

Delaware Early Childhood Council

Meeting Notes

May 13, 2011

Community Service Building, Wilmington, DE

Attending Members: Jeff Benatti, Cheryl Clendaniel, Debbie Gottschalk, Carlina Hall, Paul Harrell, April Hill-Addison, Beth Inter, Tony Marchio, MaryKate McLaughlin, Terri Murphy, Leslie Newman, Dan Rich, Terry Schooley, Connie Bond Stuart, Doug Tynan

Absent Members: Julie Johnson, Stephanie Johnson, Michelle Taylor

Attending Ex Officio: Karen DeRasmo, Ed Freel, Jim Lesko, Ann Wick

Others Attending: Minnie Alfree, Dawn Alexander, Sherlynn Aurelio, Janice Barlow, Marihelen Barrett, Heidi Beck, Chris Buker, Janet Carter, Jim Donahue,

Minutes from April 8, 2011 meeting were approved.

1. Presentation from the Wilmington Early Care and Education Council

Whitney Williams, WECEC, gave an overview of the WECEC's mission and activities.

2. Presentation of the Child Care Development Block Grant Plan (action item)

Debbie Gottschalk, DHSS, gave out CDs and a Handout with information on the proposed child care and development fund plan. DHSS is asking for comments and/or feedback on the proposed plan. She asked that any comments, questions and/or feedback be addressed to Barbara McCaffery. ECC decided to meet and discuss the plan on June 10th at the next ECC meeting.

3. Governor's Budget Proposal for Purchase of Care and Delaware Stars

Dan Rich led discussion around the table about the increase of Purchase of Care funding. Jim Lesko gave an overview of the budget.

4. Briefing on the Federal State Advisory Council meeting in Washington, DC

Janet Carter and April Hill-Addison briefed everyone on the SAC meeting which is administered by the Federal Department of Education and Administration for Children and Families.

- Increased focus on Early Head Start and Infants and Toddlers
- Increased access for low income children to high quality child care programs
- Focus is increased to encompass Birth to 8 year old

5. Update on the OCCL Sunset Review

Marykate McLaughlin and Patti Quinn, DSCYF, gave an update on the OCCL Sunset Review.

6. Chair's Report

Dan Rich requested that everyone contact their local representatives and Joint Finance Committee, to express support for the Governor's Budget proposal for POC and Delaware Stars. The importance of speaking with one voice was discussed.

7. Open Forum

The floor was opened to all present to share ideas, events, and feedback.

8. Next Meeting: June 10, 2011, 9 to noon at the Delaware Dept of Transportation, 800 Bay Road, Farmington/Felton Room, DeIDOT, Dover