

DHLW Early Childhood Area
Des Moines, Henry, Louisa, Washington

November 21st 2017 5:00pm
Presbyterian Church
400 N Elm St, New London, IA

Minutes

Members Present: Melody Raub, Brad Quigley, Mike Steele, Stan Stoops

Members Absent: Jim Cary, Matt Latcham, Tricia Lipski, Chad Reckling, Dina Saunders, Sheila Temple

Advisory members and guests present: Tasha Beghtol, Representative Dave Heaton, Representative Phil Miller, Steve Ita, Becky Bloom, Meghan Schrag, Natalie Bennett, Amanda McKee, Linda Cavazos, Fabiola Manyi-Orellana, Stephanie Gardner, Michelle Ross, Jodi Norton, Julie Meir, Julie Ledger, Linda Boshart, Jan Shelman, Marcia Munford, Jessica Burnham, Roberta Sloat, Ginger Knisley, Danielle Petit-Majewski, Cheryl Flaatten

Quorum was not met and all action items will be addressed at the next regularly scheduled meeting in January. Melody Raub welcomed guests and moved to the presentations on the agenda.

Danville Early Learning Center

Steve Ita and Becky Bloom provided information about the childcare center located in Danville Elementary. The center currently serves 161 children, infant through 6th grade, and has 18 staff, including 3 full time. Staff turnover has slowed down, but salaries are low. The center has a QRS 3 and is getting ready to go through re-licensure. Rates will increase in January in order to sustain the program.

The Family Connection – Washington County

Meghan Schrag shared information about the program and introduced Natalie Bennett, a program participant. Natalie talked about the positive impact that the program has had on her as a parent. The Family Connection – WC is a Parents as Teachers (PAT) affiliate. Meghan noted some of the challenges in meeting both ECI and PAT requirements for visit ratios.

The Family Connection – Henry County

Stephanie Gardner shared information and answered questions about the Henry County based program. It is an approved user of the Parents as Teachers model. Stephanie highlighted some of the scenarios that parent educators encounter on visits and the challenges that local families are facing. She reviewed a checklist used by parent educators to help determine the level of services and home visits that families receive based on identified needs.

Louisa County Nest and HOPES

Amanda McKee from LSI (Lutheran Services in Iowa) shared information and answered questions about both programs serving families in Louisa County. Programs have a strong partnership with local public health and good referral system. LSI has unique experience with operating multiple models of family support. The organization runs PAT, Healthy Families America, and Nest programs. Amanda provided additional information on home visit dosage and the process for determining the level of services in the HOPES program.

Meeting ended at 7:15pm

Next meeting will be January 16th 2018

Minutes submitted by Tasha Beghtol, Director

Approved on _____ Secretary _____