

**POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA BOARD MEETING**  
**United Way of Central Iowa – Leadership Room**  
**Des Moines, Iowa**  
**November 20, 2013**

**Voting Members Present:** Judy McCoy Davis, Mike Bandstra, Sam Carrell, Terry Harrmann, Terri Henkels, Matt Knoll, Shane Schulte, Georgia Sheriff, Tom Slater, Marvin DeJear, Cindy Elsbernd, Natali Justiniano Pahl, JoEllen Spriggs-Dixon, and Joyce Pingel via conference call.

**Voting Members Absent:** Claudia Hawkins

**Ex-Officio Members Present:**

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Don Doudna, Dave Arens, Dave Discher, Brook Rosenberg

**Guest Present:** Shelia Hansen, Director, Every Child Counts, Child & Family Policy Center

**Staff Present:** Barb Bremner, Lynette Kingery

Judy McCoy Davis welcomed everyone to the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board meeting at 8:02 a.m. Quorum was met at this time. Mike Bandstra arrived 8:08 a.m.

Judy McCoy welcomed and introduced Shelia Hanson, Director, Every Child Counts. Every Child Counts is an advocacy initiative of the Child and Family Policy Center. Shelia distributed the 2014 Every Child Counts Policy Priorities. She provided an overview of results of the last legislative session and discussed policies Every Child Counts will be speaking with legislators about affecting Iowa children and families on issues related to early learning and development, child health and well-being and family economic success. She said their priorities are close to being finalized. She also provided a brief description of her expectations for the upcoming legislative session.

Judy referred to the “Polk County Health Chartbook” and the ACEs study, copies of each which were included in meeting materials for members review prior to the December meeting. She mentioned that next month’s board meeting will include a discussion focused on health issues led by Rick Kozin, Polk County Health Department Director.

Judy thanked Shelia for her time and sharing her perspective on policy issues.

**Approval of October 30, 2013 Minutes**

*A motion to approve the minutes was made by Terry Harrmann and seconded by Terri Henkels.  
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

**Monthly Financial Statements**

Barb presented October 2013 financial statements to the board. UWCI has not hired a Controller. To date 37 or 100% of contracts have been fully executed. Last year there were 4 contracts that were not executed until the end of January.

**Early Childhood**

- Year to Date receipts totaled \$260,035 as of July 1, 2013. FY14 PCECI Early Childhood funding is \$1,040,015.00.
- At the end of October FY14 Early Childhood funds of \$198,174.52 were expended.
- This amount represents 19% of FY14 Early Childhood funding.

- A question was posed regarding the CCR Child Care Nurse Consultants %, perhaps a formula error. Barb would review and provided an update at the next meeting.

### **School Ready**

- Year to Date Receipts totaled 147,507.98 as of August 26th, 2013. FY14 PCECI School Ready funding is 2,610,557.00.
- At the end of October FY14 School Ready funds of \$568,250.36 were expended.
- This amount represents 21% of FY14 School Ready funding.

### **Approval of October 2013 Financial Statements**

*A motion to approve the October 2013 financials was made by Georgia Sheriff and seconded by Cindy Elsbernd. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.*

### **Administrative Update**

Barb has begun performing site visits for child care centers. She visited Bidwell Riverside and was impressed with the literacy efforts focused on the four year olds. She met the Distribution Center Director to discuss ways to collaboratively serve the children coming to the Center for food and clothing but are not enrolled in the child care center. The Distribution Center serves 700- 900 families per month. Barb also visited CFI's Child Development Center. The two therapeutic classrooms there are fully enrolled. Director Lacy Butler mentioned she was looking for winter coats for approximately 20 of her students.

### **TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Subcommittee assignments were included in meeting materials. Matt Knoll has volunteered to chair the Preschool Programming Support committee. Terry Harrmann has volunteered to chair the Quality Improvement Funds for Coalition Child Care Centers committee. The subcommittees will meet to review funding history and to prepare recommendations for the upcoming fiscal year. Both subcommittees will report on their findings and recommendations at the January board meeting.

### **Advocacy & Legislative Communication**

Terry Harrmann and Tom Slater presented their perspectives of how to most effectively advocate for early childhood issues and communicate with legislators. Terry provided a handout with the legislative session timetable, details of legislative process and how an idea becomes a law.

Tom Slater addressed members about their responsibility to communicate, educate and advocate for early childhood issues. He suggested members try a few easy ways develop a relationship with their representatives and senators. He suggested members pair up as teams to meet with a legislator(s) early in the session and then to report to the Board when they have made contact and what they learned. He also suggested members send a holiday or New Year's card to thank legislators for investing in the future of Iowa by investing in its children. He recommended that members sign up to receive their legislators newsletters (usually emailed). He encouraged members to work at establishing a connection and relationship to their representatives and senators.

### **Old Business**

Judy invited members to join the governance committee to work on recruitment of 2-3 new board members. Currently have 15 members, goal is to have 18 members. Terry Harrmann's term expires July 1, 2014.

### **New Business**

Upcoming Events:    December 10, 2013    UWCI Legislative Breakfast  
                                 January 28, 2014    UWCI Day on the Hill  
                                 February 12, 2014    ECI Day on the Hill

**Public Comment**

None reported.

**Adjourn**

Judy thanked guest speaker Sheila Hanson, discussion leaders Tom Slater and Terry Harrmann and all board members for attending. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.