

Shawnee County ECC Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2015 - 1:30 to 3:30 - KCSL, 3545 SW 5th

Attendees: Brenda Brown, Rebecca Clancy, Lisa Collette, Nancy El-Amin, Chasity Foster, Jessica Hosman, Kathy Johnson, Janice Jones, LaTonya Lewis, Ashley Martinez, Margarita Munoz, Misti Robertson, Tracy Tugman, Kerry Tummons, Luanne Webb, Renee Wohletz, and Carole Creason

Staff: Rebecca Clancy (Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Rebecca Clancy

1. Welcome and Announcements:

2. Approval of August minutes: The August minutes were approved as written.

3. Presentation on the Kansas Endowment for Youth (KEY) and Children's Initiatives Fund (CIF) sweeps, and the impact on early childhood programs; given by Hilary Gee:

- A. Hilary explained that the Kansas Action for Children is a non-profit/non-partisan organization; focusing on education, economic and health policy. The CASS grant comes through CIF. KEY and CIF were created from the tobacco settlement and are administered by the Children's Cabinet. KEY money should stay there until funneled out. It supports early education in the state. However, 200 million dollars has been swept from the fund since 2000. Now, the endowment is essentially empty with about 140,000 dollars.
- B. KAFC is at the statehouse January through May, or until the session ends.
- C. An Advocacy pamphlet was distributed.
- D. Two other efforts:
 - 1) Kids Count Report is necessary for grant applications and community interest.
 - 2) Think Big, Start Small's website is www.thinkbigstartsmallks.com.
- E. Studies show that in early childhood development, for every \$1.00 invested, approximately \$7.00 is returned.
- F. Partnership for Early Success is hosting a symposium lunchtime event on Feb 2, 2016, emphasizing the importance of early intervention. This would be a good opportunity to invite your legislator to attend.
- G. A copy of Hilary's PowerPoint is attached.

4. Website:

- A. A website submission form was distributed. It will be sent to everyone via email.

5. Report on Infant/Toddler Services:

- A. Kathy reported that the Topeka community, along with two other communities, has been chosen to participate in a state systematic improvement plan; targeted because of the high amount of Medicaid recipients. It's a 5 year plan to support children with emotional and social development. It is data driven and will show outcomes. The plan will be implemented on all children. Meetings will be quarterly and anyone is welcome to participate. More to come.

6. Consider Chair-Elect Nominations

- A. Rebecca explained the position. There are no nominations at this time. Please notify Rebecca if you, or, someone you know, would like to be nominated for this position.

7. Other:

- A. Nancy announced that 501 needs an Early Childhood Education Specialist.
- B. Kerry suggested reaching out to early education professionals. Washburn would be a place to start with student involvement. Dr. Reddick is a contact there.
- C. Lisa reported on Two Hands/One Voice; a support group for families with hard of hearing or deaf family members. They meet once a month.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Next meeting is October 5th