**MEETING MINUTES:**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Cedar Valley's Promise Early Childhood Coalition**

**Friday, October 2, 2020**

**Via Zoom Link**

**9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**In Attendance:** Amanda Kirchhoff Operation Threshold WIC, Traci Smith 1st Five, Jamie Clancy and Linda Jacoby Cedar Valley Preschool & Child Care, Mindy Dolan Operation Threshold Nest, Brenda Loop Cedar Valley’s Promise, Sarah Boleyn Child Care Resource & Referral, Jay Mattson Community United Child Care Centers, Cindy Thompson ISU Extension & Outreach, Brooke Olson Together for Youth, Ed Gruenwald Grin & Grow, Ashley Meinhart Family & Children’s Council, Kate DeMartino Blessed Beginnings, Liz Melcher LSI.

**Agenda:**

1. **Introductions and Agency Sharing:**

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| Ashley FCC | Take Charge of Your Body is being offered online with Zoom. Baby safety project is ongoing with car seats and pack and plays. Referral forms are available from Ashley for agencies. Ashley is still in contact with new parents at the hospitals for PPF. |
| Kate DeMartino Blessed Beginnings | Looking to hire more staff. Unsure about fall parade that happens annually at Nazareth Lutheran |
| Liz LSI | LSI moved to 304 South Street, Waterloo. Elizabeth Kehret has moved to a service coordinator position in Northern Counties. Three other new staff have been hired and are in training now. Still accepting referrals for families wanting to enroll in home visitation. |
| Amanda OT | WIC is being done virtually. LIHEAP has started as of October 1 for elderly and disabled. |
| Traci Smith First Five | Still accepting referrals from medical providers. Virtual tools being used with medical providers rather than meeting face to face. |
| Jamie Clancy and Linda Jacoby Cedar Valley Preschool & Child Care | Linda is now the consultant and Jamie is the director and the transition into those roles is complete. The new playground has been completed. Structures are from recycled milk cartons and follows Nature Explore guidelines. CVPCC would love to have visitors see the playground following health guidelines. Still needing to hire 1 staff. Two others recently hired. |
| Brooke Together for Youth/Young Parents Together | YPT weekly support education program for pregnant and parenting teens. Drive through service has been happening weekly at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. They receive a cartful of groceries and any needed diapers, wipes, and formula. Other case management contacts are happening virtually. Number of participants in YPT have tripled since COVID. |
| Mindy Dolan OT Nest | Classes being done via Facebook Live. Contact Rachel Oberhauser or Mindy if you’re interested in more information. Applications are available for LIHEAP and other crisis services right outside the OT doors. Help can be provided if people need assistance completing the applications. November 1 LIHEAP will open to the general public and application will be available on their website at that time. |
| Jay CUCCC | Happy about the recent changes in mask policies the governor announced this week. |
| Cindy Thompson Iowa State University Extension | Training is happening with a mix of face to face and virtual offerings. Jill Weber will be training face to face with Cindy in Howard County. ISU Extension child care publications available at this link: <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15960> These publications came out about a month ago. Two online Environment Rating Scale trainings are nearing completion |
| Ed Gruenwald  Grin & Grow | No sharing this time. |
| Sarah Boleyn Child Care Resource & Referral | Continuing to offer some on-site visits, but primarily virtual still. Deery office staff working at 50% capacity and alternating days in the office/home. A few trainings have happened face to face, but still happening virtually too. Providers are happy to come to face to face training. Music with Mar will be a virtual training coming up. She is a national speaker. Classes offered by CCR&R are now free. There still may be costs for training that is co-sponsored with another agency. The Regional Data Specialist position has been filled and she will be starting next week. |

1. **Additions/modifications to agenda –** None.
2. **Approval of minutes from August 7** Motion to approve minutes made by Brooke Olson and 2nd by Traci Smith. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **CVP report and update –** Brenda shared about draft performance measure changes coming. They will not take effect until at least FY22. Lots of updating has been happening on the CVP website. Check it out! Quarterly reports for those that are required to do them due October 20.
4. **MIECHV update –** No report
5. **Shared Visions-update –** No report
6. **Community Awareness, Education, Advocacy –** Child care programs are struggling in hiring staff even more than before COVID. There may be a website dedicated to that coming soon. For now, use Iowa Works as needed to advertise and recruit staff. Legislative tour that typically happens in December may happen virtually this year. The rejuvenation stipends will continue through October for child care programs but the temporary CCA increases/unlimited absences will be ending. Peer to peer sessions are continuing. October 6 for 1-2 pm for centers is the next one with Heidi Hotvedt, Healthy Child Care Iowa. Staff at CCR&R continue to get a lot of requests from people wanting to start child care. CCR&R is still not offering in person fingerprinting. They are looking at some other options with kits that could be given to programs. CCR&R will be receiving some gloves if programs are in need. Jeanne Gallmeyer and Brooke Olson will share a flyer for an event 11/7 for foster parents. It is a partnership with LSI and DHS. Jamie Clancy shared concerns about the increased costs for PPE and the amount of time it is taking to order/receive PPE.
7. **Early Childhood Health** – Sarah shared that Diane Hoffmann, Child Care Nurse Consultant, has been spending a lot of her time doing TA/Consultation related to COVID. Requests are starting to come in for QRS health and safety tools. Diane will also be doing a face to face medication administration class on October 21. Cindy shared Question Persuade Refer - a suicide prevention program - is being offered free each Tuesday over the lunch hour through the end of October. <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/QPR>
8. **Campaign for Grade Level Reading –** Brenda shared that the Jump Start Summer Academy was a smaller scale version than in past summers. It was held the 2 weeks prior to the school year starting. More than 200 children participated in a mix of face to face and virtual. The curriculum used was also available to every child in the district rather than just those targeted with the academy. Students showed an average 5% increase over just the 2 week period.

**Next Meeting December 4 –** \*Still meeting 1st Friday of every other month: Dec. Feb. Apr. June