**Virtual Meeting**

**Of**

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

**Friday, June 4, 2021**

**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, and Early Childhood Health.**

**Agenda:**

1. **Introductions and Agency Sharing**

Liz Melcher, LSI-still meeting with families virtually. They may be returning to the office soon. They are accepting referrals for families. Some staff are being trained as doulas.

Ashley Meinhart, FCC-back in the office sometimes, still working from home sometimes. Planning a fundraiser for this fall. Back meeting in person with families in the hospital. Have been providing car seat fittings at child care centers as kids get picked up in the afternoons.

Brooke Olson, TFY/YPT-weeky drive through services on Mondays at the food bank; they get groceries, diapers and wipes. The education pieces are all happening on Zoom. Numbers have doubled or tripled since the pandemic started. YPT was featured with a national organization called Healthy Teen Network along with other teen programs across the country. They will have a float at My Waterloo Days next week. Success Street at West and East High School remain open all summer for mental health counseling as well as things like physicals through their partnership with People’s Community Health.

Linda Jacoby, Cedar Valley Preschool and Child Care-looking forward to summer programming and being able to do field trips and have people coming in for programming again. They are at full capacity for this summer.

Jaynie Mason, OT PAT-still working remotely, may start staggering back to the office. WIC will start seeing families in person July 1. Families are anxious to start meeting with home visiting staff in person again.

Jay Mattson, CUCCC-glad to have families be able to come in without masks now.

Amanda McKee, LSI-navigating a return to home visiting, the three different funders don’t have the same guidance so it’s difficult to move forward with one plan.

Mellina Wrage, CCR&R, new as a child care consultant/training specialist for Black Hawk County. She just completed her internship with CCR&R this spring.

Sarah Boleyn, CCR&R-back in the office with no restrictions on number of people in the office. Staff can continue to work remotely as needed. More face to face visits with child care programs are happening and staff follow the program’s wishes regarding face to face or virtual and masks or not. Investing in Child Care work is busy. Staff and child care homes are transitioning July 1 from ChildNet 2.0 to 3.0. All CCR&R trainings will be posted on i-power July 1.

Amanda Kirchhoff, OT-Will be able to see people face to face starting July 1.

1. **Additions/ modifications to agenda**

None

1. **Approval of minutes of April virtual meeting**

Motion to approve by Jay, seconded by Linda. Motion approved.

1. **CVP report and update**

Brenda shared that funding decisions for FY22 contracts will be made at the June 17 board meeting. As a result of work from the ECI Area Association, school ready funds were tied to the K-12 school funding formula in the legislature and were increased by 2.4%. Additionally, the percentage that can be used for administration was increased from 3% to 5%. This is the pot of money that helps cover the expenses of having a local ECI director. Preschool scholarship applications are still being accepted. The Black Hawk Child Care Coalition will be hosting a town hall on child care on Zoom, June 15. You should have received a flyer via email. Fourth quarter reports are due July 20. Mike Knapp has joined the CVP Board. Because the Governor’s emergency health declaration was allowed to sunset, our board as well as this early childhood coalition will need to provide a public attendance option. We will poll the group as we get closer to the next meeting to see if folks still want to meet on Zoom with a public in person option or meet fully face to face.

1. **MIECHV update**

None

1. **Shared Visions-update**

None

1. **Community Awareness, Education, Advocacy**

Tuesday there was a statewide town hall meeting related to the Governor’s Task Force about child care. Jay is on the regulatory barriers sub-group. Programs from across the state participated. Still a challenge to recruit and keep the child care staff with such low wages. Child care programs have received information about enrolling in WAGE$.

1. **Early Childhood Health**

None. Linda Jacoby gave a shoutout to Diane for the time she spent with them preparing for a QRS application.

1. **Campaign for Grade Level Reading**

The steering committee continues to meet monthly and work on transitioning to a non-staffed program. Waterloo School District will be having their We Believe Summer Learning Academy this summer for 800 students at 6 locations.

**Next Meeting**

**Aug. 6**