

**POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA BOARD MEETING**  
**United Way of Central Iowa – Leadership Room**  
**Des Moines, Iowa**  
**October 28, 2015**

**Voting Members Present:** Matt Knoll, Sam Carrell, Nick Dial, Cindy Elsbernd, Claudia Hawkins, Bryan Huggins, Natali Justiniano Pahl, Judy McCoy Davis, Joyce Pingel, JoEllen Spriggs-Dixon

**Voting Members Absent:** Mike Bandstra, Jem Gong-Browne, Marvin DeJear, Rocio Hermosillo, Kimberly Peterson, Shane Schulte, Georgia Sheriff, Craig Sieverding, Tom Slater

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Dave Arens

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Terry Harrmann, Brook Rosenberg

**Staff Present:** Barb Bremner, Jody Kanne

**Guests Present:** Kathy Leggett, Director, Center for Advocacy and Outreach, Blank Children's Hospital; Lora Patton, Regional Director, Child Care Resource & Referral; Leann Andre, Child Care Consultant, Child Care Resource & Referral

**Welcome and Introductions**

Board Chair Matt Knoll welcomed board members and guests to the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board meeting at 8:09 a.m. Quorum was met at this time. Introductions of board members and guests were made. New board member Nick Dial was introduced and welcomed.

**Approval September 2015 Minutes**

The September 23, 2015 minutes were presented to the board. There were no comments or corrections.

*A motion to approve the minutes was made by Judy McCoy Davis and seconded by Claudia Hawkins. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

**Monthly Financial Statements**

Barb Bremner presented the financial statements through the end of September. These statements are a cash presentation of financial transactions which took place through September of fiscal year 2016.

**School Ready**

- FY16 Polk County ECI School Ready funding is \$2,695,183.00.
- Carry Forward funds total \$187,155.86. These have been budgeted into contracts and will be expended before FY16 funds.
- Year to date receipts as of end of September total \$673,045.75 (1<sup>st</sup> quarterly payment received). Note\*This was an underpayment of \$750.00 by the state. This will be added to the second quarterly payment and all subsequent payments will be 25% of the total
- Additional receipts of \$1,166.77 interest.
- At the end of September School Ready funds of \$277,027.06 had been expended.
- Spending is approximately 9.6% of total School Ready funds. Last year at end of September 2014 5% of funds had been expended
- At the end of September \$101,192.10 or 54% of Carry Forward funds had been expended.

## Early Childhood

- FY16 Polk County ECI Early Childhood funding is \$1,123,171.00.
- Carry Forward funds total \$190,927.39. These have been budgeted into contract lines within the budget and will be expended before FY16 funds.
- Year to date receipts as of end of September total \$280,792.75 (1<sup>st</sup> quarterly payment received).
- Additional receipts of \$873.24 interest.
- At the end of September Early Childhood funds of \$111,393.25 had been expended.
- Spending is approximately 9% of total Early Childhood funds. Last year at end of September 2014 6% of funds had been expended
- At the end of September \$24,684.45 or 13% of Carry Forward funds had been expended.

*A motion to approve the September 2015 financials was made by Cindy Elsbernd and seconded by Joyce Pingel. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

## **WAGES - Request for Additional Funding**

Members were reminded Iowa AEYC staff presented a request for additional funding during the September meeting. Members reviewed the Iowa AEYC's request for additional funding for WAGES and the FY2016 Budget submitted in spring as part of the application for funding. Due to the high demand for this wage stipend program, Iowa AEYC currently has a waiting list. Of the \$45,000 in additional funding requested, \$43,000 would fund stipends to child care staff, the remainder would be used for program administrative costs.

Funds for this request would come from the non-contracted funds within Early Childhood, Quality Improvement Support. Judy McCoy Davis asked if there were programs who had requested funds for FY16 beyond the received contract amounts. Bremner stated CCR&R Child Care Consultants & Latino Outreach did not receive their full request for funding. Also, LSI Respite Options and YESS Crisis Nursery were flat funded for FY16 and not funded at their requested amounts. Members discussed the need for the board to be able to respond to changing community need in the upcoming year.

*A motion to approve an additional \$20,000 in funding for the WAGES program was made by Davis and seconded by Claudia Hawkins. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

## **Nomination Committee Report**

Nominations Committee member Bryan Huggins presented a new board member application from Josh Mandelbaum. Prior to submission of his application Bremner met with Mandelbaum to provide him with information. Huggins noted the board was not required to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Kevin McCarthy because membership is above the required minimum of 15 and the board is gender-balanced. If approved Mandelbaum would replace the vacancy left by Kevin McCarthy's resignation. Huggins reported Mandelbaum is a local attorney with Environmental Law & Policy Center. Mandelbaum, who is also a member of the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, became interested in the ECI board after Davis spoke at a Leadership Institute recent event. Mandelbaum's experience in advocacy and state government would be an asset to the board. The nomination committee recommended Mandelbaum's application be approved. This approval would fill the vacancy left by Kevin McCarthy's resignation.

*The board unanimously approved Josh Mandelbaum's nomination.*

## **Blank Hospital – Bright Futures Pilot**

Kathy Leggett, Director, Center for Advocacy and Outreach, Blank Children's Hospital, updated board members on the progress of the newly funded Bright Futures Pilot. This pilot is implementing a model of well-child visits to be implemented in two pediatric primary care practices. Leggett

provided information on progress on the planning and implementation. Leggett offered the opportunity for several board members to shadow the work of the family outreach specialist in the next several months. Leggett's presentation slides will be shared with all members.

### **ECI Purpose and Funding DRAFT & Letter**

Members discussed recent work by the ECI TA staff and a group of directors and state ECI board members to revise the language in Iowa Code establishing and regulating Early Childhood Iowa. TA staff communicated that the committee working on revisions and welcomed feedback or comments from local ECI areas.

Members then discussed a letter sent to all ECI area board chairs from DHLW Early Childhood Iowa Chair Patricia Lipski and Former Chair, Henry/Washington ECA David Helman. Their letter addresses concerns of flat funding, categorical restrictions placed on funds and a desire to support the revisions to Iowa Code put forth by the Purpose and Funding Workgroup. Members agreed Polk County ECI board would like to be informed of and potentially be involved in discussions of local ECI areas with legislators. Knoll will respond to letter authors Lipski and Helman.

Dave Arens reported he attended a meeting with Governor Branstad this month. The Governor stated the State budget would be tight again this year. Arens also attended a Strategic Planning meeting with three State Department heads.

### **Administrative Report**

Members were presented with Bremner's October 28, 2015 Administrative Report.

Shannell Wagler notified Bremner legal staff advised the State ECI Board to hold an open committee meeting to review Polk County ECI's LOE appeal. This meeting will be held the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The State Board will vote on the committee recommendation at their meeting November 6<sup>th</sup>. Bremner will share the details regarding the committee meeting.

Bremner continues to attend area stakeholder meetings on the Child Care Development Block Grant. Eligibility requirements will change in July 2016, therefore DHS is requesting input from centers and parents. Bremner is facilitating meetings of Chad Dahm, DHS Child Care Bureau Chief with parents of children enrolled in several supported child care centers. The next stakeholder meeting with Dahm will be held November 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Plymouth Church.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Public Comment**

None reported.

### **Adjourn**

*A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sam Carrell and seconded by Natali Justiniano Pahl. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

The next meeting of the board will be November 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.