**Virtual Meeting of Cedar Valley's Promise Early Childhood Coalition**

**Friday, Feb. 4, 2022**

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

**Via Zoom Link**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83660624797?pwd=YUZiZzVTL3Qyd2doa2hHRWdDS2tJZz09>  
  
Meeting ID: 836 6062 4797  
Passcode: 931452

**Purpose: To assure a full continuum of quality, inclusive early care and education opportunities (for young children birth-8 years and their families) are available within the community. The means for us to accomplish this is through collaboration (to maximize community resources in three primary focus areas).**

**(1) Early intervention and health**

**(2) Parent education and support services**

1. **Early care and education**

**This coalition serves as the community advisory committee for Shared Visions, MIECHV, and Early Childhood Health.**

**In Attendance:** Brenda Loop, Cedar Valley’s Promise; Sarah Boleyn, Child Care Resource & Referral; Mindy Dolan, Operation Threshold; Joanne Lane, CVP Board Member; Jamie Clancy, Cedar Valley Preschool & Child Care; Ashley Meinhart, Family & Children’s Council; Joni Spencer, Together for Youth; Jaynie Mason, Operation Threshold; Linda Jacoby, Cedar Valley Preschool & Child Care; Ed Gruenwald, Grin & Grow; Jay Mattson, CUCCC; Angela Johnson, YWCA, Diane Hoffman, BH Health Dept; Paola Trujillo, ISU Extension; Lindsay Lauck and Liz Melcher, LSI; Rachel Weber, CCR&R Intern; Jessica Ruiz Hemmen, YWCA; and Traci Smith, 1st Five.

**Agenda:**

1. **Introductions and Agency Sharing**

**Joni Spencer**-Together for Youth groups are meeting in person once a month with their support person. They are starting some programming for dads and grandparents. Success Street has begun offering in school services again.

**Jaynie Mason**-Parents as Teachers in Black Hawk County. Tamika Fisher will be starting back on Monday. Only virtual visits happening right now. They are accepting referrals for new families if you know anyone.

**Jamie Clancy and Linda Jacoby**-Cedar Valley Preschool & Child Care They have applied for a stabilization grant. They recently had their first covid outbreak. Two staff are finishing the T.E.A.C.H. program with an AA degree and 4 staff are on WAGE$.

**Ed Gruenwald**-Grin & Grow. Also had a covid outbreak recently.

**Ashley Meinhart**-FCC-two fundraising events are coming up. 2/24 @ 6:30 will be a trivia night. You can contact Amanda for tickets. 1984 “Prom” 4/8 at 7 pm at Hilton Garden Inn. Wrapping up the accreditation program with the state. They are the first Coordinated Intake program to go through the process. They have a new admin named Joyce.

**Angela & Jessica**-YWCA-PASS parenting group is having trouble with staffing including child care for the PASS group. They are unable to advertise for staff openings on Indeed very often because they have significantly raised their costs. They have been working on recruitment strategies and removing barriers so people can attend the groups that are being offered.

**Lindsay & Liz**-LSI HOPES-still doing virtual visits, have been doing a lot of outreach with community agencies to recruit families for home visiting. Outreach email address is: WaterlooOutreach@lsiowa.org The staff will come present to your staff if needed.

**Paola**-ISU Extension-going through training for Buy Eat Live Healthy program

**Mindy**-OT-beginning stages of planning Nest Parenting Fair. Watch for info coming from Rachel soon about that; it will likely be happening virtually again this year.

**Diane Hoffman**-BH CCNC-approaching 2 years with covid. Just last month we reached an all time high of outbreaks. Approximately 95% of the child care centers were in outbreak status. New guidelines have come out twice in the last week. The preschool age and younger children need to be excluded for 10 days if they cannot wear a mask and are too young to be vaccinated. School-age children have different guidelines. Diane feels they will be looking at how long the vaccines are good for.

February is Dental Health Month. The i-Smile program will be offering free dental services 2/18 at Kimball & Beecher for 1-13 year olds. Please call Kimball & Beecher at (319) 235-6287 to schedule an appointment for this date. Age one to thirteen. Times are from 8 am - 1 pm at the 4501 Prairie Parkway, Cedar Falls location. This event is designed to meet the increasing needs of families who are unable to find a dental provider who accepts Iowa Medicaid or will provide services when there is a lack of insurance or transportation resources. If transportation is an issue, Medicaid patients are advised to contact the member service phone number on the back of the Iowa Medicaid care to schedule a ride. Scheduling must be done at least three days prior to appointment day. Call Kimball and Beecher at (319) 235-6287 to schedule an appointment. All kinds of services are covered including x-rays, cleanings, filling, dental sealants, etc. Families need to register in advance.

Dental health is part of the new IQ4K. Diane will be helping programs with dental policies and giving out toothbrushes. Make sure to communicate with families served to keep up with dental and well-child exams. Handwashing is still very important and hopefully warmer weather will be coming soon.

**Rachel Meyer**-CCR&R Intern, Senior at UNI in Family Services and minor in Recreation.

**Sarah Boleyn**-CCR&R-continuing to support providers with all the illnesses in child care, still dealing with lots of staff shortages in child care also. Lots of grant opportunities right now for child care programs. A lot of consultants are working with programs on ChildNet and both QRS and IQ4K. Three programs are preparing for a Level 5 QRS rating. Programs still working with challenging behaviors. Seven face to face trainings will be happening this spring.

**Traci Smith**-BH Bremer Buchanan Grundy 1st Five-still accepting referrals. Meeting later today for people new to the community about school registration. Will be providing ASQ training soon for child care programs.

1. **Additions/ modifications to agenda** None
2. **Approval of minutes of Dec. 3 virtual meeting**-Motion to approve minutes as presented by Joni and seconded by Jaynie
3. **CVP report and update-**Brenda has joined the Oral Health Iowa Advocacy group. She has also joined the Shared Services Co-Design team looking at the possible merging of DHS and IDPH. The CVP board approved the funding process for FY23 at its January meeting. All current contractors were notified that only an updated budget is needed this year. New applicants will need to complete the full proposal. The board will be discussing the preschool scholarship process in March for FY23. All second quarter reports have been posted to the website.
4. **MIECHV update**-none
5. **Shared Visions-**only have a few openings which is great.
6. **Community Awareness, Education, Advocacy** Prevent Child Abuse Month is coming up in April. Would like to get a plan together for Black Hawk County. Other counties are putting together bags for families to pick up at story time at libraries. Struggles with child care programs continues. Many programs received the challenge grants which came out in 2 different rounds. Still a severe shortage in staffing. Several bills related to child care are moving through the Iowa legislature. The details are below.

[**HSB 510**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001JZAljZhoOjUde8vQLOcGFLvO7gnKRuDELnt31TsqwdmvrdTGdZjL1msk501JrPimLx8NprxD64sS6TxtRvyYUnj5wgVFzqmZYyr_i0hrqNxJJO81o8AXBbMrbcqdXPykfHi1KJk0-sAVgQHr7h4nrMFotghlXol-lPoTRerYTglh7RVyw7j1jCwmK2qyQd1JemeDAYq5iiWU0UyDfRJ0TQ==&c=rZxK3-AwV5qU3f2TPS782j0jLzG1rhUkf6srE813b9qQh1IrspPEgg==&ch=fE9YVBCh_TbQZoP2ZPdnbV0A4edyztTITwanAj_CIBE4X9NYUi4C5A==) **(now**[**HF 2127**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001JZAljZhoOjUde8vQLOcGFLvO7gnKRuDELnt31TsqwdmvrdTGdZjL1msk501JrPimn08uOZh9UP3GVVsDvOGz02PSu06YLqwhzaTKlXbv7ZBh9Yk_pQltrjzpp8DOF3Xb08UnbymXBTT6cJSDChWm4vTZdJdPcmJhPASmlx3NCXY_sdW6pZEWYiJsqn7KmmEK82rAo0c1z5f4KYcsxQp5IQ==&c=rZxK3-AwV5qU3f2TPS782j0jLzG1rhUkf6srE813b9qQh1IrspPEgg==&ch=fE9YVBCh_TbQZoP2ZPdnbV0A4edyztTITwanAj_CIBE4X9NYUi4C5A==)**) Childcare Reimbursement.**This legislation allows for childcare providers and parents accessing childcare assistance to agree to additional client financial contribution to secure childcare.

[**HSB 511**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001JZAljZhoOjUde8vQLOcGFLvO7gnKRuDELnt31TsqwdmvrdTGdZjL1msk501JrPim60ctL0AEBA7oUq2vMzji-26Q_iwMQgYGkPeyvN_GKJowy-RkjntR64uY2qmENxFSl-xU6arXhoAQGSBYl1WAsEcdq04lmX6RxNvGdHOEheBEiBPe4P7deqOiiEjXhQBBIPo0AvVyngj5PWaPmXyZ1w==&c=rZxK3-AwV5qU3f2TPS782j0jLzG1rhUkf6srE813b9qQh1IrspPEgg==&ch=fE9YVBCh_TbQZoP2ZPdnbV0A4edyztTITwanAj_CIBE4X9NYUi4C5A==)**(now**[**HF 2131**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001JZAljZhoOjUde8vQLOcGFLvO7gnKRuDELnt31TsqwdmvrdTGdZjL1msk501JrPimyTfKg5Kq1QsNfcUudz2n1MD0sP4fr4sSGU5fj3A26BGFt60tJOVeT6RyNss6mA3LM0aXbGuqy5T_JagG1_AxNv-M_0CcAapuddpUZjxHOJkOhYQ82D1jRs25rMlQwi60pD13PKGTqsSoDolHRUx9_A==&c=rZxK3-AwV5qU3f2TPS782j0jLzG1rhUkf6srE813b9qQh1IrspPEgg==&ch=fE9YVBCh_TbQZoP2ZPdnbV0A4edyztTITwanAj_CIBE4X9NYUi4C5A==)**) Childcare Ratios.**This bill was amended in committee to raise the number of children one staff person can care for to seven children for two-year-olds and ten children for three-year-olds. There is a subcommittee on the Senate companion SSB 3065 scheduled for Monday.

[**HSB 539**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001JZAljZhoOjUde8vQLOcGFLvO7gnKRuDELnt31TsqwdmvrdTGdZjL1msk501JrPimdLF_tWfxtqVEJBsbOL07jr9FIWcON32lLiwjtutYMP3EOPZYyi2q9u3zxBeo45alOYp6qmHDy8KmzYBJeXMjlEqfGi1HcXCY54qK6RUnrOK2PZLvR1vgaLfmUZknQ0PmMDonarwrNg6ODZPdojeRgg==&c=rZxK3-AwV5qU3f2TPS782j0jLzG1rhUkf6srE813b9qQh1IrspPEgg==&ch=fE9YVBCh_TbQZoP2ZPdnbV0A4edyztTITwanAj_CIBE4X9NYUi4C5A==) **Childcare Working Age.** In its original form, this legislation would have allowed 16-year-olds and volunteers to work in a childcare setting unsupervised. The bill was amended in full committee to remove the volunteer provision, to allow for this in childcare centers only and only for school age children. With this amendment the bill passed committee 18-1.

New IQ4K is coming out soon. It will be more work for programs and a lot more of a continuous quality improvement rather than a 1-time check every 2 years. It will be an online system and staff turnover will be a challenge with the IQ4K system due to keeping information current on the i-PoWeR training registry. All levels will be eligible for bonuses and the current system does not do a bonus for level 1.

Week of the Young Child coming up April 2-8, 2022.

1. **Early Childhood Health-**Kids are starting to come back for well child checks but families are not sharing with their child care program and that is a requirement for DHS. Open enrollment is happening now for the Voluntary Preschool for 4-year-olds. Contract tracing will be ending 2/11/21 soon for covid cases. Child care programs will still need to let the state know if they have positive cases.
2. **Campaign for Grade Level Reading**-steering committee continues to meet monthly. Some members of the steering committee will be meeting with the Sioux City area that is very similar to ours without a paid staff person.

**Next Meeting**

**April 1**