

# **Child Development Coordinating Council (CDCC) Minutes**

**July 23, 2025**

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Voting Members Present:** Kimberly Villotti, Tonya Krueger, Jessica Burger, Beth Van Meeteren, Heather Rouse

**Voting Members Absent:** Shelley Horak

**Non-Voting Members Present:** Ami Leath, Sharon Burke, Teri Orr, Monica Garner

**Non-Voting Members Absent:** None

**Staff to Council:** Marianne Adams, Amy Stegeman

**Invited Guest:** PJ West

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION Item**

### **Welcome and Roll Call**

Chair Tonya Krueger called the meeting to order and did a roll call. She asked if presenter PJ West knew everyone.

### **Public Comment**

No members of the public were in attendance.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Staff Updates**

Tonya Krueger asked for updates on the Council's vacant position for the role of parent from Head Start. Marianne noted a letter was sent to the Iowa Head Start Association requesting a recommendation for the position. Sharon Burke noted the request was brought up during the last meeting.

Next, Marianne Adams provided program updates. She noted the final legislative appropriation for Shared Visions Parent Support and Preschool Programs had been signed into law. Marianne also gave an update on the current grant cycle stating all renewal applications for FY26 had been submitted and reviewed. Community Action Agency of Siouxland chose to terminate their Shared Visions Parent Support grant after quarter three on FY25 and did not renew for FY26. This grant totaled \$96,000. Community Action of Eastern Iowa reduced their Shared Visions Preschool grant amount to \$104,179 and will only provide services at the Fairmount Pines location. Their original grant amount was \$204,623. All other Shared Visions Preschool and Parent Support grants were awarded with no changes to funding.

Marianne noted Amy Stegeman had received a letter from one of the preschool grantees. Amy shared the letter expressing gratitude for the grant extension and how it helped them continue services to

children. Ami Leath and Kimberly Villotti both noted the positive feedback they received and thanked the Council for their contribution to this endeavor.

Marianne reminded the Council year-end reports are required from grantees annually. Grantee reports outlining services in FY25 are due August 1. The reports will be reviewed upon submission and data will be analyzed to ensure accuracy. The data will be shared with the Council for consideration of how to use it to inform the Annual Report to the Governor.

Marianne shared the [FY24 CDCC Annual Legislative Report](#) was posted to the Legislative Report webpage in June. She also discussed FY25's Annual Report template, sharing it will be similar to previous years. Marianne shared some of the [National Institute For Early Education Research \(NIEER\) Report](#) regarding Iowa to showcase the data regarding Shared Visions Preschool and Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program.

Marianne said Shared Visions Parent Support and Preschool Programs will soon be represented on the same webpage. This was recommended by the communications team to reduce duplicity across pages as the current webpages for both programs share some of the same resources and information.

Marianne added FY27 competitive grant work starts in September. Time is planned for the Council to make decisions regarding the grants and a timeline for release of applications. Shelley Horak recommended PJ West provide the Council with a brief update on HHS programming specific to parent support.

Guest, PJ West, shared an update with the group regarding new HHS policies. She is currently serving as the interim director for MIECHV. She noted she and Amanda McKee are the contact staff at HHS for family support and always happy to answer any questions. She also discussed the merger of the Department of Human Services and Public Health and noted connections are stronger after program changes. She noted better collaboration has been a direct result.

PJ shared a document with the Council outlining HHS family support programming which included several different funding sources. She started with Healthy Opportunities for Parents to Experience Success (HOPES) which uses state funding and identifies areas to be funded through a needs assessment. Evidence-based programming is provided within six communities in Iowa.

PJ then discussed changes to Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program and Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP). The purpose of the Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program (ICAPP) is to prevent child maltreatment before it occurs. This program includes a single contract with a statewide non-profit organization to provide administrative support services to HHS, as outlined in Iowa Code (235A.1). The program also includes multiple local service contracts throughout the state through grants to Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Councils.

PJ next talked about Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) and the 34 areas representing Iowa's 99 counties. They are currently working to align ECI home visitation programs to what occurs in Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV). This will include aligning requirements to increase quality and match the new MIECHV operations manual. ECI and MIECHV fund many of the same programs so they want the work to look the same for family support professionals.

Kimberly Villotti noted the information PJ shared was a wonderful resource for high-level program funding. Ami Leath also noted they need to develop a way to ensure this information is disseminated to providers at a local level, especially in rural areas. PJ asked the group to reach out to her with any ideas they had for specific groups to share the information with. Tonya Krueger asked what data will be available for CDCC members as a result of the programs. PJ noted all of the programs are starting fresh with data so there will be a bit of a waiting period. Heather Rouse noted end of year data from

Data Application and Integration Solutions for the Early Years (DAISEY) is available. She pointed out data quality has improved, so even though there may be a waiting period, more clear data will be available.

PJ then shared information about the Family Development and Self Sufficiency (FaDSS) program which includes home visitation for families in all of Iowa's counties. The goal is to improve child well-being and develop career opportunities, in turn improving the lives of families. Eligibility was a family receiving FIP, but it has broadened to accept families not on Family Investment Program (FIP) with children ages 0-18.

She also discussed MIECHV which is a federally funded program working with 8 contractors and serving 23 counties in Iowa through evidence based home visitation. They currently have a competitive grant opportunity to expand services into communities identified as being in high-need counties (Tama, Polk, Taylor, etc.). She noted programs who are not evidence-based must pursue the Iowa Family Support Credential to ensure requirements of a quality process for programming.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Group Updates**

Tonya Krueger thanked Kimberly Villotti for her previous service as chair and noted the Council needs someone to take on the role of Vice-Chair. She told the Council anyone interested in the role should reach out to Marianne. The desire is for the Council to vote on a vice chair at the September meeting.

### ***ECI (Early Childhood Iowa) System/Group Participation***

Tonya stated the presentation from PJ offered a nice summary of ECI and opened the floor to anyone who wanted to add information. No information was added.

### ***Members***

Jess Burger had no update.

Tonya Krueger shared new signage for Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC). CHSC are continuing satellite sites to serve children with special health care needs. She also noted they are working very closely with HHS and have submitted their grant application for the upcoming year.

Beth VanMeeteran said the University of Northern Iowa has been working with 140 teachers in Iowa through the Governor's STEM Scale Up program. It started last week and there will be four more sessions.

Heather Rouse shared I2D2 (Iowa's Integrated Data System for Decision-Making) is working in the final stages of updating the data drive, jumping from 18 indicators to 37 with even more on the way.

Monica Garner said the continuation of the Head Start Collaboration Grant was submitted. She noted there have been a lot of changes in Head Start this spring but there is no definitive information to share as of this meeting.

Sharon Burke stated [IHSA \(Iowa Head Start Association\)](#) has updated the strategic plan and finalized the professional development calendar. Those trainings and events will be on the IHSA website.

Ami Leath had no update.

Teri Orr added new licensing standards have been released. The Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) program can now offer credit for professional learning. This will occur for Early Childhood Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (EC-PBIS). Additionally, CCR&R is looking to continue

partnering with ECI despite changes in funding for RY26. CCR&R is working to support communities to help child care coalitions and meet child care needs. Some CCR&R areas had to hire more staff, which resulted in more training and orientation.

Kimberly Villotti said the Iowa Department of Education had 30+ new employees start in July with most in the Special Education Division. The Early Childhood Bureau had three new employees begin. She also shared some data on children served in Early ACCESS and gave some information on preschool professional development efforts. Kimberly offered a summary on the Credentials for Child Care Careers (C4) grant supporting high school students in earning a Child Development Associate (CDA), as well as planning for revisions of Iowa Early Learning Standards (IELS) and Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS). Kimberly encouraged members to consider involvement in the revision work and also think about who they could share it with. She clarified there will be no changes to IQPPS desk audits/implementation this year. There will be a plan for implementation when the revision is complete.

## **INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Consideration of Dates for FY26 Meetings**

Marianne Adams reminded the group of a Google survey sent out to all members regarding meeting dates for FY26. The group took a break so members who had not previously responded were able to do so. Marianne will send the meeting dates out in the upcoming month.

## **Adjourn**

Tonya Krueger thanked the group and adjourned the meeting at 11:44 am.