

Dallas County Coalition

Minutes
By Zoom
10:30am -12:00 pm
Wednesday June 23, 2021

Meeting Handouts

A [Dallas County Meeting Folder](#) has been implemented for meeting handouts and other agency information. Go [here](#) to access the information and it is open to the public. Meeting agendas and minutes are located at www.4rkids-eci.org.

Attendance and Introductions

Ann Cochran (Dallas County Public Health), Myra Willms (ISU Extension), Val Cameron (ISU Extension) Kelly Phelps (CCRR), Kyra Sorensen (Every Step), Rachel Bardwell (Short Years Partnership), Debb Franz (Juvenile Court), Michelle Greenough (CCRR), Dawn Walton (ZION), Hannah Vader Kopsa (CIAC), Marisue Hartung (ISU Extension) Amy Karaidos (Every Step) and Debra Schrader (4 R Kids ECI).

COVID-19 Information and Resources

All counties in Iowa are eligible to receive [American Rescue Funds](#) and Dallas County is eligible for \$18.1 million as well as West Des Moines of \$7.6 million. The funds can be used for the following:

- Support public health response: Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare and certain public health and safety staff
- Address negative economic impacts: Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, and nonprofits, or impacted industries and re-hiring of public sector workers
- Replace public sector revenue loss: Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
- Premium pay for essential workers: Offer additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure. Funds can be used retroactively back to January 27, 2020.
- Water, sewer and broadband infrastructure: Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, invest in wastewater and storm water infrastructure and provide un-served or underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access.

The Dallas County operations administrator will be invited to the next meeting to provide an overview of what Dallas County will do with the funds.

Agency Updates

- Short Years Partnership – there are two new educators, one speaks Spanish and one speaks Arabic.
- Every Step – the child care nurse consultant has been providing guidance to child care programs regarding the new Covid pandemic rules; child care programs are suffering about a 10% child outage due to illnesses.
- CIAC – The annual garage sale was a success and raised about \$8,000; the Boutin car show is 9-18-21.
- Dallas County Public Health – there are farmer's market vouchers available.
- CCRR – in person visits have started again.
- ZION – June 27th is PTSD and LGBTQ awareness day.
- Dallas County Extension – HIRTA will not be providing preschool transportation this year; Marisue Hartung will be retiring at the end of June.

Early Childhood Updates/Information

- The Board has one open position in Dallas for the board, contact Deb for more information.
- The Board will issue an RFP for a prenatal project this fall.
- Medicaid births were reviewed; Dallas County Medicaid birth rate is 17.9% and is 2nd lowest in the state.
- The MIECHV needs assessment is available and

Dallas County Children's Advocacy Council Updates/Information

- Val is a Connections Matter facilitator and is required to provide 2 - 50 minutes trainings or 1 – 2 hour training or 1 – 4 hour training.
- CIAC has served a total of 58 with sexual abuse prevention training for FY21. One of the trainings was in person with child care staff. In FY22 foster parents will be a focus for training.
- Of the \$24,000 budget all but \$7,166 has been expended to date.

The next meeting is 8-25-21 at 10:30 by Zoom. Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader.
The September meeting will be held in person.