

Dubuque County Early Childhood (DCEC) Board Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2020, Keystone and/or GoToMeeting

2310 Chaney Road, Dubuque, IA

Board Attendance: Angela Petsche, Laura Roussel, Linda Martin, Dan Huss, Don Vrotsos, Jim Guentherman, Gina Blean, Kim Glaser, Cindy Steffen, Abigail Degenhardt (Director)

Program Attendance: Amy Kallaher, Tara Roddick, Stacey Killian, Kristy Fenwick

Agenda

Call to Order at 12:00pm by Angela

Key Action Items:

1. September BOD Minutes p.2
2. September Exec – Fin Cmte Minutes p.4
3. Child Care Grant Request p.6 – ***New site for Little Leaps in Key West with 86 additional slots for child care.***
4. Elizabeth Wilhelm p.7 – ***Don spoke on Elizabeth's behalf, Abbey also spoke on her behalf. Angela will ask to approve her application and will invite her to the November meeting.***
5. Home Visitation Policy – ***Emergency only p.8 – Abbey and Kristy updated board on new guidance from State ECI, shared program policy and forms that will be used in emergency situations to allow for in-home visits. This is for emergencies only; program continues to offer only virtual visits until further notice.***
6. Bank Statement p.17

Motion to approve action items made by Laura, seconded by Don.

Discussion/Updates:

1. 2021 Gala: SAVE THE DATES: April 9 or September 9
Theme: *Success Starts Early – First 2,000 Days*
2. CCRR: New In-Home Child Care Provider Program Updates – ***Tara shared that to date 26 inquiries; 1 has received stipend; 1 waiting on DHS inspection.***
3. Family Resource Guide – ***plan to get to printer within next week or two. Will be printed & bundled by Union Hoermann Press and distributed to all schools for families with children PS-5th grade.***
4. Annual Report Updates – ***report has been submitted. Sherri continues to assist but declines monetary incentive, Don suggested to invite her to Gala w/out cost – all agreed. Will be working on comparing budget submitted to HK financial statements (Sherri will be assisting with this as well, has told Abbey she would like all of her help to be done as a volunteer).***
5. Childcare Collaboration Efforts City Council Work Session – Dec. 7 - ***Tara & Abbey will be presenting. Have also been asked to participate in 'Town Hall' type event featuring a video specific to poverty in our community – they will speak to how early childhood plays into this.***
6. Program Updates:
PAT – ***no additional updates (see above re: emergency visit policy).***
CCRR – ***Childcare Coalition will be going to monthly meetings. DHS no longer charging for centers for fingerprints! 'Cares Act' funding total for Dubuque County March-Sept. is \$701,300. CCRR received disaster relief funds through foundation & distributed gloves and masks to centers!***
VNA – ***Oral health program has started doing some in-person visits at centers! Also doing some phone visits. Kim G. providing a lot of Covid related supports to centers (as well as 'regular' supports). 18 centers have at least 1 positive covid case; 2 have 'outbreak'. Offering free flu shots to adults – no income requirements. Vaccination clinics for children are filling fast. Have started immunization record audits at schools and centers. Covid is rapidly rising in Dubuque County; VNA will be doing enhanced contact tracing.***
Clarke – ***none***

New Business

1. Input from the Community - ***none***

Adjourn at 12:52 pm – motion by Laura seconded by Kim

