



POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA BOARD MEETING
United Way of Central Iowa – Leadership Room
Des Moines, Iowa
April 27, 2016

Voting Members Present: Matt Knoll, Jem Gong-Browne, Natali Justiniano Pahl, Judy McCoy Davis, Kimberly Peterson, Craig Sieverding, Tom Slater, JoEllen Spriggs-Dixon; Sam Carrell and Josh Mandelbaum arrived at 8:08 a.m.; Bryan Huggins arrived at 8:12 a.m. Georgia Sheriff participated via teleconference.

Voting Members Absent: Marvin DeJear, Nick Dial, Cindy Elsbernd, Claudia Hawkins, Joyce Pingel, Shane Schulte

Ex-Officio Members Present: None

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Dave Arens, Terry Harrmann, Brook Rosenberg

Staff Present: Barb Bremner, Jody Kanne

Guests Present: Lora Patton, Regional Director, Child Care Resource & Referral; Dory Briles, Executive Director, Des Moines Public Library Foundation; Linda Roe, Deputy Director, Des Moines Public Library

Welcome and Introductions

Board Chair Matt Knoll welcomed board members and guests to the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board meeting at 8:06 a.m. Quorum was not met at this time. Introductions of board members and guests were made around the room.

Sam Carrell and Josh Mandelbaum arrived at 8:08 a.m. Quorum was met at this time.

Approval March Minutes

The March 23, 2016 minutes were presented to the board. There were no comments or corrections.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Craig Sieverding and seconded by Josh Mandelbaum. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Knoll reported Rocio Hermosillo submitted her formal resignation from the Polk County ECI Board. Hermosillo's resignation brings the current board count to 18, keeping membership above the minimum requirement of 15. Hermosillo's resignation was included with the meeting materials.

Monthly Financial Statements

Barb Bremner presented the financial statements through the end of March. These statements are a cash presentation of financial transactions which took place through March 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 March total \$2,021,387.25 (1st, 2nd and 3rd quarter payments received.)
- Additional receipts of \$7,495.33 interest.
- At the end of March, School Ready funds of \$1,586,990.11 had been expended.
- Spending is approximately 55% of total School Ready funds. Last year at end of March 2015 59% of funds had been expended
- 100% of Carry Forward funds have 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 March total \$842,378.25 (1st, 2nd and 3rd quarter payment received).
- Additional receipts of \$4,179.29 interest.
- At the end of March Early Childhood funds of \$676,562.20 had been expended.
- Spending is approximately 52% of total Early Childhood funds. Last year at end of March 2015 52% of funds had been expended
- At the end of March \$188,599.51 or 95% of Carry Forward funds had been expended.

Bryan Huggins arrived at 8:12 a.m.

A motion to approve the March 2016 financials was made by Judy McCoy Davis and seconded by Tom Slater. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Des Moines Public Library – Application for Funding

Dory Briles and Linda Roe presented on behalf of Des Moines Public Library's 100's of Stories – Make Reading Count! new funding request. In 1993 the DMPL began organizing summer reading programs and rewarding the children participating. Studies have shown the more words children are introduced to at an early age, the better prepared they are for success in school. Children in low income neighborhoods are not as likely to have books at home for parents to read to them. This program would build upon the success of the summer program partnering with Des Moines Public Schools to provide the reading program year round. Board members asked how the program would reach families in the community who do not have access to the libraries, parents who do not have the skill level to read the books, what outreach they have in the community and how they would evaluate program effectiveness and outcomes. Roe explained the library holds family literacy nights, inviting schools or classrooms and their families to come learn about the library. Parents will also take a qualitative survey and track the number of books read by the child in addition to the child completing the task worksheet. The funding dollars would be used to purchase books the children would receive as rewards for completing tasks and reaching book milestones.

Program Reviews

Bremner thanked board members for their time spent reviewing the program investment paperwork and participating in the investment meetings. Members expressed approval of the review process and the ability to ask more in-depth questions and become more educated on what the programs do. Members' comments and program results will be shared with the agencies following the review process.

Discussion arose around the respite programs (Youth Emergency Services & Shelter and LSI) and how they fit into the Polk County ECI mission. It was asked if there should be discussions with other funders to see if these programs are a better fit into their missions. Members expressed the need for agencies to have a clear understanding of the importance of the data and outcomes reporting. Georgia Sheriff volunteered to lead a committee to review the current funding application and make updates to the document. Members would like to review the process in the fall, perhaps setting up training for the agencies and working to identify key performance measures.

McCoy Davis stated that during her group review meeting it was shared that UnityPoint would not be requesting funding for their Blank Hospital Bright Futures Pilot project for next fiscal year, freeing up those funds. VNS 1st Five reported during their review that case management previously reimbursed by Medicaid will not be covered under the new MCOs.

Bremner asked all members to turn in their scoring sheets along with VNS Healthy Start and Empowerment and the new funding request for DMPL, 100's of Stories – Make Reading Count! to her by May 2nd. Scores and comments will be compiled and presented at the May meeting.

Jem Gong-Browne departed the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Board Self-Evaluation and Schedule

Members were presented with the Board Member Self-Evaluation. This is the annual self-evaluation completed by board members. Knoll asked for any changes from board members. With none being heard, Bremner stated she would send the link out to board members to complete online using Survey Monkey.

Board Executive Director Evaluation Draft and Schedule

Members were presented with the Board Executive Director Evaluation. Board members are asked to complete this evaluation annually. Knoll asked for any changes from board members. With none being heard, Bremner stated she would send the link out to board members to complete online.

Executive Director Compensation Committee Appointment

Knoll asked for volunteers to serve on the Executive Director Compensation Committee which he will lead. This committee will review the Board Executive Director Evaluation results and make a salary recommendation for the upcoming fiscal year. Davis, Sieverding and Justiniano Pahl volunteered to serve on the committee. Knoll will set up meeting times in the upcoming weeks.

IAEYC Early Childhood Quality Initiative

Members were presented with FY17 proposed changes to the Des Moines Early Childhood Resource Team. The proposal is to relocate current team members from a variety of fiscal agents

and employers of record to a single agency. Bremner reported she has been working with United Way of Central Iowa to move the Capitol Park Child Care Consultant and Early Childhood Coordinator positions to Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children. This move would place the entire Resource Team under the management of Iowa AEYC. Having the team together in one location will allow for better collaboration of the team. The board will have a contract with Iowa AEYC for the project: IAEYC Early Childhood Quality Initiative.

Justiniano Pahl and JoEllen Spriggs-Dixon departed the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

In-home Child Care Providers

Bremner updated members on the City of Des Moines Ordinance issue. This continues to be an ongoing issue which will require continued community collaboration. In March stakeholders addressed a meeting of the Building Code Committee of the Central Iowa Code Consortium. Bremner thanked board members who were able to attend and spoke at the recent building code meeting. The limit for in-home providers was set at 8.

Carrell invited board members to the Maureen Tiffany Foundation event Saturday, April 30th at the Stonehaven Barn. Carrell will forward the invitation to Bremner for distribution to cabinet members.

Legislative Update

ECI legislation, SF 2299, passed the Senate, and is in the House this week for debate. McCoy Davis pointed out that the bill has language that gives the ECI State Board the control of the funding formulas used to distribute the grants. She reiterated that if passed this will be something to monitor.

Administrative Report

Bremner's April 27, 2016 report was included in meeting materials.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Public Comment

None reported

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom Slater and seconded by Craig Sieverding. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be May 25th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.