

POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA BOARD MEETING
United Way of Central Iowa – Room F
Des Moines, Iowa
September 2, 2011

Voting Members Present: Dave Arens, Mary Gesiriech, Terry Harrmann, Natali Justiniano Pahl, Kari Lebeda Townsend, Ka'Meka Lowery, Joyce Pingel, Becky Miles-Polka, Dave Stout, Chaney Yeast

Voting Members Absent: Connie Boesen, Dave Discher, Mike Farrell, Misty Hansen, Claudia Hawkins, Kittie Weston-Knauer

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Judy McCoy Davis

Guests Present:

Staff Present: Kate Bennett, Linda Dahlman, Sarah Witt

Dave Arens welcomed everyone to the Polk County Empowerment Board meeting at 8:05.m. Quorum was met at this time. Self introductions were made, including new members Natali Justiniano Pahl, Kari Lebeda Townsend, and Joyce Pingel.

Fiscal Year 2011 Financial Statements:

Linda Dahlman presented the FY 2011 Financial Statements to the board. She reported there were no issues with the audit. She thanked Sarah Witt for her work with the team in finalizing the finances for the year. She reported a carry-forward of \$584,838.60 (5%) for School Ready and \$75,953.59 (8%) for the Early Childhood/ TANF funds.

Ka'Meka Lowery asked where the funding was coming from for the Growth Fund with First Children's Finance. Kate Bennett answered that the \$50,000 will come out of the Early Childhood carry-forward. This will leave approximately \$25,000 in carry-forward.

Kate Bennett reported that the Early Childhood Team consisting of Maureen Tiffany, Stacey Walter, Amy Curtis, Sarah Witt, and herself will be meeting monthly to ensure all funds are spent.

It was moved by Terry Harrmann and seconded by Becky Miles-Polka to approve the 2011 Financial Statements. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of August 2011 Minutes:

It was moved by Chaney Yeast and seconded by Dave Stout to approve the minutes of August 11, 2011. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A suggestion to revise the agenda to read "2011 Annual Report" instead of "Fiscal Year 2011 Financials" was suggested by the board. Changes have been made.

Annual Report:

Mary Gesiriech arrived at 8:30am.

Kate reported that the Annual Report arrived in spreadsheet form, which made adding and deleting extra sheets difficult. When she asked the state team for assistance, she received a cold response, but eventually was taken care of.

Natali Justiniano Pahl asked a clarifying question regarding the referral process. Kate Bennett explained that the referral performance measures are tricky, because the referral process is cumbersome, and may or may not change the outcome of the individual.

Becky Miles-Polka added that Iowa has been historically low in referral services. Iowa is at 2 or 3%, where other states across the country are at 10%.

Kate Bennett reported that she is in conversations with Gretchen Hageman at the state level regarding evidence based programs.

It was moved by Joyce Pingel and seconded by Terry Harrmann to approve the 2011 Annual Report. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

New Business:

None reported

Old Business:

None reported

Public Comment:

None reported

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 8:50am.

DA:sw (9/13/11)