

DELAWARE EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL

Meeting Notes

December 14, 2012

Delaware Department of Transportation, Farmington/Felton Room, Dover

Members in Attendance: Dan Rich, Jocelyn Stewart, April Hill Addison, Heidi Beck, Martha Buell, Cheryl Clendaniel, Karen DeRasmo, Harriet Dichter, Carmen Gallagher, Mary Gavin, Debbie Gottschalk, Paul Harrell, John Fisher Klein, Jim Lesko, Leslie Newman, Michelle Taylor

Others in Attendance: Sherlynn Aurelio, Janet Carter, Janet Cornwell, Sara Kelley, Vicky Kelly, Anna Maloney, Barbara McCaffery, Eli Ramos, Gwendolyn Sanders, Carol Ann Schumann, Kelly Sherretz, Verna Thompson, Gail Truxon, Stephanie Wagner, Kathy Wilson

1. Welcome and Introductions

Vicky Kelly and John Fisher Klein were introduced and welcomed to the committee by Dan.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from November 9, 2012 meeting were approved.

3. Family Support Coordinating Council-Unified Messaging (Karen DeRasmo)

The first presentation given was regarding Reframing Early Childhood Messages. Karen spoke on how to approach families with communications. A series of workshops with stakeholders will start being tested in January/February 2013. The question was raised if other states precipitated in this activity and the answer is yes, Florida, West Virginia and Massachusetts. (See Attachment)

4. Update on Early Learning Grant Implementation (Harriet Dichter)

Harriet spoke on celebrating Delaware's Progress, more physicians get on board with developmental screening, Stars celebration and remarks made by the Governor Markell who attended the Stars Celebration, the Delaware Early Learner Survey, mapping as to where the Delaware priority zones are located, and the Delaware Readiness Team timeline was presented. (See Attachment)

5. ECC Council Sub-Committees (Dan Rich)

Introductions were made of the four standing advisory committee chairs which are Providers (John Fisher-Klein), Stars (Cheryl Clendaniel), Professional Development (April Hill), and Higher Education, (Martha Buell). Families and parenting as well as social and emotional issues need to be discussed as a part of the whole child development.

6. Review of the draft Early Childhood Strategic Plan (Dan Rich)

The third draft was given out at the meeting. (See Attachment) All suggestions should be given to Kelly Sherretz or Julia Stone on or before January 14th.

7. ECC Advisory Groups for Early Learning Grant and Strategic Planning

After breaking into groups for approximately 45 minutes, all participants returned as a group. The strategic plan is not just a state plan but should be a collative with community involvement. Dan

expressed that the timeline is tight be we need to be vigilant. At the February 8th meeting the committee will asked to vote. After which the plan will start on its journey for approvals. At the March 8th meeting, Cabinet Secretary Vivian Rapposelli will visit at which time the committee will present the strategic plan to her. At the March 15th meeting of the Interagency Resource Management Committee (IRMC) the Strategic Plan will be presented to them for approval. Then an event will be planned for the Governor's Markell's signature. Dan then thanked all attending participants for their hard work and how it is greatly appreciated.

8. Open Forum

The floor was opened to all present to share ideas, events and feedback. Barbara gave information on the POC Provider Meetings. The dates are: February 6, 2013 Sussex County, February 13, 2013 New Castle County, and February 20, 2013, Kent County. (See Attachment) Harriet said she would be willing to provide dinner. Leslie reported that there are community schools in Red Clay Consolidated and Seaford School Districts. April let everyone know that the information on the conference will be given out in early January.

9. Next Meeting

February 8th, Kent County; DelDOT, 800 Bay Road, Dover, Farmington/Felton Room