

ECTF Minutes

04-25-18

Ft. Madison

This meeting of the ECTF was called to order at 9:35 by chair, Cyndi Mason, with the following present: Cyndi Mason, Missy Park, Sarah Tweedy, Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Kathy Osipowicz, Carolyn Baker, La Phanthourvong, Melissa Dougherty and Christine Van Berkum (for Jamie Beskow).

Introductions were made. The agenda was approved as written. The minutes from our meetings on 01-24-18 and 03-14-18 were reviewed and accepted as written.

Missy gave some information about **Child Abuse Prevention Month** based on activities put forth by the Child Abuse Prevention Council. She talked about signs and pinwheel gardens she placed with in the county, that Ft Madison Community Hospital put something on their marquee about it and that the "proclamation" got signed by the Lee County Board of Supervisors. Melissa reported the in Van Buren County signs and pinwheel gardens were placed at 2-3 sites. Blue Out Day pictures were taken at both LCHD and VB CO Hospital. Carolyn reported that she took a bouquet of pinwheels to her church.

La reported that she attended the **Day of the Child** in Burlington recently and Missy reported that there was a table put up by Lee Co Health Dept. Both reported a good turnout. Kathy was there doing car seat checks and did have some business as well.

Christine reported that she, Jamie, Missy and 4 HOPES workers attended the **PCAI Conference** in Des Moines recently. Melissa reports that Jesse and Patty from VB CO PAT both attended as well. Attendees thought it was very good but perhaps not as well attended as in recent years. There was a general discussion of some of the break-out sessions.

Missy gave a report on the **Summit** held recently in Mt Pleasant. She shared that there were about 50 participants and that HOPES provided transportation to HOPES enrolled families to the Summit but that few parents took advantage of that.

Christine gave an update on mental health initiatives in Lee County...1st Five works closely with Younghouse, Community Health Specialty Clinics, Center for Disabilities and Development, Counseling Associates and others when it comes to providing mental health care to children. 1st Five has had a difficult time finding mental health therapy resources for younger children ages 3-4. During this conversation, La discussed how her Preschool Program works with that age and gave specifics on what interventions she provides.

Sarah discussed whether children are really suffering from mental illness diagnoses or perhaps just poor parenting. There was much discussion about this and Christine and La both confirmed that a lot of assistance to children in mental health or counseling services is aimed at getting the parents involved and directly working with the child on improving behavior. There was much helpful discussion between La and Christine and helpful information was shared.

A long discussion ensued regarding group gatherings put on by **PAT VS HOPES VS Family Connections** and the difficulty and successes in getting parents to attend these group gatherings. Successes listed included the ability to offer food or "points" for goods such as diapers and the time of day the group gatherings were offered. Melissa reports that PAT is struggling with new guidelines requiring 2 home visits per month, rather than the

previous 1 visit per month. Parents are not liking the new requirement, they find it hard to schedule the visits due to their own busy schedules. Missy reports similar problems encountered with their mandatory visit increases. Carolyn reported that Family Connections has had some people drop out recently. They cited impending changes in the management and staff for these meetings as the reason.

Rachael reported on **oral health** initiatives in the area. She reports that the Community Health Center dental clinic in Keokuk has been open for a little over 1 year in Keokuk. It is still operating at the temporary site. It is hoped they will be able to move into the permanent site being built sometime this spring or summer. The clinic is currently staffed by 1 dentist. The new site has space for up to 3 dentists and they are actively recruiting dentists at this time.

Senator Joni Ernst came to visit the new site on April 5 for which she voted in favor of funding. Some Keokuk Area Dentist Recruitment Task Force representatives were able to meet with Senator Ernst and discuss our recruitment efforts, successes, remaining challenges, etc.

IDPH is now asking for more specific data collection regarding decay to help better capture severity of decay not just incidence, so we can better document impacts public health programming is making.

She talked about a new initiative called 5210, which stands for 5 or more fruits/veggies per day, 2 hours or less of screen time per day, at least 1 hour of physical activity per day and 0 sugar sweetened beverages per day. She states she will have some posters about this initiative to distribute in the future. These materials will be used in conjunction with an I-Smile led initiative regarding sugar sweetened beverage consumption required by the grant.

Cyndi reported on **child care**, that there is no new word on a potential center opening in Birmingham or one north of FM. Rosie Posie's numbers are improving at their second site. Sarah reports she is full as always. Sarah reports she probably will put a bid on the library building in Donnellson for a potential third site. She is struggling with wanting to raise the wages of her workers VS having to increase her prices for child care.

Kathy reports that Target is advertising that if a parent turns in an old car seat they will get a coupon good on some \$\$ off of a new one purchased at the store. Kathy state she will be getting some updated information on **car seat safety** soon. She gave a detailed report on use of tethers in cars.

The next meeting of the ECTF will be May 15, 2018 beginning at 12 noon. The meeting will take place in Keosauqua at the Community Service Center, behind VB CO Hospital. Melissa will check with the hospital and offer 2 menu choices with pricing that we can pick from for a meal at that meeting. Cyndi will email out that information when it is received.

Submitted by Cyndi Mason