

## ECTF Minutes

6-28-17

Ft Madison

This meeting of the ECTF was called to order at 9:30am by committee chair, Cyndi Mason with the following present:

Cyndi Mason, Ginger Knisley, Carolyn Baker, Jamie Beskow, Chad Reckling, Janet Phelps, Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Missy Park, and Julie Meir.

The agenda was approved with no changes

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted as written

**Administrative Update** – Ginger gave a written administrative update including events and meetings over the next few months and a notice of her vacation time the first two weeks of July. She explained that all bills and reports could be submitted to her office at any time during her absence and the DHS staff would place them in her office. She also verified that volunteers are welcome at the August 26<sup>th</sup> car seat checkup event in Keosauqua for traffic control, entertaining children, and acting as scribes for the CPS technicians. Janet shared she is working on sponsorship for the event in order to provide activities and possibly food as was done two years ago.

**Marketing/PA** – Jamie shared that not all 1<sup>st</sup> Five coordinators had the close relationship with their local ECI boards as she does here and she shares the benefits of that frequently during open mic times and at consortiums. She also shared that the local boards of health here are much more versed in ECI compared to other areas of the state.

**Preparation for combined meeting with the Children First board August 17<sup>th</sup>** – Ginger shared that Heather Fuger from Central Lee will be attending to share information about the new preschool program and she hopes to engage United Way staff to present on ALICE. ECTF members expressed they like the format of responding to board members' questions rather than giving a pre-made presentation. Julie will also be sharing information about proposed business kits for child care providers. Chad expressed that as always he will want to hear about emerging trends and gaps in services being observed in the community. Missy expressed she is concerned about possible consequences of the planned parenthood clinics closing such as increased teen birth rates and increased STI rates. Ginger stated that she feels there has been enough turn-over in board membership in recent years to warrant monthly presentations to the board by funded programs. She will create a schedule and send it out with the following requests in mind: Janet can do November and introduce her replacement, and Missy does not want September.

**Review ECTF Mission Statement** – Ginger provided two handouts, one being "Tips for writing a mission statement" and the other being references to the ECTF in the Community Plan and By-Laws. She noted that the current mission statement is not really in common language and that it makes no reference to the ECTF being the advisory committee to the board, which is its main task. After some discussion Ginger suggested a statement such as "The ECTF advises the Children First board in order to improve outcomes for young children and their families in Lee and Van Buren Counties". Members present liked that and Ginger said she would email it out with a request for input from all ECTF members. This will be reviewed at the September ECTF meeting.

**Oral Health** – Rachael reported that summer is a slow time for the dental program and there is not much new to report at this time. The main focus right now is getting the LCHD staff moved into their new building. Missy shared that she has had some HOPES families use the CHC dental clinic in Keokuk and that has saved her staff a lot of transportation time and money.

Child Care and Preschool – Julie reported Keokuk Community Preschool has officially closed which leaves a gap of 15 preschool slots – primarily three year olds. Keokuk Christian Academy is the only current option in Keokuk for three year old preschool. Rosie Posie is moving forward with opening another 100+ child care center just down the road from their present site which will include 16 infant slots. Cyndi is scaling back the number of CPR/First Aid trainings she is doing and has offered a possible equipment sharing process for Rosie Posie if they get a certified instructor on board to handle their large staff and high turnover. There is a new provider in Franklin who has taken some of Susie Rettig’s equipment and children as she has retired. Chad shared that there are new administrative rules taking effect in August regarding reporting of in care injuries and also requiring allergy care plans for all children with allergies in care. The forms are all available on Healthy Child Care Iowa website. Chad also shared that starting September 30<sup>th</sup> all providers, even non-registered, will have to take the Essentials training before getting a signed agreement with DHS. Missy reports having a family with three children who are approved for CCA but cannot find child care slots for them. Julie and Cyndi both offered suggestions and will follow up via email.

**Family Support** – Janet announced she is retiring in December and expects to have her replacement in place quite soon in order to participate in the Job Opportunities credential process as a sort of training exercise. Janet also shared the re-credentialing celebration for VBPAT was a success with over 70 in attendance. Sad news for Van Buren County is the State Representative Curt Hanson passed away in the past month and his advocacy for young families will be missed in Des Moines.

**Mental Health** – Jamie reported that the autism program through CHC’s is being cut and it is not known how much if any family support services will be provided moving forward. 1<sup>st</sup> Five RFA was approved and Homestead is still on track to provide services based in Burlington.

**Other programs** –Missy did a radio interview with KOKX and the station is open to all types of interviews and PSA’s. Cyndi and Missy are both willing to record PSA’s on a variety of topics for the ECTF. Janet shared that the VBPAT page on the VBCH website has a link to the Children First website and Missy said she would request that LCHD do the same with their website.

Ginger and Cyndi are going to meet after August 1<sup>st</sup> to set the plans for the FY18 Provider Forums.

Julie will meet with the director of Rosie Posie about possibly piloting an “ill-child” room at one of her centers that may eventually be open to children not enrolled at Rosie Posie.

The next meeting of the ECTF will be held in combination with the Children First board on August 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the Donnellson Community Room. Ginger will send further information out towards the end of July regarding the expected length of time for that meeting and whether or not a meal will be provided.

gk