

# NORTH IOWA CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 10th, 2025

Time: 1:00pm

Location: Zoom

<b>Welcome and Roll Call</b>	Meeting called to order at 1:0pm. Board members present: Chris, Shana, Enos, Sis, Stephanie, Melinda, Jen, Heidi & Ken.
<b>Approve Agenda</b>	NICA Board Meeting Agenda 04.17.2025 motion to approve by Shana, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Sis, all in favor.
<b>Minutes - <i>Action Required</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>February 14th, 2025 Minutes</li> </ul>	NICA Board Mtg Minutes 02.14.2025 motion to approve by Shana, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Melinda, all in favor.
<b>Financial Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FY25 Funding Summary</li> <li>Director's Financial Outlook</li> </ul>	Lacey reviewed the financial statement and Director's financial outlook. School ready is at 48% spent and Early Childhood funding is at 63% spent as of March vouchers. Some March vouchers are still being submitted.
<b>Directors Report –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECI State Update</li> <li>ECI District Update</li> <li>RFP FY26</li> </ul>	<p>Lacey stated that the state office has drafted budget allocation totals for 34 ECI area boards. The Iowa State ECI board approved a new funding formula for contractors to be used immediately for FY26. The Iowa State ECI board tabled the discussion of updating ECI Tools until their June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.</p> <p>ECI Districts are still in the forethought of state administrators. Legislation has not been passed to approve the new bill. At this time the move to districts has not been approved. Nor has the continuum of care plan.</p> <p>Lacey shared a request to not issue new RFPs due to time constraints. The board asked Lacey to proceed with the traditional RFP process. Lacey will communicate with programs to begin the RFP process for FY26.</p>
<b>Board Business-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carryover</li> <li>Unallocated Funds</li> <li>Employer or Record FY26 Discussion</li> <li>Fiscal Agent FY26</li> </ul>	The board discussed their carryover and how to proceed into the next fiscal year. Ken stated that he would like to carryover as much as possible with the uncertainty of where legislation is at. The board tabled the discussion until the May board meeting.

Discussion	<p>Lacey shared that she has been working with Tony at CIJDC to prepared for FY26 budget. Lacey will have a completed budget at the May board meeting.</p> <p>Lacey shared that she has talked with Heather at Cerro Gordo County about a new fiscal agent contract for FY26. The state office issued a new fiscal agent agreement for all ECI areas to use. Lacey will edit the form and make any new changes and share with Heather and the Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors.</p>
<b>Public Comment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Connections- Chelsie Hinton</li> </ul>	<p>Chelsie shared that Family Connections now has 19 children enrolled in their program. 12 in Cerro Gordo, 5 in Worth and 2 in Hancock with one family pending. Chelsie has started the application to become a nationally accredited program via Parents as Teachers. It was requested by the state to start become nationally accredited by December 2025. The training is all virtual. Chelsie has built her community connections by meeting with providers at the Iowa Specialty Care Hospital and the Behavioral Health Center at Mercy One North Iowa.</p>
<b>Next Meeting Date</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 15th, 2025 @ 1pm via Zoom</li> </ul>	<p>Lacey will send a Zoom invite for the May meeting.</p>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p>Motion to adjourn by Sis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melinda all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:54pm.</p>