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

**Friday, April 14, 2023**

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

**Via Zoom Link**

 **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, Campaign for Grade Level Reading and Early Childhood Health.**

**In Attendance**: SarahBoleyn CCR&R, Missy Denning FCC, Alisha Hunt LSI, Sarah Kenkel Hawkeye Community College, Ashley Meinhart FCC, Lindsey Lauck LSI, Brooke Olson TFY, Traci Smith 1st Five, Jamie Clancy Cedar Valley Preschool, Jay Mattson Community United, and Ed Gruenwald Grin & Grow.

**\*Minutes taken by Missy Denning.**

**Agenda:**

1. **Introductions and Agency Sharing**

**YPT**: ASQ screenings are being provided at YPT for participants’ children. This is being done by trained staff. Child care is a challenge for participants to find and therefore limits them in attending school. The YPT Grandparents group has consistent attendance and is a cohesive and committed group. YPT has been having large weekly groups of 20-25 individuals attending. Brooke provided YPT program information for those that may know of a teen parent that would be eligible to attend.

**CCR&R**: working with centers on supports and had a new center open; staffing in addition to parents being able to access child care continues to be a concern; trainings are offered on-going, but due to warmer weather it feels like less people want to attend in person

**FCC**: coordinated intake referrals to partners (June 22-Dec 22) totaled 175, increase over last year in prenatal referrals during that same time with the Baby Safety Program a possible reason; Trivia Night is tonight (4/14) at 6:30 at UAW

**LSI**: Baby Shower- held 4/13, great turnout, Liz will get data out to everyone in the upcoming weeks; continuing home visits and have done some group events- most have returned to in-person; always taking referrals so please send them her way

**Grin & Grow**: Megan is the new Director of Education (welcome, Megan!); a name change will take place in the coming months- Grin & Grow will be known as Growing Minds Early Learning Center

**Black Hawk County Public Health Dept (1st Five)**: all referrals must come from physicians; currently training providers on screening tools; new staff member to work with Kareni population (welcome, Layna!); participating in community fairs

**CUCCC**: things are going well, busy with kids

**CVPCC**: interviewing for a cook; intern is doing outstanding and may be continuing through summer; staffing shortage for direct care; working on IQ4K; received a Teen Trust grant; 4/22 participating in North Cedar Spring Clean Up

**HCC**: provides resources to students; enrolling for summer and fall

1. **Additions/modifications to agenda**-none
2. **CVP report and update**- Brooke shared Brenda Loop’s Update: Budgets for existing contractors are due April 20. Any organizations that want to apply for funding that are not receiving funds this year may complete a full application also due April 20. (Preschool scholarship programs do not need to submit a proposal or budget.)

Third quarter reports are also due April 20. Programs using DAISEY, I will pull those reports for you.

The ECI Association held a legislative breakfast on March 29. It was well attended and we plan to do a similar event next year.

We have received preliminary allocations for FY24 from the state. We are slated to receive a 7% reduction in Early Childhood Funds and a 6% reduction in School Ready funds. Total allocation is projected to be $1,054,312 down from $1,124,636 for this year (reduction of about $70,000). We do anticipate some carryover funds. Currently funded programs should not try to reduce their expenditures in the last 3 months of this fiscal year as we are going to be close to the 20% carryover due to underspending in a couple of contracts. If individual contractors have questions, please reach out to Brenda.

Brenda attended the NAEYC Public Policy Conference in February as a board member of Iowa AEYC. Visits were held with all of Iowa's congress people except Marionette Miller-Meeks.

Brenda will attend the Professional Learning Institute for NAEYC in June in Portland, OR.

There are 2 openings for males on the ECI State Board if you know someone who may be interested. They do have to be appointed through the Governor's Office.

The Iowa AEYC Spring Leadership Conference is coming up on April 28 and 29. You may register for 1 or 2 days. It is at the Hilton Garden Inn in Urbandale.

In the Iowa Legislature, the bill increasing child care assistance rates is still moving forward (HF 707). We are hopeful this will pass as there is a projected $100 million surplus in child care assistance for FY23.

HF 319 is also still alive and removes the requirement for a pre-employment physical for those working in child care.

HF 343 that would automatically provide child care assistance for people who work in child care's own children did not pass the second funnel.

1. **MIECHV update**- No Update at this time
2. **Shared Visions**- No Update at this time
3. **Community Awareness, Education, Advocacy** –
* May 2nd: HHS Input on CCR&R services and new contract; 6:30pm at Deery Center
* May 12th: Provider Appreciation Day
* AWH is hosting a maternal health coalition; first meeting was this week
* Stewards of Children: contact Naomi at FCC to schedule this free training for staff or parents (319.234.7600)
* Care for Kids- May 20th
* Success Street (physical locations at Carver, East, West) serving all Waterloo Schools (319.433.2780)
* What’s Where in The Cedar Valley: contact FCC to pick up needed copies of this free community resource directory (office staff available T-Th, 8am-1pm; phone to arrange other times); thanks to DECAT for contributing funding to make this resource available
1. **Early Childhood Health**- Brooke shared about the Maternal Health Coalition meeting that has been put together by Allen Women’s Health. The meeting was just held this past Wednesday and another one is coming up in June. This is an opportunity for those to get involved that are interested in the focus on maternal and reproductive health and sharing community resources to improve maternal health outcomes.
2. **Campaign for Grade Level Reading**- No update at this time.

**Next Meeting**

**June 2nd**