and 56.6% were under the age of 5.

Generation Wellness Update/Information

- Nothing new to report.

Next meeting: June 24, 2020 at 10:30 to be held virtually.

Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader

