

# Dallas County Coalition

Minutes  
By Zoom  
10:30 am -11:45 pm  
Wednesday August 25, 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](http://www.4rkids-eci.org).

## Attendance and Introductions

Ann Cochran (Dallas County Public Health), Myra Willms (ISU Extension), Kelly Phelps (CCRR), Becky Borgman (Every Step), Rachel Bardwell (Short Years Partnership), Debb Franz (Juvenile Court), Dawn Walton (ZION), Hannah Vader Kopsa (CIAC), Jeanette Luthringer (Every Step), Nicole Soyer (New Opportunities), Alexis Garcia (CIAC), Kirsten Johnson (American Lung), Damon Clarke (ZION), Lexi Kasel (CIAC), Brian Moorhead (ZION), Hannah Vander Kopsa (CIAC), Amanda McCall (Zion) 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 cities and towns in Dallas County, for a total of more than \$41 million.
- Mediacom is offering reduced rates for internet.
- Rent assistance is available.

## Agency Updates

- Short Years Partnership – A drive through baby shower will be conducted in West Des Moines, near the new Short Years office across from Culvers on Jordan Creek Parkway. Agencies are encouraged to provide brochures and other information. Contact Rachel Bardwell for more information.
- Every Step – the child care nurse consultant has been providing guidance to child care providers and many child care staff have been out due to COVID-19 or exposure, posing coverage issues in centers and homes.
- CIAC – The Boutin car show is 9-18-21, a Corning Country Club golf fundraiser is 9-11-21. Several new staff have joined CIAC.
- Dallas County Public Health – 3 children have been hospitalized due to COVID-19 in Dallas County.
- CCRR – Kelly will be on maternity leave starting 10-1-21. Anyone wanted to start a child care business is to contact Kelly.
- American Lung – The work plan for FY22 will include policy assistance in child care businesses.
- Dallas County Extension – Extension is in the process of putting up a new administrative building on the fairgrounds. Mental health training (Circle of Security) is being offered to child care providers in which they can receive 16 hours of child care training credit.

## Early Childhood Updates/Information

- The Board has one open position in Dallas for the board, contact Deb for more information.
- The Board will release a RFP for a prenatal project on August 30, 2021 with the goal of serving high risk pregnant mothers and referring them to family support programs.
- FY21 Executive Summary was shared with the group.
- U.S. Census data was reviewed. Dallas County had a 50.7% increase in population from 2010 to 2020 and remains the fastest growing county in Iowa, additionally Dallas County is the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest growing county in the United States. Due to large increases in population in Waukee, the city will now be required to have policies and procedures for rental properties.
- Woods and Poole population estimates for children under the age of 5 was shared with the group.
- Dallas County Health Rankings were shared. Of the 8 indicators, Dallas County ranks number 1 in several areas and in the top 5 of 6 of the 8 indicators.

## Dallas County Children's Advocacy Council Updates/Information

- The FY21 Dallas County Children's Advocacy showcase was shared. CIAC has served a total of 54 adults were with sexual abuse prevention training for FY21 and \$24,621 was expended.
- Sexual abuse prevention programming has begun for FY22 and CIAC is collaborating with Four Oaks and the foster care system. Training was provided with 48 in attendance.
- Prevent Child Abuse Iowa will offer regional meetings virtually September 9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>.

The next meeting is 9-22-21 at 10:30 in person at Waukee Church of Hope. Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader.