

Corner Counties Early Childhood Area
EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY 4, 2011 1:30 PM
PAGE COUNTY WEST BUILDING, SHENANDOAH, IA 51601

Call to order/ Welcome/Introductions

Present: Rachel Jewell/ Kornerstone Kids Child Care; Linda Orme/ Positive Family/ SWIF; Heidi Lowthorp/GSF-Fremont; Judy Foutch/Essex Child Center; Joan Gallagher/Taylor County Public Health; Pam Herzberg/Corner Counties Early Childhood Area Director; Kathleen Keefer/Positive Family-SWIF, Lois Jean Ellison/CCECA Board member; Cathy Stockwell/WCCA-EHS; Deb Martens/WCCA-CCR&R; Debra Morrison/WCCA-CCR&R; Angie Lutt/Stork's Nest-SWIF; Julia Cavin/Clarinda Community Preschool; Karen Bodwell/WCCA Headstart; Renee Bond/GSF-Page; Julie Streitenberger/Grandma's House Day Care; Andrew Hoppman/Lied Public Library – Clarinda; Molly Kotval/United Health Care-Hawk-i.

Minutes from October 12, 2010

Minutes from the October 12, 2010 Early Childhood committee meeting were distributed electronically and copies were made available at the meeting.

Program Sharing Time

- Pam Herzberg/CCECA Director – The board will be looking at updating the indicators prior to the next fiscal year. The board is meeting telephonically this month. If anyone is interested they should go to the Foundation Office in Clarinda on January 11, 2011 at 5:15 PM. Pam had copies of the information regarding the Early Childhood Congress for those interested.
- Kathleen Keefer/Positive Family – Turned the last of the information requested from HFA for Accreditation.
- Judy Foutch – Essex Child Care is doing a lot of fundraising right now. They are doing a Chili Supper this Friday. Free Will Donation.
- Heidi Lowthorp – GSF has dropped some clients this past month. She will be presenting a Storyteller program in Sidney and seems to be well received.
- Linda Orme – working with her families
- Renee- GSF Page County has also dropped number last month. She attended the PAT training in St. Louis and learned a lot about autism and Asperger's Syndrome.
- Angie – Stork's Nest numbers are down some too, but still full. She is working on credentialing with Iowa Family Support Credentialing Program.
- Molly Kotval – United Health Care is partnered with Sesame Street and they have a lot of free materials available in different languages. She also has brochures available for Hawk-I.
- Karen Bodwell – Head Start has full enrollment. They are waiting for ECCERs credentialing
- Cathy Stockwell- They have filled the position in Page County for Early Head Start. Lindsey Wagner will start on 1/10/11.
- Mary Kay – busy, busy, busy! Lead and oral screenings will take place this month. Immunizations audit is completed and has been sent to the state. Fremont County Public Health has the last stakeholders meeting (CHNA-HIPP) scheduled for 1/13/11. They have chosen Obesity and Teen Social Skills as targeted projects over the next five years.
- Jeanette Linnenburger – Reach for the Stars grants have been awarded. She had several homes apply for the grants as well centers. It has been very successful. Recall notice: Drop Sided Cribs have been recalled.

- Rachel – Kornerstone Kids hopes to have their level 4 by the end of January.
- Joan Gallagher – Loretta Dillon has retired and Julie Thomas has been hired for that position. There is to be an ICN in Creston on 1/20/11 focused on the Family Support funding coming from the Federal Government.
- Julia Cavin – They will be applying for their level 4 in the spring.
- Andrew Hoppman /Director Clarinda Lied Library – Book Babies program is starting up. The project is partially funded through CCECA. They meet 4 times a month for children ages birth to 3. January 10, 2011 starts the first session.
- Julie Streitenberger – they are doing a lot of fundraising right now. They lost a full time person and she is in the midst of doing lots of interviews. They are working on their level 4.

Targeting Program Awareness

Heidi Lowthorp presented more information about the Storyteller program. She has invited representatives from agencies to come and speak to the families about the services they provide. This is a great venue to spread the word. Notify Heidi if you are interested in doing a short – 5 minute presentation at one of the meetings.

Andrew could refer families to agencies through the book babies program. Each agency is asked to bring 10 pocket folders and 100 brochures for their programs. Folders will be assembled during the next meeting on April 5th.

Jeanette Linnenburger talked about the Reach for the Stars grant process. \$10,500 was awarded to private providers and centers. The money is to be used to make improvements to the services that are provided to children they care for. Judy Foutch reported that Essex Child Center received a grant and they are converting their play area into a learning area. The playground equipment will be moved to another area.

Community Collaborative Event

Bob Eschliman from the Clarinda Herald Journal was unable to attend our meeting. He will attend the meeting in April. The committee agreed to support Eschliman in this project and the following people agreed to assist: Kathleen Keefer, Judy Foutch, Lois Jean Ellison, Linda Orme, Angie Lutt, Pam Herzberg and Mary Kay Kesterson.

The committee agreed to have a Diaper Drive in March in the two county area. Mary Kay is to write press releases for the area newspapers, Kathleen will write a church bulletin insert and distribute to area congregations.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Early Childhood Advisory Committee is April 5, 2011 at 1:30 PM at the Page County West Building.

Respectfully submitted
Kathleen Keefer