

NORTH IOWA CHILDREN’S ALLIANCE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 17, 2024

Time: 1:00pm

Location: HHS Office Mason City

TOPIC/DISCUSSION ITEM	MINUTES
Welcome & Roll Call	Board members present: Shana, Jennifer, Sis, Chirs, Enos, Lacey, Melinda, Ken, Heidi.
Approve Agenda	NICA Board Mtg Agenda 10.17.24 motion to approve by Sis, 2 nd by Enos. All in favor.
Minutes - <i>Action Required</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● September 12, 2024 Minutes 	NICA Board Mtg Minutes 9.12.24 motion to approve by Jennifer, 2 nd by Shana. All in favor.
Financial Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FY25 Funding Summary ● Director’s Financial Outlook 	Jaci reviewed the financial statement and shared that school ready is at 8% spent and early childhood at 17% spent. There are programs that are lagging behind in billing, which is common especially with the oral health program.
Board Business – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategic Planning Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mapping the Possibilities ○ Options for Unspent Funds ○ Determining Funding Priorities <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Action Required</i></p>	<p>Mapping the Possibilities – Jaci shared how program funding fits in with state legislated results, NICA priorities, ECI service types as outlined by HHS and required/anticipated outcomes. Items bolded were FY25 funded services for NICA.</p> <p>Ideas for Unspent ECI Funds – Jaci shared an outline of options for the unspent/FY24 carry over ECI funds. This list is a starting point for discussion. Jaci asked the board to consider extending current contracts, funding new programs with a RFP process, or moving the director to a fulltime position. Jaci shared a proposed budget comparison for 28 hours or fulltime for the ECI Director. There is a \$6500 stipend for health insurance to be purchased by the ECI Director and not part of CIJDC’s health insurance plan. Also does not include other benefits such as PTO/Vacation. Those would need to be new in policies.</p> <p>Ken motioned to fund the NICA Director at fulltime versus 28 hour. 2nd by Shana, all in favor.</p> <p>Motion by Jen to have a state date for fulltime of January 1st and to reserve 20% of the carryover funding for emergency use. Second by Sis, all in favor.</p> <p>Jennifer and Shana volunteered to look at a job description for fulltime and what the duties would include.</p> <p>Motion by Jennifer to fund Head Start Transportation at the at the amount of the original application \$60,950. This will be a \$2900 increase in the contract amount. Second by Enos. All approved.</p>

	<p>Discussed were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential to utilize additional funding for Family Connections to become a PAT accredited program. Chelsie will gather information on the costs associated with becoming accredited. • Funding programs around child care provider. This could be an extension of the Child Care works program in Hancock and Worth counties, something for in home licensed providers. This would be an incentive/bonus type of program. Jaci has collect examples of these programs and their methods for billing. If such a program was started, the NICA Director would be responsible for coordinating. Discussion that it should link back to CCR&R data. Kathy will gather data for the next Board meeting. <p>The oral health program has asked the board to change their billing process to a “per visit” versus salary/benefits of those providing the program. Motion by Jennifer to amend the contract to bill per visit, 2nd by Enos. All in favor.</p> <p>Ken asked that discussing “cost per visit” for the programs that we fund. Jaci placed this on a parking lot of future discussion items by the Board.</p>
<p>Director’s Report</p>	<p>Jaci provided a summary of discussion that are occurring at the state ECI level that may impact local processes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial reporting will be more detailed and be done twice a year: January 15th and the annual reporting time. Local funded programs will need to be more diligent in getting their billing submitted in a timely fashion and not several months after the service is provided. 2. Reporting outcomes – there is a new test pilot for a Qualtrics system to measure the outcomes of ECI areas. This online survey tool will allow for the entering of data, analyzing responses and pulling overall reports. Jaci is part of the test project.
<p>Public Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Connections 	<p>Chelsie presented on Family Connections expressing concerns to recruit new families. Currently there are 13 families – 8 Cerro Gordo, 3 Hancock and 2 Worth. Chelsie has been working with the Mercy foundation for additional funding options – such as the Kellogg Foundation. Board members asked about how to solicit more families for the program and what type of outreach has been done? Chelsie and her staff have focused on community coalitions, the birth center, back to school nights. Finding it difficult to get in with the Gabrielson clinic or Clarion hospital where many deliver. Jennifer will make a connection for Chelsie with the Child Protection Unit so she can talk with the staff.</p>
<p>Next Meeting Date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No meeting in November • December 12, 2024 	<p>Jaci will be attending the annual meeting of AEIABA in November as the delegate from the NICA Board.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Motion to adjourn at 2:40 by Sis, second by Jennifer. All in favor.</p>