

**Coordinating Board for Early Childhood
Early Care and Education Programs Workgroup
April 24, 2013 from 10:00-3:00 (working lunch)**

MINUTES

CBEC Mission:

To ensure that Missouri's early childhood programs and services are comprehensive, coordinated, accessible, adequately funded and of the highest quality to meet the needs and to promote the well-being of all young children and their families. This can be accomplished by (a) developing key partnerships, (b) building collaborative strategies and (c) ensuring equal access to necessary resources, resulting in the implementation of an effective and sustainable early childhood system.

Participants: Daryl Rothman, Carol Scott, Bev Hooker, Pam Speer, Angie Oesterly, Shirley Patterson, Christy Brookins, Jennifer Crouch, Sherri Kagan, Tina Trueblood, Melissa Chambers, Terri Foulkes, Leann Cantu, Carol Bolz; On phone: Brie Connet

- **Review of CBEC final decisions on workgroups' requests for funded projects:**

The status of each CBEC funded project was reviewed. Most projects have commenced, some are pending a selection of vendor/contactor, and since all related funds must be expended by August 31, the goal is for each project to be completed by July 31, to allow for processing of results/information, and any outstanding fiscal/procurement aspects.

- **Discussion of desired results from funded projects:**

Career Lattice white paper: Terri Foulkes stressed that the Missouri After School Network (MASN) is focusing on similar career and professional development issues in their current work, and proposed partnering with CBEC/ECE Programs work group on the career lattice work. She offered that MASN could likely match the funds being allocated for this paper(\$7,500 is the likely current sum for that work), so that the work would include youth and school age professional information in addition to early childhood. After discussion, the work group agreed a formal proposal to CBEC at the upcoming April 30 meeting, would be appropriate.

Angela Oesterly said she will send Daryl DHSS licensing rules regarding credential/experience requirements for early childhood professionals, and information regarding rules that may be on the DHSS radar for possible revisions. Daryl will forward to the work group.

Parent Perceptions literature review: The group wished to ensure that the research includes a representative range of perceptions on the issue of quality in early care and education. It was stressed that the information gleaned should help us find key levers for raising parents' awareness, in turn assisting our ability to better provide education and information. The suggestion was made that the information gleaned in the research should be codified relative to key benchmarks, such as those provided by NAEYC and NACCRA—Carol provided more information for the group about the Child Care Aware® of America bi-annual reports, which can be found at usa.childcareaware.org under research/publications and “We Can Do Better” (for Center licensing/monitoring) and “Leaving Children to Chance” (for Family Child Care Home licensing/monitoring).

The group stressed the importance of aggregating the findings, and Shirley Patterson suggested that a meta-analysis be conducted.

Compensation white paper: Carol reiterated that this project has already commenced, but that consideration could be given as to how best to utilize the information that will be gleaned. Some compensation initiatives are well known: North Carolina's WAGE\$ may be the best known; TEACH is well-known, and there are other compensation initiatives that exist. The refresh of the information on these initiatives will address which ones still exist, how they are being funded, whether they were sustained through the recent recession, and how effective the initiatives have been. It was suggested that information yielded should include youth and school age, and not just early childhood. Daryl made this request to the contractor (Public Consulting Group).

MO Directors Survey: The group discussed key aspects of what the survey should entail. This survey is intended to ascertain what training directors are receiving, to pair with information from the Missouri Workshop Calendar on what is being offered, which will also ascertain where the training is being offered, and the variety of delivery methods via which it is being offered. Survey respondents will be asked about their level and content of education, and accreditation status of their facility. The survey will inquire about respondents' preferred mode and content of trainings, and their assessment of the quality of the training they have received.

It was suggested that the information gleaned should be shared with higher ed, so that there may be alignment with credentials and course offerings. Carol informed the group that the TEACH and MOPD portals have a listing of colleges and their early childhood degrees/credentials/coursework. Jennifer suggested that consideration needs to be given to awarding clock-hours for courses/training on areas such as management which will not always be tailored specifically for early childhood, but can nevertheless be very relevant and impactful.

The group stressed that the information yielded from the survey should be used to make recommendations to CBEC pertaining to licensure/clock hours, and that the researcher should be asked to utilize established definitions (from NAEYC, MO AEYC, DHSS) of early childhood “directors.” It was agreed that group homes ought NOT be included in this survey.

Public Awareness Campaign: Ad Zou students will present their products/messaging on May 10, and True Media will be presenting their dissemination plan May 9. It was suggested that the ability of other entities and individuals to access and utilize components of the campaign could be vital toward effective and widespread dissemination. Ideas included home visitors, ECE staff, pregnancy care centers, pediatrician and OBGYN offices, the Child Care Aware® of Missouri newsletter, Educare, WIC offices, FSD offices, and many other possibilities. The request was made for True Media to visit the next ECE Programs work group meeting (likely in early July).

- **Legislative and Child Advocacy Day update:**

Those who attended Child Advocacy Day on April 2 reported a successful and pretty well-attended event (328 registered individuals). Feedback suggested that legislators were asking more questions about early childhood issues. The rally was good and this year culminated on the Capitol lawn, and some legislators were in attendance.

Carol provided a legislative update. MPP was slated for an increase but has now been reduced to 2012 levels; accreditation facilitation was lined out by the Senate. Several other bills that would impact social serves and early childhood are being closely watched, including SB 26, SB 133 and HB 571(Nathan’s Law).

- **Next steps:**

-Funded projects will continue and be monitored.

-Next work group meeting shall be slated for summer, and True Media shall be invited.

-Daryl and Terri will discuss the proposal for CBEC/MASN partnership.

-Recommendation for CBEC/MASN partnership will be presented to CBEC April 30.