

Shawnee County ECC Meeting Minutes

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

Attendees: Rebecca Clancy, Lisa Collette, Christina Craig, Chasity Foster, Tressie Hurley, Kathy Johnson, Janice Jones, LaTonya Lewis, Julie McGinley, Margarita Munoz, Melanie Salsbury, Tracy Tugman, Luanne Webb, Renee Wohletz, and Carole Creason

Staff: Rebecca Clancy (Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Rebecca Clancy

1. Welcome and Announcements:

- A. Sheldon Head Start is taking applications; however, there is a waiting list.
- B. The Care Conference is October 10th, hosted by KDHE, for families with children with special health care needs.
- C. Baby Shower at Avondale East is October 17.
- D. The Parent Leadership Conference is Nov 6 & 7. Information on KCSL website.
- E. The Governor's Conference is in Topeka at the Capital Plaza, November 4-6.

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

3. Overview of CASS and Family Engagement Grants:

- A. Renee reported that the CASS grant is a 3 years of funding for 9 agencies. 2017 will see a probable decrease in funding. Reva has presented to block grantees to have 5 key community partners do the work: The Topeka Community Foundation, United Way, Chamber of Commerce, Topeka & Shawnee County Library, and Heartland Visioning. A business conference will be scheduled to have leaders learn why early childhood is important and to establish the public/private partnership.
- B. Kathy gave a review of the Family Engagement Grant. The Kellogg grant was given to 8 communities in Kansas to promote family engagement: \$5000 for the first year and \$3000 for the second and third years. Pine Ridge Prep, a high risk area, is the focus of the first year. 21 families are participating and earning points by attending family events. They will receive gift cards for points earned, with a grand prize of a \$300 gift card to a family focused event.

4. Develop Action Steps for Strategic Plan: The entire group was involved in a discussion on the abbreviated plan. From the draft, the Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, Goals, Action Steps and Progress Indicators were reviewed. Changes can be made as needed.

- A. The Community will understand and value the importance of engaging early with families and children, prenatal to school age.
 - 1) Build private/public partnership.
 - 2) Consider the Financial Conference.
 - 3) Individual organizations will publicize and promote each event that is related to early childhood in the community (Parent Leadership, Governor's Conference, Partnership for Early Success). These can be promoted in doctors' offices, clinics, hospitals, etc.
 - 4) Identify target areas to promote – like websites that have the events.
- B. The ECC will continue to build and enhance awareness and access to resources through an increased social media presence.
 - 1) Continuing to work on the ECC Website, tracking the number of hits to see if visits are increasing.
 - 2) Website information can be added to packets given to all new moms at hospital.
 - 3) ECC could consider a FaceBook page.
 - 4) Member agencies can add the ECC website to their website and FaceBook page.
 - 5) The website and QR code could be added to Successful Connections' pamphlets.

- C. Families will be strengthened by an increased awareness and opportunities for family engagement.
 - 1) Review what is already being done with the Family Engagement Grant and move forward from there.
 - 2) Some printing costs could be covered by the Family Engagement grant.
 - 3) Topeka Metro could advertise (could possibly be a partner).
 - 4) Library could possibly advertise.
 - 5) ECC could have a booth at the Mom's Everyday event to promote the website.
 - 6) Each agency could make a presentation to a group; like Rotary.
 - 7) TDC could look into downtown child care, like Westar, and others.
 - 8) Kathy will contact the zoo for handouts at Boo at the Zoo.
 - 9) Brooke can give us a report on how much money is left in the grant.

5. Report on Infant/Toddler Services:

- A. Kathy reported on the upcoming Care Conference.
- B. TARC has some staff openings.

6. Consider Chair-Elect Nominations

- A. 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. Members like the abbreviated strategic plan draft format.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Next meeting is November 2nd