

**Department of Workforce Services
Office of Child Care Advisory Committee
Minutes for Wednesday March 12, 2014**

Committee Attendees:

Simon Bolivar	Debbie Tilley	Kristen Courtney
Alda Jones	Janis Dubno	Danielle Pallin
Sue Okroy	Julia Mohr	Debbie Elmer
Andy Hofmeister	Janet Wade	Lisa Palmer (Johnny Anderson)

Guests:

Carrie Stott	Leah Schilling	Crystal Knippers
Diane Wilkinson	Janna Forsgren	Jessica Strout
Anneli Segura	Betsy Sutherland	Leslie Trottier
Jody Zabriskie	Patrice Isabella	Encarni Gallardo
Cammi Burns	Matt Anderson	Joyce Hastings
Kathleen Sanders	Joan Nichols	

Excused:

Rhonda Dosset

Welcome

Motion to approve minutes from January

Motion- Alda Jones

Seconds- Janet Wade

Approved

T.E.A.C.H

In Utah 43% of the adult population have an associate degree or higher (Herbert January 30, 2013), but only an estimated 7% of the early childhood workforce have at least an associate degree (CCPDI, Nov 2013). The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Utah project will be a comprehensive scholarship program that addresses under-education, low compensation, and high turnover within the early childhood workforce. It is based on national model that has been replicated in over 20 states. The four components of the program are – scholarship, education, compensation, and commitment. This scholarship program aims to improve the quality of children’s early learning experiences by increasing the number of teachers with associate degrees in early childhood programs.

A partnership between the participating early childhood program, the teacher/scholarship recipient, and the T.E.A.C.H. Utah program and staff is established. The scholarship provides 80% of tuition, 80% of books, a \$50 stipend per semester for travel. Participating programs agree to support scholarship recipients by contributing 10% the educational expenses, providing release time from work, and increasing wages annually upon successful completion. The recipient of the scholarship commits to contributing 10% of educational expenses, and continuing to work for the sponsoring center for 1 additional year for each year completed. Higher education programs are responsible for provide cutting edge course work that is relevant and accessible to all early childhood professionals.

We estimate a cost of about \$3,000 per year for each student on T.E.A.C.H, about \$65,000 annually for a cohort of 20 students. Students typically attend classes part-time and it may take 4-5 years to complete an associates degree.

Successful results of the T.E.A.C.H will be tracked through annual data on wages, teacher retention, and increased levels of professional development.

We need a motion to recommend to the Office of Child Care to support T.E.A.C.H if funds are available.

Motions for approval- Debbie Tilley

Seconds- Sue Okroy

Changes to the Professional Development

$X+Y=\$$

The X part of this equation is Education level or Career Ladder level.

Y used to be years of service. Y is being changed to number of years a provider has participated in the professional development system. Since the years of service were not correctly reflecting the total number of years a person has worked in the Child Care industry.

Program Updates

CAC

Care about Childcare (CAC) is the name of our 6 child care resource and referral agencies and the name of our child care referral website and our Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). Grants are available for licensed providers who may be new to achieving criteria or programs that have been on board and want to add new or renew existing criteria. The deadline is the end of March for all submissions. CAC offices are busy processing the criteria that have been submitted and offering technical assistance. The QRIS/CAC research project is underway with USU to help us know which criteria are the most indicative of quality and in line with the nationally recognized environment scales.

PD

One curriculum was approved for the Career Ladder: Childcare Education Institute Online Training. cceionline.edu is the website

I/T

This year's estimate is that between 25-30 programs will attend Baby Steps orientation and 20-25 will enroll. Baby Steps is a non-competitive grant and runs on a 2 year cycle. To be eligible the director or owner of each program must attend a 3 hr orientation meeting to qualify. Next Steps is competitive and a harder process so there is no number yet. There is a new Cohort group for the 2 year old grants which is for programs that do not have infants or toddlers. There are 12 programs participating and there may be up to 32 programs that will participate in the Two Year Old Grant. Next Steps is a continuation of Baby Steps, if they complete the Next Steps grant requirements they can just enroll in the 2 yr old grants. There are specialists available who can provide technical assistance to centers.

QE- Competitive Grants

QE grants are being released again as of yesterday. There are competitive grants for Family Licensed ranging from \$500 to \$800 Centers from \$3,000 to \$6,000. Then there is a special round for people who have never had a grant. There are 14 child care centers that take care of a lot of DWS kids and this is a non-competitive grant. So Colleen can help these few through the grant process. There is no remodeling with this grant, and we are focusing on materials and equipment. Applications are due April 8th @ 5 pm sharp.

Readers will be needed.

Agency

Licensing

There is a new trainer Katherine. She will be helping Joyce and will be taking over the north side of the state and Joyce will take the southern part.

Karrie Phillips is now nationally certified as a Play Ground Inspector. If you go to the licensing website and click on the FFN tab you can access the new application and information for the program.

USOE

USEO is hopeful that Bill 96 passes today or tomorrow. This bill will take children who are on reduced or free lunch and give them the opportunity for a pre-school experience.

Director Comments

Legislative update – Kristen reviewed various bills coming up for approval. Bill 159 asking for new advisory committee will write the rules for licensed committee. Licensing will end up being enforcers. This is for licensed centers only. FFN will not be affected. The committee is made up of 7 people. 3 are licensed Child Care Centers.

Reed IGP bill afterschool, with the drawn down available we can use it for subsidy as well as afterschool.

We are in the developmental process with QRIS. We are unsure of where it will go.

QRIS is a federal requirement

QRIS workgroup- If you would like to be part of this group please send your info to Toni @ tsierra@utah.gov. The first 3-4 meeting should be in person, after that call in options may be available. The first meeting should be in late June or middle of July in SLC.

May 1st 345 licensed centers. Current rate table on website.

Raise rate to licensed Center for people who take care of Special needs children.

Looking at special needs grants.

Payment to Provider before August sometime.

The 980 automation will be absorbed in the system.

Expedited and job search not till Oct. But has to push back till end of audit year.

12 month eligibility period- once you're eligible you are for a year.

Federal Grant Birth to 3- for more information contact Head Start or Katie Ricord directly.