

Early Childhood Committee Meeting
Clarinda Foundation Office
July 6, 2010 1:30 PM

Call to Order/Welcome

Present: Angela Havener/Clarinda Head Start; Cindy Humphrey/WCCA Head Start; Carleen Smith/Noah's Ark; Heidi Lowthorp/GSF Fremont Co.; Renee Bond/GSF Page Co.; Mary K. Kesterson/Southwest Iowa Home Health; Theresa Crook/Kornerstone Kids; Kim Brantner/ISU Extension Family Life; Lori Henrichs/Taylor Co. Extension; Jenny Ernst/Taylor Co. Empowerment; Julie Streitenberger/Grandma's House; Pam Herzberg/Corner Counties Early Childhood; Julia Cavin/Clarinda Community Preschool; Jerri Leighton/Citizen and Child Care Trainer; Kathleen Keefer/Southwest Iowa Families and Angie Lutt/Southwest Iowa Families.

Minutes from the May 4, 2010 Early Childhood Committee meeting were distributed via email and copies were made available at the meeting. It was noted that there was disappointment with the book drive. Not enough families showed up to be given books, so there were a lot of books left over. These were distributed through various agencies in Fremont, Page and Taylor Counties.

Program Sharing Time: Pam Herzberg of CCECA: Legislatures invited to Creston to speak with Early Childhood folks. Contracts have gone out.

Jenny Ernst, Taylor County Early Childhood Director: They have only one family support program and one day care program. Taylor County is much smaller program wise than CC.

Kim Brantner – Families Program Specialist.

Mary Kay Kesterson: Fremont County Public Health...lead poisoning prevention...high risk for lead poisoning. 6 lead tests before 6. Dental: Mary Kay continues to see a need for child dentists who will take Medicaid. As many screenings and varnishes are being done as possible. Medicaid will pay for dental screening at age one. Mary Kay reported that Patsy Shipley is the new Director for Southwest Iowa Families Home Health in Sidney.

Angie Lutt: Stork's Nest – enrollment growing, SWIF is starting new Bridges Out of Poverty in Shenandoah and Sidney; The one in Clarinda is doing well. People are needed to help to get clients to participate in the "Circles of Support" programs.

Renee Bond: from GSF. She is trying to recruit more families. The PAT end of the year reports and EC reports are both due so she is busily working on those. The State Credentialing process has been started. And the County Fairs are coming up.

Carleen Smith, Noah's Ark Preschool, She is busy working on the Level 1 –QRS. Noah's Ark must have QRS3 in order to receive funding from ECCCA. They are low in numbers right now, but will pick up in August when school officially starts. Her educators are in training right now.

Head Start still has some openings, have 14 set, room for 20.

Julia Cavin is finishing up last year's stuff and getting ready for the next school year. August 16 – Open House, anyone is welcome to come talk to parents about programs available in the community.

Julie Streitenberger: Grandma's House. They have some slots open but not many. Transporting kids all over for events/activities. They have many more school age children this year than last year, had 9 last year, now have 15. *ECERS* assessment will be conducted in October. They have a Level 3 QRS rating right now.

Turnbull just received level 4 QRS.

CCRR- 22 counties, Fremont/Page is the highest out of the 19 other counties in QRS ratings.

Community Wide Assessment- Families Partnering Together (Fremont, Page and Taylor Counties), this may be the new name for the three county area that will be joined together in July, 2011. The possible new logo was passed around. The surveys for this fall from Early Childhood Corner Counties Area were distributed to those present at the meeting. They are to be given out to have community people/parents/caregivers to be completed. They are to be returned to Pam by September 1, 2010.

SYF'11 Calendar of Events- Pam distributed the calendar.

Next meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, October 12, 2010 @ 1:30 PM, same location

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Keefer