

Dallas County Coalition

Minutes
By Zoom
10:30am – 11:45 am
Wednesday March 23, 2022

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

Val Cameron (Dallas County ISUEO), Karen Goff (Broadlawns WIC Polk/Dallas), Myra Willms (Dallas County ISUEO), Christina Schalk (New Opportunities), Jeannette Luthringer (Every Step), Stephanie Redig (New Opportunities), Michelle Greenough (CCR&R), Hannah Vander Kopsa (CIAC), Lisa Carstens (Zion), Dawn Walton (Zion), Nancy Godfrey (Zion), Lisa Carstens (Zaion), Brian Moorhead (Zion), Dawn Holt (LSI), Carol Bayer (New Opps), Abigail Chihak (Dallas County Public Health), Kyra Sorensen (Every Step), Hannah VanderKopsa (CIAC) and Debra Schrader (4 R Kids)

Presentation

Abigail Chihak provided a presentation regarding the community health needs assessment and gathered input from the group.

Agency and Other Information

- Lisa Carstens, ZION Integrated Behavioral Health Services, shared March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month. According to the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, Iowa bettors wagered a record \$303.3 million in January. The previous Iowa sports betting handle record was \$287.2 million in November of 2021. The January 2022 handle is a sharp increase of 103% over January 2021, the first month without in-person registration requirements in Iowa. The state did collect \$964,525.43 in sales tax revenue from sports wagering. Here's a link that talks about the distribution of gaming sales tax revenue for Iowa Counties to utilize: <https://www.iowagaming.org/>.
- Christina Schalk with Head Start is recruiting for fall enrollment. It has been noted that transportation is an issue.
- Myra with ISU Extension is offering Circle of Security training for child care providers and they also get training credit.
- Abigail Chihak shared over a 7 day average there were 30 COVID cases per 100,000 and the vaccination rate is 66% fully vaccinated.
- Jeanette Luthringer of Every Step shared they will apply for the CCNC contract through IDPH to serve Polk, Warren, Dallas and Madison County.
- Stephanie Redig of New Opps shared heat assistance ends April 1, there may be crisis funding to assist families. Additionally, there is water assistance available up to \$2500 per family per federal.
- Claire Mraz with Every Step shared there is a black doula pilot project that serves Polk County.
- Michelle Greenough with CRRR/Orchard Place shared she is assisting child care providers with the stabilizing and recruiting ARA funding applications. The QRS system end March 15, 2022 and the new IQ4K begins April 1, 2022.
- Karen Goff with Broadlawns applied to IDPH for the WIC program and it will include Dallas, Madison, Polk and Warren County.

Early Childhood Updates/Information

- The 4RKids Board has filled all positions on the board, however there could be a possibility of a Dallas County position open soon.
- A brief overview was provided regarding 3 child care bills and other bills of interest.
- The office of Early Childhood Iowa has officially moved from the Department of Management to the Department of Human Services effective February 2022 through a MOU. It is unclear how this will impact local ECI boards.
- Medicaid birth data, death versus birth data was reviewed.

Dallas County Children's Advocacy Council Updates/Information

- Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month – The Council will present at the County Board of Supervisors meeting April 5, 2022 to adopt a child abuse awareness proclamation; Val will be putting articles in the news papers, putting pinwheel vases out and a banner on the human service campus lawn. The Facebook page will be active and stakeholders are encouraged to like and repost if possible.
- Hyvee will be sponsoring a dime per donut as a fundraiser for the council. Its possible that Papa Murphys will also do a fundraiser, Pizza for Prevention.
- There will be a Connections Matter training following the next Coalition meeting April 27, 2022.
- The contract with the Department of Human Services is doing contract renewals this year for sexual abuse prevention programming.
- Val participated in the FY21 evaluation of the programming from last year with Prevent Child Abuse Iowa.
- Hannah provided an update on sexual abuse prevention programming happening in Dallas County.

Next meeting: April 27, 2022 will be held by Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Schrader