

ECTF Minutes

9-26-18

Keokuk

This meeting of the ECTF was called to order at 9:30 am by chair, Cyndi Mason with the following present: Ginger Knisley, Missy Park, Melissa Daugherty, Carolyn Baker, Rachael Patterson-Rahn, Jamie Beskow, Cheryl Flaatten, Jodi Norton, Sarah Tweedy and Kathy Osipowicz

The agenda was accepted as written

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

Introductions took place around the table

Administrative Update -Ginger gave a written administrative update including updates to funding, community planning, IWF, and EC Summit. On the topic of IWF there was concern expressed that the committee is not being given tasks and therefore there is not much buy in or action happening. Also noted was the need for media coverage of the child care crisis to raise awareness in the community that there is even a problem. There is some though that staffing is a bigger issue than number of regulated slots as centers are not operating up to potential capacity due to a lack of qualified staff. Also concerning is the lack of excitement and inspiration around early childhood as a professional career. It was discussed again that provider forums could be used for this purpose and should possibly be expanded to monthly networking events.

Oral Health – Rachael reported the new hygienist is doing well and they are still looking for an assistant for the sealant program. The silver diamine fluoride study is moving forward but they are having trouble locating children with serious decay which is good news that our prevention efforts are working. Keokuk CHC is operating with 2 dentists with room for a third.

Provider Forums– Cyndi asked for input for the FY19 provider forums. The first one took place September 25th in Donnellson with great attendance of 33. The next one will be in January, tentatively the 29th with Early Access presenting on their process as well as some type of training on developmental milestones. Sarah offered to present a “child care superhero” type session for the May forum.

Child Care/Preschool – One topic discussed was the current uncertainty with a Keokuk center under investigation. Jodi shared that CCRR is presenting a Building the Pyramid mini -series in Donnellson in November with 20 slots available and have business kits for up to 10 new home providers. Cheryl gave information about her conference coming up November 3rd in Burlington co-sponsored by Children First and DHLW ECI. Cyndi shared that there are providers in Farmington and Keokuk exploring options for opening centers.

Mental Health - Jamie shared that there is a new pediatrician on board in Ft Madison. The 1st Five grant has a new focus and is not supposed to take community based referrals. CMHW is expanding to Lee County and will start meeting again in November.

Family Support – Melissa shared that VBPAT just had their fall event at the pumpkin patch which was well attended and parents expressed gratitude for it. She and Cheryl also shared that national PAT has now decided that the PFS is not a sufficient screening tool and they have to decide on a new one to utilize by FY19. Melissa also shared they are using their Facebook page to communicate with families and the RSVP feature to determine attendance at group events and it is working well.

Other business –

Kathy shared that this is Child Passenger Safety week and there will be a checkup event in Burlington on Saturday. She also said she and Mary Margaret Wagner did a car seat event with the Des Moines County Nest program recently. Missy expressed interest in having a car seat check up and/or presentation with the Family Connections families, perhaps in the spring.

The next meeting of the ECTF is October 24th at 9:30 am at the Lee County Health Department in Ft Madison.

gk