

## Crawford County Early Childhood Iowa Council Meeting

Minutes 8/24/2010

Sign In & Introductions: Annette Koster, BVCS ECI; Jolene McDonald, Head Start; Retta Mitchell, Mid-Sioux CCR&R; John Sondag, WICMHC; Laura Beeck, CCHHH&PH

Agenda Review: no additions

Minutes: lost notes from June 15, 2010 meeting

Early Childhood Iowa update: Replacements for Board members, to replace faith base representative Patty Ritchie/Leslie Gustafelson, replace Sonja Cambridge/Cathy Page, replace Rhonda Christensen/Gale Randall. Sonja C resigned her position when she lost her position at DHS. Not sure who will replace her at DHS Liaison.

The Levels of Excellence implemented for Early Childhood Iowa Areas. Pilots will be done the first year it of implementation. The Levels of Excellence criterion is replacing the old form of re-designation.

Agency Community Sharing:

Jolene M: Early Head Start coming to Crawford County starting as a home base program with the goal to open a center base program. Head Start currently has 103 children in Denison, 21 on waiting list.

Retta M: Offering a Spanish ChildNet in Denison. Class is technically for home childcare providers, offered as a 10 session series. Providing information on anything, you should know before starting a childcare home. Retta will check to see if parents can attend and date. Possible new center starting rumor it will be a Hispanic center.

Laura Beeck: Currently have 26 English, 24 Spanish and 1 Sudanese-speaking parent in Family STEPS. Three families are on the Family STEPS waiting list. Baby Boutique had 50, the program may be dropped due to a reduction of funds. Have sent a letter of intent to the March of Dimes, encouraged to apply even though had already received for one three-year term. Did not receive the Prevent Child Abuse grant for Baby Boutique for Fiscal Year 11, unsure what will happen to program. Could there be a connection with Head Start? Yes. Other possible funding to try: Denison Foundation, Laura B will check on this source.

John S: School Based State Block grant funds children & families. Mentoring is functioning on volunteers using the Big Brother Big Sister model. Funding for this program is switching Fiscal Years and will follow a Federal Year Oct 1 – Sept 30. The grant does not allow you to write for the same service. Checking into see if can write for electronic medical records.

Grant Funds for CBCAP, Decat grant. Crawford and Sac are a combine Decat area and write for the funds together. Strengthening Families, hard to get families to attend. Family Team Meetings funded through CPPC funds. Have a call to LSI to see if interested, if not looking for other ideas. CPPC will be changing to a State Fiscal Year. In the past received \$7,500.

Decat Board has went to quarterly meetings. The School Base Mentoring services has trouble getting paid, connect with Tom Bouska for answers. Nim Knobbe resigned, not sure about hiring new position.

Respectfully submitted: Annette Koster