

## Children First Meeting Minutes

5-17-18

The retreat portion of this meeting of the Children First Board was called to order by board chair, Chad Reckling at 9:45am with the following present:

**Board members:**, Don Hunold, Jolene Dilks, Amanda Manning-Maras, Mark Meek , Kayla (Markell) Schwartz, Chad Reckling, and Regina Wells

Quorum was met with 7 of 11 members present

**Guests:** Tasha Beghtol – DHLW ECI Board Director

**Director:** Ginger Knisley

**Board members not present:** Carolyn Baker, Mike Linnenbrink, Alka Khanolkar, and Dave Kirchner

Introductions took place around the table

Board members shared what is on their minds to open the day:

Don is concerned that the next few years could be scary in terms of fiscal situations

Gina has issues with what DHS is expecting from CCR&R in the new contracts

Chad sees a real need to continue to look at administrative/indirect costs in programs and what the board is getting for the money

### **Community Planning**

Ginger shared copies of the latest indicator data and summary of third quarter reports from funded programs. There was discussion of what may be affecting teen birth rates and child abuse and neglect rates.

### **Board development and Self evaluation**

Tasha lead the board in an exercise of a SWOT analysis of their operations with the following high points:

Internal **Strengths** of the Board: experience, knowledge (cc involvement), diversity (age, background, culture), openness, willingness for discussion and communication, respect, fair (goal and outcome oriented, focused on impact), data informed/data driven, understanding

Internal **Weaknesses** of the Board: vacancies on the board (missing knowledge from those perspectives), learning curve involved with ECI, additional funding (pros and cons of 501c3 status) time, volunteer fatigue

External **Opportunities** for the Board: networking, community resources not funded by us, encourage attendance at community meetings by board and ECTF, board direct involvement (members attend community events and celebrations), new initiatives such as abuse prevention, advocacy (more by board members as Directors may be losing some impact being the ones bringing all the topics to various tables), IWF

External **Threats** to the Board: Lack of funds, transient population, open enrollment challenge, lack of knowledge and understanding of EC leading to lack of respect of the profession, substance abuse in the communities, poverty, fear of talking about hard issues, stigma, lack of OB/GYN, lack of child care career providers (no supports or incentives for it)

This analysis will be used in the drafting of the regional community plan and individual board strategic plans.

### **Individual application reviews and budget decisions**

The Children First office administrative budget was reviewed. Ginger noted that the amounts reflect the 1.5% increase to the Director salary as voted at last month's meeting. Gina was surprised to see meeting food included. Ginger explained the board sometimes does carry ins and also this fund is used for meetings that include community trainings at times.

CCNC – it was noted that the new IQ4K system will require use of a CCNC. It was also noted that the state level CCNC system would send out a CCNC if one was not locally available. It was decided to fund the CCNC at level funding with FY18 at \$55,000.00.

Partnering with Providers – discussion took place about the concern for duplication of services with CCR&R with the differences noted that PWP makes visits to encourage participation rather than waiting for requests, the focus being on items CCR&R does not typically work on, current low numbers of services being provided by CCR&R, and the concern for the new work load for CCR&R consultants. The board would like to fund this program at a level with FY18 funds at \$25,654.00 with some stipulations on the types of goals to be addressed.

CCR&R biz kits and PBIS training – Concern was noted for the current year contract being severely under spent. The board would like to fund this contract level with FY18 funds at \$7,500.00 with stipulations on earlier implementation so carry forward funds are known earlier and with changes to the incentive portion of the contract for the training being based on a direct stipend to attendees rather than a per site materials grant.

Summit will be funded at \$3,500

Provider Forums will be funded at \$2,500

Misc for emerging needs, trainings, etc will be funded at the balance of the EC funds

HOPES – funding will be level with FY18 funds at \$69,100.00

VBPAT – funding will be level with FY18 funds at \$132,830.00 with possible corrective action plan if home visit rates continue to lag and adjustments made to the staffing considered indirect on the budget.

Young House in home preschool – Much discussion took place around this program. The board is in favor of the spirit of this program but have many issues with the indirect expenses from this agency as well as the amount of outcome for the money. The board will not fund this program in FY19 but would like to explore ways in which other already existing programs could fill this gap, perhaps through existing home visitation programs or Early Access.

Lee Head Start – the board chose to level fund this program at the FY18 fund level at \$20,000.00

Sieda/ Van Buren and Sieda/Harmony partnerships – These two programs will be level funded at the FY18 level at \$9,900.00 each with further discussion when the consolidation of districts takes place next year

Dental – the board will fund this program at the requested amount of \$19,251.78 as this is a direct service to children with clear outcomes

Preschool Scholarships – This program is tentatively not funded with discussion yet to take place in terms of other ways to administer the program with minimal administrative cost due to the low numbers of income eligible participants the past few years.

Board Chair, Chad Reckling, called the business portion of the meeting to order at 1:20pm with all of the above still present

There was a **motion** by Jolene with a second by Kayla to accept the agenda for today’s meeting as written. All voted aye.

There was a **motion** by Kayla with a second by Don to approve the minutes and attendance report from the previous meeting as written. All voted aye.

**Director Report**

Ginger gave a written Director Report but this was not discussed due to time constraints

**Financial reports**

There was a **motion** by Mark and a second from Kayla to accept the April financial reports as written. All voted aye.

**Finance Committee Recommendations** were tabled due to time constraints with a **motion** by Jolene and a second by Gina

**FY19 Funding decisions**

There was a **motion** by Mark with a second by Don to approve the FY19 budget as discussed in the above retreat notes. All voted aye.

**Public Comment**

There was no response to a call for public comment.

**Adjourn**

There was a **motion** by Mark with a second by Don to adjourn the meeting at 1:25pm. All voted aye.

The next meeting of the **Children First Board** is Thursday, June 21st, 2018 at **9:30am** at a Fort Madison location to be announced.

gk

Date minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_ Board officer signature \_\_\_\_\_