

POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA BOARD MEETING
United Way of Central Iowa – Room 200
Des Moines, Iowa
October 31, 2012

Voting Members Present: Dave Arens, Cindy Elsbernd, Terry Harrman, Ka'Meka Lowery, Becky Miles-Polka, Natali Justiniano Pahl, David Stout

Voting Members Absent: Dave Discher, Mary Gesiriech, Misty Hansen, Claudia Hawkins, Joyce Pingle, Kari Lebeda Townsend, Kittie Weston-Knauer, Chaney Yeast

Ex-Officio Members Present: Judy McCoy Davis

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Donald Doudna

Guests Present: None

Staff Present: Kate Bennett, Aubrey Martinez, Vanessa Sedrel, Ananda Subramanian

Dave Arens welcomed everyone to the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board meeting at 8:07 a.m. Quorum was met at this time.

Board Member Elections:

Dave Arens announced Judy McCoy Davis needed to be elected to the board before being elected to chair. A motion to approve Judy McCoy Davis to be a member of the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board was made by Terry Harrman and seconded by Becky Miles-Polka. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion to appoint Judy McCoy Davis to Chair of the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board was made by Terry Harrman and seconded by Ka'Meka Lowery. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Kate presented Dave Arens with a colorful plaque of the Des Moines skyline as a thank you for his service to the board. Judy McCoy Davis continued the meeting as Chair.

Approval of September 2012 Minutes:

All were in favor for approval of the minutes.

Monthly Financial Statements:

Aubrey Martinez reported the September 2012 financial statements to the board. The September 2012 financial statements present an accrual presentation of the financial transactions which took place during the first three months of fiscal year 2013.

Early Childhood

- Year to Date receipts totaled \$250,767.75 at September 30, 2012. This amount represents 25% of the annual funding. Annual funding for the early childhood is \$1,003,071.
- At this point in the fiscal year, the early childhood initiative has expended \$154,280.68.
- These expenditures are approximately 15.29% of the fiscal year 2013 budgeted expenditures.
- Carry forward on TANF funds of \$6,067.15 has been reclassified to the Quality Capacity Funds line and will be expended later in the fiscal year.

School Ready

- Year to Date Receipts totaled \$663,224.50 at September 30, 2012. This amount represents 25% of the annual funding. Annual funding for the school ready area is \$2,652,898.
- During the first three months of this fiscal year the school ready initiative has expended \$405,656.93.
- These expenditures are approximately 14.17% of the fiscal year 2013 budgeted expenditures.
- Carry forward dollars for the current fiscal year was \$209,250.46. Per the report, these dollars have been strategically budgeted in each of the school ready areas. These carry forward dollars will be expended later in the fiscal year.

The United Way of Central Iowa's audit is complete including the A-133 audit requirement for Early Childhood Iowa. There were no issues found during the annual audit. The audit report will be presented to the UWCI finance committee by the Brooks-Lodden CPA firm on Thursday, November 8th. Once the audit is approved, copies will be distributed.

Approval of Monthly Financial Statements (September)

All were in favor for approval of the monthly financial statements.

Administrative Update:

Kate shared a handout of her Administration Update. Highlighted updates include: State Early Childhood Iowa, 2000 Days Marketing, Mental Health Redesign, Task Force on Early Childhood Assessment, ACEs, and PCECI preschool, childcare, and health.

Kate also gave a brief on the Legislative Forum for education issues. The forum was well attended by both by legislators and members of the community. Dave Arens moderated the event. There were three questions asked involving mental health, obesity, and child abuse. Legislators still need to be educated on issues in early childhood. Judy stated there is a lot of work to do to educate both fresh faces and veterans. Terry Harrman said he is married to a child advocate and noted there is no one person for legislators to go to with questions they may have related to early childhood. There are several organizations but no unification. It seems everyone can agree on the issues out there, but not solutions.

Early Childhood Key Indicators Data:

Ananda from United Way shared charts with those present that compare Polk County to Iowa in early childhood key indicators. On average, Polk County compares very closely to the state on all indicators.

Becky Miles-Polka asked if this information can be broken down to show where the programs PCECI fund in comparison to Polk County and the state of Iowa, and even National level if possible. Ananda and Kate said they would work on gathering that information before the next board meeting. This information will be helpful when setting targets.

PCECI Director Performance Assessment Results:

Dave shared a summary of the board's feedback from Kate's performance assessment survey that was sent out last month. He reported that Kate continues to perform at a high level for the benefit of the PCECI Board, and more importantly, for the benefit of children and their families in Polk County and in the state of Iowa. Kate received no responses from the Board that rated her below a 'Meets Requirements' rating in any of the areas measured and was consistently rated as an 'Above Average' and 'Exceeds Requirements' performer. Dave encouraged the Board to support Kate in growth and learning opportunities, either internal or external. Kate thanked the Board for their feedback. She acknowledged issues relating to the fiscal program and takes responsibility for the program's accountability and work towards the next steps to improving the program.

PCECI Director Compensation Discussion

Judy asked the group if anyone would be interested in serving on a small committee to talk with United Way (PCECI's fiscal agent) regarding Kate's compensation. Natalie Justiniano Pahl and Dave Arens agreed to help out.

New Business:

Judy asked the group if anyone would volunteer to serve on a small committee to help recruit new members for the board. The current board will be losing a few due to conflict of interest or having served their time. Terry Harrmann, Becky Miles-Polka, and Dave Stout volunteered to be a part of this process.

Kate shared that Maureen Tiffany, Director of Education at United Way, will be retiring. Her retirement party will be on Tuesday, November 13th at Palmer's on Ingersoll.

Old Business:

None reported

Public Comment:

None reported

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m

DA/JMD:vs (11/2/12)