

Scott County Kids Early Childhood Iowa Board

Meeting of February 1, 2022

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Notes - **Quorum was not reached**

Call to Order: Kakert called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m.

Attendance: Jennifer Kakert, Lauren Rupe, Linda Fredriksen, Amy Huntington, Chris Castrey,

Excused: Dwayne Hodges, Chuck Keibler

Absent: Megan Heidgerken, Margie Mitchell and Kristine Oswald

Staff: Diane Martens

Guests:

Approval of Minutes December 7, 2021: quorum was not reached.

FY22 Expenditures:

Martens reviewed the FY22 expenditure report emailed the Board January 26th. Early Childhood funds are 42% spent at 50% through the year. School Ready funds are 47% spent at 50% through the year. Martens noted that in talking to Tricia Shannon, Head Start Director, Head Start funds will be completely expended as normal.

FY23 Re-Application timeline

Martens provided the proposed timeline for review. It is very similar to prior years. Martens will bring this to the March 1st board meeting.

Follow-up Head Start first quarter report

Martens reached out to Tricia Shannon following review of the first quarter reports and noting reduced enrollment. Shannon provided the following response:

HS guidelines for this year are to work towards full enrollment, knowing this is taking time with the present issues with staffing. We are trying to maintain full enrollment in these classes; however, the pandemic is still causing parents to drop as Covid cases in the communities go up. We are continuing to take applications and enroll as many as possible. Staffing struggles are our biggest challenge.

Site Visit Schedule

Martens is suggesting scheduling site visits March 14-18 this is a little later than previous years. The delay is to allow more time for prep of the February 25th site visit. Board members were in agreement to offering contractors to hold meetings on-site or via Zoom.

Re-designation Visit/Prep

The visit will take place February 25th at 10:30am. Prior to meeting with the Board the state team will meet with community partners and separately with Martens.

State ECI provided a list of questions they typically go over with Board members. Martens reviewed responses with Board members.

1st Five Update

Martens reached out to Scott County Health Dept after attending the January 20th BOH meeting where Tiffany Peterson mentioned the county applying to the Iowa Department of Public Health's RFP for 1st Five services. The 1st Five model supports health providers in the earlier detection of social-emotional and developmental delays and family risk-related factors in children birth to 5 and coordinates referrals, interventions and follow-up. Peterson replied back:

I did mention this RFP at the BOH meeting. Briana and I met this morning with UnityPoint Trinity – Muscatine and are moving

If special accommodations are needed please contact Scott County Kids 563/326-8221.

forward with a plan to submit a RFP with SCHD as the contractor and UnityPoint Trinity – Muscatine as the subcontractor. At this point, only Cedar County is funded, although IDPH may secure funding for the rest of our service area in the future (Scott, Clinton, Jackson counties). Thanks for offering your support! As this program expands, we will be sure to keep you in the loop.

Association of Early Childhood Iowa/Legislative Update

Martens has mailed the checks to the association. The association had planned an event at the Capitol for January 26th but due to rising COVID cases the event was canceled. A learning session is scheduled for tomorrow, Martens will participate.

State ECI Annual Report

The Early Childhood Iowa State Annual Report is available on the state website.

Website

Martens has been working with the county webmaster to update ECI minutes, annual reports and community plan documents on the website. The process of putting documents on the website was fairly cumbersome and was completed by the previous office assistant, after she resigned it was a struggle to get someone else trained in the process. The webmaster has created a user friendly process and Martens has uploaded the documents. The webmaster is planning to have the link on the Scott County Kids website soon.

Bylaws - review

Martens shared it has been a little while since bylaws were reviewed. She would like to have an ad-hoc committee to review them following the site visit. Martens anticipates this will consist of 2-3 meetings, one to identify needed changes and one to review the updated document before taking it to a future board meeting. Fredriksen and Castery volunteered to assist.

Other Business:

Public Input

None

Meeting adjourned at 1:33pm

Next Meeting March 1, 2022